

8 Success through Creativity

Activity 1 - Act out

Three friends are talking about an exhibition that is going to be held in their school.



Lasith : I've just heard something **that** will make you all happy.

Abdul : What's it, Lasith?

Lasith : There's going to be an exhibition to mark the Environment Day, **which** falls next month.

Radha : Wow! Who told you?

Lasith : Samith, **whom** I met at the canteen a little while ago. You know, those **who** would like to take part in it should give their names to Ms. Sarojani Weerakoon, **who** is the teacher-in-charge of the Environment Society.

Faraz : Where are they going to have it?

Lasith : In the school main hall, **where** we had a blood donation camp last month.

Radha : Let's present something at the exhibition, shall we?

Lasith : That would be great! We need to come up with something really good.

Radha : Yes. mmm....., what about upcycling?

Faraz : Upcycling? That's a term **which** I've never heard before!

Activity 2 *Reading*

Read the above conversation and answer the questions given below.

1. What is the event mentioned?
2. Who told Lasith about it?
3. Why is it being held?
4. What was held in the school main hall last month?
5. What does Radha suggest?

Learning point

Relative Pronouns

The highlighted words in the conversation are called relative pronouns.

	People (personal)	Things (non-personal)
subject	who, that	which or that
object	whom or that	which or that
possessive	whose	whose

▲ In addition, we use **where** with nouns that refer to a place and **when** with nouns that refer to a time.

▲ A relative clause, i.e. a clause that begins with a relative pronoun, gives us information about the noun that comes before it.

e.g. :- There's going to be an exhibition to mark the Environment Day, which falls next month.

▲ The underlined relative clause tells us something about the Environment Day.

▲ There are two types of relative clauses: defining relative clauses and non-defining relative clauses.

▲ We use a defining relative clause to indicate which particular person or thing we are talking about.

e.g. :- The boy who came first in the essay competition is in my brother's class.

▲ The relative clause **who came first in the essay competition** identifies the noun coming before it. In other words without the relative clause it would be unclear which boy is being talked about.

▲ We use a non-defining relative clause to give additional, non-essential information about a person or thing.

e.g. :- Our class teacher, who always comes to school early, is very kind and hardworking.

▲ The relative clause **who always comes to school early** merely gives some additional information about our class teacher. In other words, it is not essential for the sentence to be meaningful. It is important to remember that we should use a comma before a non-defining relative clause.

e.g. :- I borrowed this novel from Suresh, who lives down our lane.

▲ If the non-defining relative clause comes in the middle of the sentence we should use a comma both before it and after it.

e.g. :- Suresh, who reads a lot, loves learning new words.

▲ We do not use the relative pronoun **'that'** with non-defining relative clauses.

Activity 3 Grammar

Fill in the blanks with the relative pronouns given in the box.

who, which, whom, whose, where, when

- 1) A surgeon is a doctor performs operations.
- 2) A thermometer is an instrument is used to measure temperature.
- 3) Nisam, is one of my close friends, rang me yesterday.
- 4) I've got a cousin hobby is gardening.
- 5) Tell me a time we can meet.
- 6) It's an old movie title I have forgotten.
- 7) The factory my uncle works is going to close down.
- 8) My friend Ravi, we met at the library yesterday, reads at least two books every month.

Activity 4 Grammar

Add commas where necessary. (Remember not all sentences need them.)

- 1) This is the dictionary which I bought yesterday.
- 2) My youngest brother who is in grade four can sing well.
- 3) The children's film 'Handaya' which was directed by Titus Totawatte won an international award.
- 4) Do you know the boy who is standing near the gate?
- 5) Rice which is grown in many Asian countries is the staple food of Sri Lanka.
- 6) Sujitha whose father works in an embassy has a large collection of foreign stamps.
- 7) The rice which we had for lunch today was very good.

- 8) Sujitha is the girl whose father works in an embassy.
- 9) Show me the place where the accident took place.
- 10) Raj likes visiting Bandarawela where his uncle has a small tea factory.

Activity 5 *Reading*

Upcycling - 'Turning Trash into Treasure'

Can you remember the last time you dropped an empty yoghurt pot in a litter bin or threw away that cardboard box that your pair of shoes came in? When you were disposing of them, did you pause for a second to think that you might have found some creative use for them? For example, you could well have made a lovely vase with the empty yoghurt pot. That is what is known as upcycling: the process of turning old or disposable materials into something useful and often beautiful.

Upcycling can be beneficial in many ways. To begin with, it gives us the opportunity to tap into our capacity for creative thinking, which, in turn, could help us to cultivate new and useful hobbies. It can also be seen as a good way of saving money and of being thrifty as we think of new uses for things which we would otherwise simply throw away. This, in turn, helps keep the environment clean and beautiful. Furthermore, upcycling may provide people with opportunities for self-employment.

Read the passage and answer the questions.

- 1) What is upcycling?
- 2) What may be converted into a vase?
- 3) Name two advantages of upcycling.
- 4) Find two relative pronouns used in the passage.
- 5) Find words in the passage which mean much the same as the following:
 - a) advantageous:
 - b) recall:
 - c) a set of steps for doing or making something:

Activity 6 *Listening*

You will hear an announcement about the winners of an upcycling competition. Listen to it and write numbers from 1 to 5 under the relevant pictures in the order the winners have won the places.



(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



(E)

Activity 7 *Speaking*

Imagine that the upcycling competition was held in your school. Conduct an interview with the leader of a winning team.

Use question words such as what, how, when, who, why, how long etc...

e.g. :- “Congratulations on winning the place in the upcycling competition. Your creation was truly amazing. How did you get this idea, in the first place?”

Activity 8 *Writing*

Decide on some object that you can upcycle into something better or more beautiful. Write a set of instructions to show how to do it.