French Grammar Express: Relative pronouns Que & Qui

Reminder: a pronoun replaces a word, often to prevent repetition.

A relative pronoun will act as a linking word.

I bought a house. ~~The house~~ is big. (that/ which — Subject)

I like the girl. ~~The girl~~ lives next-door. (who — Subject)

I like the car. I drive ~~the car~~ (that — Object)

I see the man. I know ~~the man~~ (whom (that) — Object)

It works the same in French!

Use qui [kee] *(who, that)* **to replace** the subject.

je connais **la fille**. ~~**La fille**~~ chante. *I know the girl. The girl is singing.*

je connais **la fille** **qui** chante. *I know the girl **who** is singing.*

j'aime **le pain**. ~~**Le pain**~~ est frais. *I like bread. The bread is fresh.*

j'aime **le pain** **qui** est frais. *I like bread **that** bread is fresh.*

Use **que** [kuh] *(whom, that, which)* to replace the object.

J'aime **la voiture** **que** tu conduis ~~**la voiture**~~. *I like the car **that** you drive.*

Tu vois **la fille** **que** je connais ~~**la fille.**~~ *You see the girl **whom** (that) I know.*

You cannot leave out the relative pronoun in French.