

## GRAMMAR TIP #6

# REDUCING ADJECTIVE CLAUSES TO PHRASES



When an adjective clause begins with a relative pronoun followed by a form of “to be” and then a noun phrase, prepositional phrase, or adjective phrase, you can reduce the clause by omitting the relative pronoun and the verb “to be.”

### Examples:

- Mr. Johnson, who is a known professor, gave a talk for the college.
- Mr. Johnson, a known professor, gave a talk for the college.

Noun Phrase



- The books that are on the shelf belong to the library.
- The books on the shelf belong to the library.

Prepositional Phrase



- Students who are eager to learn succeed quickly.
- Students eager to learn succeed quickly.

Adjective Phrase



**Note: In academic writing, it is common to reduce clauses.**

See Grammar Tip # 3, 4, 5  
to review more on adjective  
clauses.

**GOT  
QUESTIONS?**

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