

Relative clauses 2:
clauses with and without **who/that/which**

A

Look at these example sentences from **Unit 92**:

- ☐ The woman **who** lives next door is a doctor. (or The woman **that** lives ...)

The woman lives next door.

who (= the woman) is the *subject*

- ☐ Where is the cheese **that** was in the fridge? (or the cheese **which** was ...)

The cheese was in the fridge. **that** (= the cheese) is the *subject*

You must use **who/that/which** when it is the *subject* of the relative clause. So you cannot say 'The woman lives next door is a doctor.' or 'Where is the cheese was in the fridge?'

B

Sometimes **who/that/which** is the *object* of the verb. For example:

- ☐ The woman **who** I wanted to see was away on holiday.

I wanted to see the woman

who (= the woman) is the *object*
I is the *subject*

- ☐ Have you found the keys **that** you lost?

You lost the keys.

that (= the keys) is the *object*
you is the *subject*.

When **who/that/which** is the *object*, you can leave it out. So you can say:

- ☐ **The woman I wanted to see** was away. or The woman **who** I wanted to see ...
☐ Have you found **the keys you lost**? or ... the keys **that** you lost?
☐ **The dress Lisa bought** doesn't fit her very well. or The dress **that** Lisa bought ...
☐ Is there **anything I can do**? or ... anything **that** I can do?

Note that we say:

the keys you lost (not the keys you lost them)

the dress Lisa bought (not the dress Lisa bought it)

C

Note the position of prepositions (**in/to/for** etc.) in relative clauses:

Tom is talking to a woman – do you know her?

→ Do you know the woman (who/that) Tom is talking to ?

I slept in a bed last night – it wasn't very comfortable

→ The bed (that/which) I slept in last night wasn't very comfortable.

- ☐ Are these the books **you were looking for**? or ... the books **that/which** you were ...
☐ The woman **he fell in love with** left him after a month. or The woman **who/that** he ...
☐ The man **I was sitting next to on the plane** talked all the time. or
 The man **who/that** I was sitting next to ...

Note that we say:

the books you were looking for (not the books you were looking for them)

D

You cannot use **what** in sentences like these (see also **Unit 92D**):

- ☐ Everything (**that**) **they said** was true. (not Everything what they said)
☐ I gave her all the money (**that**) **I had**. (not all the money what I had)

What = the thing(s) that:

- ☐ Did you hear **what they said**? (= the things that they said)

93.1 In some of these sentences you need **who** or **that**. Correct the sentences where necessary.

- 1 The woman lives next door is a doctor. The woman who lives next door
- 2 Have you found the keys you lost? OK
- 3 The people we met last night were very nice. _____
- 4 The people work in the office are very nice. _____
- 5 The people I work with are very nice. _____
- 6 What have you done with the money I gave you? _____
- 7 What happened to the money was on the table? _____
- 8 What's the worst film you've ever seen? _____
- 9 What's the best thing it has ever happened to you? _____

93.2 What do you say in these situations? Complete each sentence with a relative clause.

- 1 Your friend lost some keys. You want to know if he has found them. You say:
Have you found the keys you lost _____?
- 2 A friend is wearing a dress. You like it. You tell her:
I like the dress _____.
- 3 A friend is going to see a film. You want to know the name of the film. You say:
What's the name of the film _____?
- 4 You wanted to visit a museum. It was shut when you got there. You tell a friend:
The museum _____ was shut when we got there.
- 5 You invited some people to your party. Some of them couldn't come. You tell someone:
Some of the people _____ couldn't come.
- 6 Your friend had to do some work. You want to know if she has finished. You say:
Have you finished the work _____?
- 7 You rented a car. It broke down after a few miles. You tell a friend:
The car _____ broke down after a few miles.

93.3 These sentences all have a relative clause with a preposition. Put the words in the correct order.

- 1 Did you find (looking / for / you / the books / were)?
Did you find the books you were looking for _____?
- 2 We couldn't go to (we / invited / to / were / the wedding).
We couldn't go to _____.
- 3 What's the name of (the hotel / about / me / told / you)?
What's the name of _____?
- 4 Unfortunately I didn't get (applied / I / the job / for).
Unfortunately I didn't get _____.
- 5 Did you enjoy (you / the concert / to / went)?
Did you enjoy _____?
- 6 Gary is a good person to know. He's (on / rely / can / somebody / you).
Gary is a good person to know. He's _____.
- 7 Who was (the man / were / with / you) in the restaurant last night?
Who was _____ in the restaurant last night?

93.4 Put in **that** or **what** where necessary. If the sentence is already complete, leave the space empty.

- 1 I gave her all the money _____ I had. (all the money **that** I had is also correct)
- 2 Did you hear what they said?
- 3 They give their children everything _____ they want.
- 4 Tell me _____ you want and I'll try to get it for you.
- 5 Why do you blame me for everything _____ goes wrong?
- 6 I won't be able to do much, but I'll do _____ I can.
- 7 I won't be able to do much, but I'll do the best _____ I can.
- 8 I don't agree with _____ you've just said.
- 9 I don't trust him. I don't believe anything _____ he says.