

## that vs which

Please note that generally "that" is used for defining (restrictive) clauses, which are necessary to the meaning of the sentence, while "which" is used for non-defining (non-restrictive) clauses, which add extra information and are usually set off by commas.

### Exercise 1:

Decide whether the following sentences are correct or incorrect based on the use of "that" and "which".

1. The book, that I read last month, was thrilling.
2. The house that you see on the left is my grandmother's.
3. The painting which is hanging in the gallery is by Monet.
4. The car which you see is brand new.
5. My computer, which I bought last year, is already outdated.

### Exercise 2:

Choose the correct form of the relative pronoun (that, which) for each sentence.

1. The movie \_\_\_ we saw last night was fantastic.  
a. that b. which
2. My guitar, \_\_\_ I bought for my birthday, needs tuning.  
a. that b. which
3. The restaurant \_\_\_ you recommended was closed.  
a. that b. which
4. My favorite novel is the one \_\_\_ has a red cover.  
a. that b. which
5. The car \_\_\_ was parked outside was stolen.  
a. that b. which

### Exercise 3: Gap Fill

Complete the sentences by filling the gaps with "that" or "which".

1. The cake \_\_\_ I baked is on the kitchen table.
2. My bike, \_\_\_ I use for commuting, is in the garage.
3. She couldn't find the dress \_\_\_ she wanted to wear for the party.
4. The dog \_\_\_ is playing in the park belongs to my neighbor.
5. The phone, \_\_\_ I left on the table, is missing.

### Exercise 1: Classification

1. Incorrect - The sentence should use "which" instead of "that" because the clause is non-essential to the meaning of the sentence. It should read, "The book, which I read last month, was thrilling."
2. Correct - The phrase "that you see on the left" is essential for identifying the house, so "that" is the correct choice.
3. Correct - The phrase "which is hanging in the gallery" is an extra, non-essential piece of information, so "which" is appropriate here.
4. Correct - The phrase "which you see" is essential for identifying the car, so "which" is the correct choice.
5. Correct - The phrase "which I bought last year" is an extra, non-essential piece of information, so "which" is appropriate here.

**Explanation for the first sentence:** The use of "that" is incorrect because the phrase "that I read last month" is non-essential information about the book. The sentence can stand alone as "The book was thrilling". Non-essential clauses should be introduced with "which", not "that", and be set off by commas.

### Exercise 2: Multiple Choice

1. a. that
2. b. which
3. a. that
4. a. that
5. b. which

### Exercise 3: Gap Fill

1. The cake that I baked is on the kitchen table.
2. My bike, which I use for commuting, is in the garage.
3. She couldn't find the dress that she wanted to wear for the party.
4. The dog that is playing in the park belongs to my neighbor.
5. The phone, which I left on the table, is missing.