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 Department of sociology
 Module: English
 2nd year students
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RELATIVE PRONOUNS

Relative pronoun	Usage	Example
Who	Relates to people (subject)	The musician who wrote the song is French.
Whom	Relates to people (object)	She's the woman whom I met in Greece.
Which	Relates to animals and objects	This is the picture which Mary drew.
Why	Refers to reason	Do you know the reason why the market is closed today?
When	Refers to time	The day when the concert takes place is Saturday.
Where	Refers to places	This is the house where my son was born.
Whose	Refers to possession	The boy whose phone just rang should stand up.
That	Relates to people, animals and things	The book that I gave you is new.

Functions of relative pronouns:

- They introduce the relative clause, which is 'a subordinate' or 'a dependent' (the part of a sentence that gives more information about the noun).
- They connect the clause to the rest of the sentence.
- **Relative pronouns** can be found in sentences with more than one clause.

Exercise: Complete the sentences below with the appropriate relative pronouns

1. The new movie is about a boy _____ has lost his parents in a car accident.
2. The DVD recorder _____ I bought at this store a few days ago is not working.
3. That's the book _____ I recommended reading in class.
4. Is this the hotel _____ you are staying for the tournament?
5. My dad, _____ travels a lot on business, is in Australia at the moment.
6. It was midnight _____ the first rescue team arrived at the scene of the accident.

7. There are several reasons _____ I am not allowed to give you any information.
8. We stayed at the famous Rock Star hotel _____ also had an indoor swimming pool.
9. Did you write back to the person _____ offered you a job?
10. The story is about a young woman _____ 5-year old son suddenly disappears.

ANSWER KEY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
who that	which that	which that	where	who that	when	why	which that	that who	whose