Aggie Grammar Guide: Relative Clauses

Intermediate Practice
Each sentence below contains at least one relative clause but with the relative pronouns missing. In the blanks, fill in the appropriate pronoun(s) to complete the sentence (who, whom, that, which, whose, in which) or use Ø to indicate no pronoun is needed. The answer key notes all possible options.

Example: She focuses on the products _____ are on sale.
Answer: She focuses on the products that/which are on sale.

1) The people _____ are from the justice department are not just.
2) We usually had a test _____ required us to write down the vocabulary _____ we had learned from memory.
3) As she walked into the store, the owner, _____ seemed very old and humble, welcomed her with a warm smile.
4) Although she does not know what to get, the staff member _____ is a friend of her mom realizes that she needs help.
5) Giedt's restroom uses slide bolt latches, _____ are a locking device _____ a latch slides through the bolt receiver.
6) I need to write down each vocabulary word _____ I need to remember on a small paper.
7) I can connect to the author's point of how bilinguals must keep two sets of statistics in mind at once because what language I use depends on to _____ I am speaking.
8) I also learned that it's important to continue moving forward, to find a community _____ you feel part of.
9) His opinion states that a student _____ comes from a second year college generation and is financially stable will have resources to pay for education unlike a first year generation student _____ parents have a blue-collar job.
10) As Kuhl stated, having the ability to be bilingual allows many bilingual people to change to a specific language depending on _____ we are talking to.
Advanced Practice

Combine each set of sentences so that each newly formed sentence contains a relative clause. You may combine the sentences using reduced forms in any way that preserves the original meaning of the pair of sentences. As you combine sentences, be careful to use correct pronunciation. Refer to the Relative Clauses and Commas and Semicolons chapters to review how to do this.

Please note that there may be multiple options although you will only see one option in the answer key. Compare your revision to the one provided and determine if one is more effective. In each revision, the relative clause is bolded.

Example: The people are from the justice department. The people are not just.

Full Form Revision: The people who are from the justice department are not just.

Reduced Form Revision: The people from the justice department are not just.

1) The system doesn't include subjective factors like location and environment. Subjective factors like location and environment have become huge factors in incoming freshmen’s mindsets.

2) Students carry negative thoughts. Students often end up dropping out instead of seeking help.

3) The students end up being a victim of this feeling. The students have more chances of not finishing college with a degree.

4) This is an example of the bystander effect. The bystander effect has people expecting others to solve someone's problems.

5) Mobile phones can be beneficial for people in developing countries. Mobile phones’ industry belongs to the ICT.