10A GRAMMAR relative clauses: defining and non-defining

a Complete the article with *who, which, where,* or *whose.*

We asked students to tell us about their favourite things in life. This week, Elena, a student from Brazil, tells us about hers.

A place

My favourite place in the world is the town [1] *where* I was born. I've travelled all over the world, but it's still the place [2] _____ I love the most.

A song

A song…that's an easy one! It's *Yellow* by Coldplay, for two reasons. Firstly, it was the colour of the dress [3] _____ I was wearing the night I met my husband. Secondly, it was the song [4] _____ the DJ played as we danced.

A number

The number [5] _____ I've chosen is the number nine. My grandmother, [6] _____ used to live with us when I was a child, always asked me to get her a lottery ticket with this number. I think that's why I like it so much.

A photo

I've chosen a black and white photo of my parents, [7] _____ I've had for about 20 years. Every time I look at it, I can see two happy people in their early twenties, [8] _____ lives were about to change forever. Why? Well, because my mum was pregnant with me in the photo!

A person

My English teacher at school was the woman [9] _____ inspired me to love languages. So, I've chosen her to be my favourite person.

An animal

Animals? No question about it! The animals [10] _____ I like most are dogs.

A shop

The shop [11] _____ I could spend all day would be one selling perfumes and cosmetics.

An object

Finally, an object [12] _____ is very special to me is my engagement ring, because it used to belong to my husband's grandmother. It's beautiful.

b In which sentences could you also use *that*? In which sentences could you leave out *who* or *which*?

c Combine the two sentences using a non-defining relative clause.

1. Our neighbours have lived next door to us for 15 years. They're both teachers.
   Our neighbours, *who are both teachers*, have lived next door to us for 15 years.
2. Sydney is well known for its Opera House and Harbour Bridge. Many people think it's the capital of Australia.
   Sydney, _____, is well known for its Opera House and Harbour Bridge.
3. Our local post office has closed down. My grandmother used to work there.
   Our local post office, _____, has closed down.
4. Pablo Picasso was one of the world's most famous artists. His best known painting is *Guernica*.
   Pablo Picasso, _____, was one of the world's most famous artists.
5. The hurricane was the worst storm for over a century. It hit the city of New Orleans.
   The hurricane, _____, was the worst storm for over a century.
6. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was an extremely talented composer. He died when he was 35.
   Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, _____, was an extremely talented composer.

ACTIVATION

Read the article in **a** again. Write a paragraph about your favourite things in life.

LIVEWORKSHEETS