



Multibhashi



# Relative pronoun (Le pronom relatif)



# Class Objective

To learn about the relative pronoun  
and its usage in French



## Concept A: Relative pronouns in French

- Relative pronouns are connectors that link a subordinate clause to the main clause so that we do not have to repeat subject or object.
- They are impersonal and hence invariable
- They can be the subject, direct object or complement of a preposition.
- We will discuss the following four relative pronouns here - que, qui, dont, and où.

### Examples

1. C'est un étudiant. Il a reçu une bourse. - C'est l'étudiant **qui** a reçu une bourse.  
(This is the student who received the scholarship.)



## Concept A: Relative pronouns in French

2. Elle a offert des fleurs à moi. Ce sont des fleurs.
  - a. Ce sont les fleurs **qu'**elle m'a offertes.  
(These are the flowers that she offered to me.)
  - b. C'est elle **qui** m'a offert des fleurs.  
(It's her who offered flowers to me.)
  
3. C'est mon école. J'ai étudié ici. - C'est mon école **où** j'ai étudié.  
(This is the school where I studied.)
  
4. C'était le moment où je t'ai appelé.  
(It was at that time when I called you.)



## Concept A: Relative pronouns in French

5. C'est la fille. Je t'ai parlé **de cette fille.** - C'est la fille **dont** je t'ai parlé.  
(She is the girl about whom I spoke to you.)

- The part participle agrees with the direct object replaced by que in number and person.
  - Elle a offert les fleurs à moi. Ce sont les fleurs.
    - Les fleurs is after the verb, hence no agreement.
  - Ce sont les fleurs **qu'**elle m'a offert**es.** These are the flowers that she offered to me.
    - Que replaces les fleurs, hence we put es with offert.



## Concept B - Qui and Que

Qui and que can both be used for persons and things.

Qui is used as the subject and can mean who, which and that.

Que is used as the direct object and can mean that, which and whom.

Examples:

1. Mes amis qui viennent me voir habitent à Paris. - My friends who are visiting me, live in Paris. (Mes amis - subject)
2. Mes amis que je vois souvent, habitent Paris. - My friends whom I often visit, live in Paris. (Mes amis - direct object)

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**1.2. THE QUANTUM LIMIT**

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