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## Which, who or what?

### 1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- The living room has a big open fire, which makes it really warm and cosy.
  - The living room has a big open fire, what makes it really warm and cosy.
- He has three brothers which are older than him.
  - He has three brothers who are older than him.

*Who* and *which* are used to refer back to something from the first part of a sentence.

*Who* refers to people and *which* to things, places or organisations:

Do you know **the guy who** lives next door?

I work for **an organisation which** helps homeless people find work.

*What* is used to refer to something unknown:

Do you know **what's** in the box?

A defining relative clause defines exactly who or what you are talking about. *Who* or *which* can be replaced by *that* or sometimes dropped altogether:

That's the man **who** I saw running away from the accident.

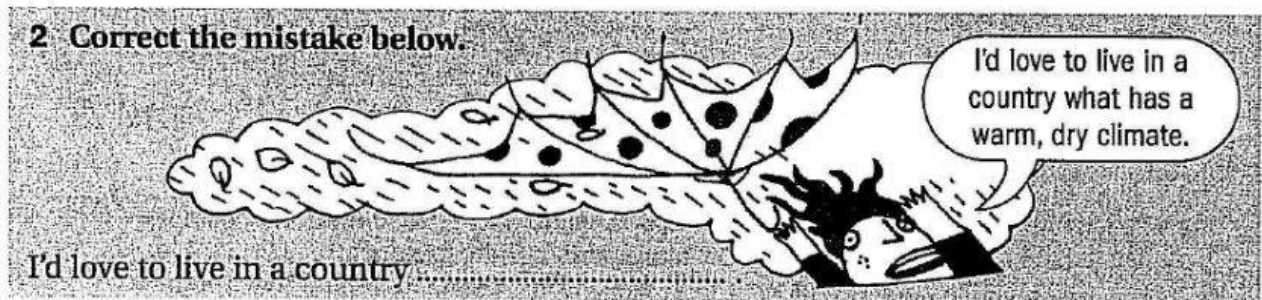
That's the man (**that**) I saw running away from the accident.

A non-defining relative clause, separated by commas, gives extra information:

Our apartment, **which** faces east, gets the sun in the morning.

*Which* can't be dropped or replaced by *that*, as it would then become a defining relative clause, e.g. *Our house that faces east gets the sun in the morning.* (we have several houses and this one faces east)

### 2 Correct the mistake below.



### 3 Make the following sentences sound more natural using *who*, *which* or *what*.

**Example:** They have a very heavy workload. <sup>which</sup> A heavy workload can lead to stress.

- There are many students. These students can't afford to pay such high fees.
- We're lucky to live in this country. This country has free basic healthcare.
- The book has two main characters. These characters are very different.
- He hasn't explained the thing he wants me to do.
- I stayed with a lovely family. This family live in an old farmhouse.
- People are living longer. This means that the state has to pay more in pensions.
- Do you know the thing he plans to do when he finishes college?
- My uncle gave me some helpful advice about loans. My uncle is a bank manager.