第十四章: 关系从句

Guangyao Zhao

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关系从句就是形容词从句。

关系从句特点

两个句子要有交叉 (两个句子中 a man 和 he 是重复的, 因为有这个交叉存在, 两个句子就有了关系):

• For boyfriend I'm looking for a man.

• He is tall, rich, and well-educated.

把交叉改为关系词的拼法 (wh-), 让其产生连接词的功能: Who is tall, rich and well-educated.

合并:将关系从句放在主要从句的交叉点(名词)后面来形容它: For boyfriend I'm looking for a man who is tall, rich and well-educated.

由以上分析可看出,关系从句有一个很重要的特色:连接词是**从句中含字眼的改写**,而名词从句和副词从句的连接词是外加的:

- I know that I am right: i am right 是完整句子。
- I know this **because** I have proof: I have proof 是完整句子。
- I don't trust people who talk too much: 无连接词, 把 they 改为 who。

关系代名词与关系副词

关系从句与主要从句的交叉点, 可能是名词也可能是副词。改变为 wh- 后分别成为关系代名词与关系副词:

代名词	关系代名词	副词	关系副词
he (she, they)	who	then	when
it (they)	which	there	where
his (her, their, its)	whose	so	how
him (her, them)	whom	for a reason	why

关系代名词的省略

关系词之所以被省略,主要是句子中有重复的元素:和主要从句的先行词重复。可是除了是代名词的功能外,还有连接词的功能。假如关系词去掉后不影响句子的清楚性,就可以省略:

- The man is my uncle.
- You saw him just now: him 做宾语, 合并时改为 whom。

关系代名词是宾语的话, 位置应该在动词后面。可是要表示关系从句的开始, 就要调到句首 (这个调动和其省略有很大关系): whom you saw just now.

合并: The man whom you saw just now is my uncle.

倘若将 whom 省略,由于 you saw just now 紧跟 the man,所以读者很清楚其在修饰 the man,所以 whom 可省略。反之如果关系代词是主语,就不可以省略了:

• The man is my uncle.

• He was here just now.

合并: The man who was here just now is my uncle. 此时的 who 就不可以省略。如果省略就会造成断句困难: The man was here now is my uncle. 补语中的也可以省略:

- He is not the man he used to be.
- He used to be the man: 此处的 the man 和主从句重复, 改写成关系代词 who, 成为关系从句: who he used to be.

此处 who 是补语,不是宾语。所以不可以用 whom,但是一样可省略,原因是需要向前挪,所以和宾语一样,省略后不会造成断句难。

何时用 that

关系代名词 who 和 which 有时候可用 that 代替, that 具有指示功能, 所以有指示的作用时才适合借用 that 做关系词:

- · Man is an animal that is capable of reason.
- Meteorology is a science **that** deals with the behavior.

以上两句用 which 也不算错误。但是有些情况,因为指示要求很强烈,一般选用 that, 如果用 who 或者 which 反而不恰当:

- Money is the only thing that interests him.
- He's the best man that I can recommend.

这两个例子的指示意味很强烈, 所以需要用 that。

何时不用 that

当缺乏指示功能就不用 that。如果关系从句只是补充说明的性质, 应该用逗号和先行词隔开:

- For boyfriend, I'm considering your brother John, **who** is tall, rich: 此处先行词 your brother John 是 专有名词, 听到后就知道是谁了, 所以后面的从句不再具有指出是谁或哪种人的功能。因而关系从句只 是在补充说明
- I like books, whatever the subject, **that** have illustrations: 关系从句 that have illustrations 虽然放在 逗号后面,可是这个逗号是和前一个逗号构成一组括弧,把 whatever the subject 括在里面,关系从句 本身并不是放在括弧中作补充说明,它仍然是一个具有指示功能的从句,指出喜欢的书是哪一种,所以 还是可以借用指示代名词 that。

• I like time classic words, **which** many people like, too: time classic words 是一本书, 听到的人都知道, 所以不需要额外的指示, 属于补充说明的性质。而且, 一旦有了逗号, 两个从句已断开, which 虽然是宾语, 也不适合省略了。

先行词的省略

关系代名词与先行词重复,有时候可以省略掉关系词。同样的有时候可以把先行词省略掉。如果要省略先行词,则此先行词必须是没有内容的空字眼比如:thing, people。其次关系从句与先行词之间不能有逗号断开。而且先行词是名词类,属于重要元素,不是可有可无的修饰语,所以一旦先行词省略,就需要在关系代词部分有所表示:

What

- · I have the thing.
- · You need it.

The thing 和 it 重复, 建立两句关系, 改为复合句: I have the thing that you need it。 the thing 为先行词, that 为宾语。该句可有两种改变:

- I have the thing you need.
- I have what you need: the thing 是空字眼,可直接省略,但 the thing 省略后,主从句 I have 缺少宾语,关系从句 that you need 缺少修饰的名词,所以要加上 what。但在句型分析的时候也可以直接说 what you need 为 have 的宾语。

whoever

- · I'll shoot any person.
- · He moves.

合并:

- I'll shoot any person that moves.
- I'll shot whoever moves: whoever moves 可看做名词从句, 作为 shoot 的宾语。

which

- · You can take any car.
- · You like it.

合并:

- · You can take any car that you like.
- · You can take any car you like.
- · You can take whichever you like.
- · You can take whichever car you like.

关系从句的位置

标准: 放在哪个位置最清楚就放在哪里。

例 1:

- · There are two apples in the basket.
- The basket is lying on the table.

合并: There are two apples in the basket which is lying on the table.

例 2:

- · You can find two apples in the basket.
- · I bought the apples.

合并:

- You can find two apples which I bought in the basket: 意思不清楚。
- You can find two apples in the basket which I bought: 此处的先行词可能是 two apples, 更可能是 basket。意思不清楚。
- In the basket you can find two apples which I bought: 此时 in the basket 只能修饰 can find, 关系从句中只有单一的先行词, 意思才清楚。

例 3:

- · A plague broke out.
- · It lasted 20 years.

合并:

• A plague which lasted 20 years broke out: 颠三倒四, 不合逻辑。

• A plague broke out which last 20 years: 虽然关系从句和先行词距离较远, 但是没有别的名词妨碍, 所以语义通顺

关系副词

如果关系从句中是以副词和主要从句中的先行词重复,就会改成关系副词,关系副词是副词类,所以比较自由省略。

When

例 1:

- The rain came at a time.
- The farmers needed it most then.

合并:

- The rain came at a time when the farmers needed it most.
- The rain came when the farmers needed it most: 关系从句。
- The rain came at a time the farmers needed it most: 关系从句。

例 2:

- I need some time.
- I can be with my daughter then.

合并:

- I need some time when I can be with my daughter.
- I need some time I can be with my daughter.
- I need when I can be with my daughter:错误的表达,因为 some time 虽然没有内容,而且重复,但属于名此类,不是可有可无的副词。

例 3:

- I know the time.
- · He will arrive then.

合并:

- I know the time when he will arrive.
- I know the time he will arrive.

• I know when he will arrive: 此处 the time 并不是先行词, 后面的 when he will arrive 也并不是关系从句, 而是名词从句。

Where

和 when 大同小异。

例 1:

- The car stopped at a place.
- Three roads met there.

合并:

The car stopped at a place where three roads met: at a place 和 where 任意省略一个。

例 1:

- The Johnsons have a place.
- Where they can get away from other people.

合并:

The Johnsons have a place they can get away from other people: 不可省略 a place, 而可省略 where。

How/why

So 改写的 how, for a reason 改写的 why。

- · Can you show me the way.
- · You pulled off that trick in that way.

合并:

- Can you show me the way how you pulled off that trick: 此句的 how 应该省略, 但是名此类 the way 不可以。
- Can you show me how you pulled off that trick: 这句中的 how 从句应该视为 how did you pull off that trick, 所以改为了名词从句。

有逗号隔开的关系从句

关系副词引导的关系从句用逗号隔开,原因和关系代名词一样:将逗号看做一组括弧,括弧中的关系从句起到补充说明的功能,失去了指示的功能。所以关系副词不可以用 that 代替,同时不能省略:

- The best museum in Taiwan is the Palace Museum.
- · You can see our national treasures there.

合并:

The best museum in Taiwan is the Palace Museum, where you can see our national treasures: the palace museum 已经是个明确的地名,不需要进一步指认,所以需要用逗号隔开,当作补充说明。当然这里的 where 不能省略,因为逗号与正文切断开来。

Wh-ever 与副词从句

- Wh-ever 解释为 no matter wh-: 表示让步、条件的语气, 相当于副词从句。
- Wh-ever 解释为 anyone/anything that, 就是关系从句省略到先行词, 后面的从句当作名词从句解释, 在主从句中扮演主语、宾语。
- Whatever (=No matter what) he may say, I won't change my mind.
- Whatever (=Anything that) he may say won't be true.
- Whichever (=No matter which) way you go, I'll follow.
- Whichever way (=Any way that) you go is fine with me.