

## 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. can be removed/cannot be removed
2. I wrote to that cultural festival organizer whom I met at the conference last month to ask for a job. can be removed/cannot be removed
3. The US constitution, which was signed in 1787, has been amended 17 times. can be removed/cannot be removed
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. can be removed/cannot be removed
5. I've booked tickets for the play that I read about in the newspaper. can be removed/cannot be removed
6. Many buildings in London have blue signs on them that give information about famous people who lived there. can be removed/cannot be removed
7. The Mayans of Mesoamerica had detailed knowledge of astronomy, which they used to create calendars. can be removed/cannot be removed