

Mise en relief (Cleft Sentences)

La mise en relief sert à **souligner une partie précise d'une phrase**. En anglais, elle correspond souvent au français « C'est ... qui/que... ».

1. It-clefts

Structure : It is/was + [élément] + that/who + [reste]

Exemples :

- It was **Mary who invited Tom to the party**.
- It was **in London that I met her**.
- It will be **tomorrow that they arrive**.

△ Attention :

- Préférer **that** à *where/when*.
- Après *when*, pas de *will*.

2. Wh-clefts (pseudo-clefts)

Structure : What + [proposition] + is/was + [élément]

Exemples :

- What he needs is **patience**.
- What she loves is **cooking**.
- What I want is **to relax**.

3. All-clefts

Structure : All + [proposition] + is/was + [élément]

Exemples :

- All he wants is **to relax**.
- All they need is **a chance**.

4. Autres clefts

- The person who... → *The person who called you was my brother.*
- The thing that... → *The thing that bothers me is his attitude.*
- Where / When → *Where I first met her was in Paris.* / *When I saw him was last night.*

5. Pronoms et style

- Grammaire stricte : It is **he** who...
- Usage courant (oral) : It is **him** that...

Exemples :

- It is **he** who deserves the credit. (soutenu)
- It is **him** that you should listen to. (fréquent à l'oral)

6. Erreurs fréquentes

- It happens that... → It happens that...
- What I want is relax. → What I want is **to relax**.
- It will be tomorrow when they will arrive. → It will be tomorrow that they arrive.

7. Exercice

Transforme ces phrases en cleft sentences :

1. John broke the window.
2. I first met her in Paris.
3. They will call you tonight.
4. She needs attention.

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5. Peter solved the problem.

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