

# G12 Relative clauses

## Defining relative clauses

### 1. Verwendung

- **Defining relative clauses** give necessary information. Without them the meaning of the main clause would be unclear.
- **Who, that** and **whose** are used for people.
- **Which, that** and **whose** are used for things.
- The relative pronoun can be left out if it is the object of the relative clause (= **contact clause**).
- There are **no commas**.

### 2. Beispiele

- These days there aren't many Americans **who don't own a car**.
- The number seven is the only bus **that goes to Southfield Park**.

## Non-defining relative clauses

### 1. Verwendung

- **Non-defining relative clauses** add extra information. Without them the meaning of the main clause would still be understandable.
- **Who** and **whose** are used for people.
- **Which** and **whose** are used for things
- **That** is not used in non-defining relative clauses.
- **Which** can also be used to refer to the main clause as a whole, to express a comment on it.
- There are **commas**.

### 2. Beispiele

- Life without a car would be a nightmare for most Americans, **who are not used to relying on public transport**.
- Los Angeles, **which is the largest city in California**, is well known for its traffic problems.