Unit 8: Exercise 7

Read the information. Then read the sentences and decide if the underlined relative pronouns can be removed. Choose *can be removed* or *cannot be removed*.

In many defining relative clauses, the relative pronoun is the subject of the relative clause:

*Salsa is a style of dance **that** is popular in Latin America.*

Here, *that* refers to *salsa* and is the subject of the relative clause.

If the relative pronoun is the object of a defining relative clause, it can be removed:

*Salsa is a Latin American dance **that** I would love to learn.*

Here, *that* again refers to *salsa*, but in this relative clause *I* is the subject and *that* is the object: *Salsa is a Latin American dance I would love to learn.*

1 In Japanese mythology, earthquakes were caused by Namazu, a giant catfish that lived submerged in mud under the Japanese islands. [ ]

2 I wrote to that cultural festival organizer whom I met at the conference last month to ask for a job. [ ]

3 The US constitution, which was signed in 1787, has been amended 17 times. [ ]

4 The tour guide whom I spoke to yesterday told me that The Elephant House is the café where J. K. Rowling wrote parts of the first Harry Potter book. [ ]

5 I've booked tickets for the play that I read about in the newspaper. [ ]

6 Many buildings in London have blue signs on them that give information about famous people who lived there. [ ]

7 The Mayans of Mesoamerica had detailed knowledge of astronomy, which they used to create calendars. [ ]

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