

Movies & Languages 2014-2015

Grand Budapest Hotel



About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Wes Anderson
YEAR / COUNTRY	2014 / USA
GENRE	Comedy
ACTORS	Ralph Fiennes, F. Murray Abraham, Mathieu Amalric, Adrien Brody, Willem Dafoe, Jeff Goldblum, Harvey Keitel, Jude Law, Bill Murray, Edward Norton

PLOT

This film recounts the adventures of Gustave H., a legendary concierge at a famous hotel between the two major wars of the last century, and Zero Moustafa, the lobby boy who becomes his most trusted friend. The story involves the theft and recovery of a priceless Renaissance painting and the battle for an enormous family fortune, all against the stage of a suddenly and dramatically changing Europe. The film won numerous awards and was nominated for nine Oscars, including Best Film.

LANGUAGE

Standard English, standard American English.

GRAMMAR

Relative Clauses

Relative clauses are short phrases beginning with words like *who*, *which*, *that* and *whose* that define or describe people and things. There are two types:

1) Defining relative clauses define or differentiate the person or thing they refer to. They have the following forms:

- *who*, *whom*, *which*, or *that*

For people both *who* and *that* are used, but *who* is more common. For things or ideas both *which* and *that* are used, but *that* is more common, especially in speech.

*Sam is the person **who** has the most experience.*
*I know some people **that** can help you.*

- no pronoun (if the object of the verb is in the clause)

*The students (**whom**) we saw were studying.*
*The salad (**that**) I had for lunch was tasty.*

- *whose*

*The United Nations is an organization **whose** policies change quite slowly.*

2) Non-defining relative clauses only give extra information and do not define what they refer to. The relative pronoun must be kept: it cannot be left out. They have the following forms:

- *who, which, whom, whose.* *That* is never used in a non-defining relative clause.

*The salad, **which** had avocado in it, was superb.*

*The Professor, **whom/who** the students know well, said the computer was working fine.*

VOCABULARY

Blink of an eye: very fast	Oh fuck it: forget about it, let it go
Wholly: completely	Board us up: close our enterprise
“Bread and Butter”: tactical or strategic advantage	To get it: to understand
Call that a draw: even, nobody is a winner	Very drab: boring
Give up: surrender	Zip it: don't talk to the police
Tontine: a financial arrangement	Codicil: a legal modification to a will and testament
The plot thickens: things get more complicated	In perpetuity: forever
To wing it: to use the resources you have around or at hand to solve a problem	Pantry: a room or closet for storing goods or food
Foraging: to wander in search of something	Elbow to elbow: not much space
Provenance: the legal or otherwise origin of something	