4º ESO - UNIT 9 - GRAMMAR II: PREPOSITIONS IN RELATIVE CLAUSES

If the verb in a relative clause needs a preposition, we put it at the end of the clause. The relative pronouns which can be followed by a preposition are *whom* ("who" after a preposition becomes "whom"), which or whose. For example:

listen to

The music is good. Julie listens to the music.

 \rightarrow The music (*which* / that) Julie listens **to** is good.

work with

My brother met a woman. I used to work with the woman.

 \rightarrow My brother met a woman (*who* / that) I used to work **with**.

go to

The country is very hot. He went to the country.

 \rightarrow The country (*which* / that) he went **to** is very hot.

come from

I visited the city. John comes from the city.

 \rightarrow I visited the city (that / which) John comes **from**.

apply for

The job is well paid. She applied for the job.

 \rightarrow The job (*which* / that) she applied **for** is well paid.

If the preposition comes BEFORE the relative pronoun, the sentence is more formal.

Difference between who and whom:

- The people with **whom** he worked have all been arrested. (Formal)
- The people **who** he worked with have all been arrested. (Informal)

In sentences in which there are relative pronouns, we see prepositions: *some of which/whom;* many of which/whom).

Prepositions can appear in adverbial phrases with relative pronouns: *in which case, at which point*.

More examples:

I live in a city. I study in the city.

- \rightarrow I live in the city **that / which** I study **in**.
- \rightarrow I live in the city **in which** I study. (more formal)

The bar in Barcelona is still there. I met my wife in that bar.

- \rightarrow The bar in Barcelona **that / which** I met my wife **in** is still there.
- → The bar in Barcelona **in which** I met my wife is still there. (more formal)

In which and at which are sometimes used as more precise sounding alternatives to where to introduce relative clauses after nouns referring to place:

- Near where I live there's a wood **where** you can find woodpeckers. Near where I live there's a wood **in which** you can find woodpeckers.