



A DESCRIPTION (1)

Describing a room – relative pronouns, participles

1 Think of your favourite room. Draw a plan of it on a piece of paper. Write down why you like it and some adjectives to describe it.

My favourite room is ... I like it because ...

Show a partner your plan and talk about your room.

2 Read the description. Why is this kitchen more than just a room where you cook and eat?

3 Complete the description using these relative clauses:

- which tells the story
- that we're going to next Saturday
- where we cook and eat
- whose family have all emigrated
- which is the focal point of the room
- which means we haven't seen
- I like best
- who are cross and sleepy
- where family and friends come together

GRAMMAR SPOT

1 Underline the relative pronouns in exercise 3. What do they refer to? When do we use *which, who, that, where, and whose*?

2 Look at these sentences. We can omit the relative pronoun from one in each pair. Which one? Why?

This is the room **which** I like best. / This is the room **which** has a good view of the sea.

He's a friend **who** we haven't seen for years. / He's a friend **who** lives in London.

3 Look at these examples of participles. Rewrite them with relative pronouns.

I have so many happy memories of times **spent** there.

There is a large window **looking** out onto two apple trees in the garden.

▶ Grammar Reference 6.5 and 6.6 p143

My favourite room



The room in our house (1) _____ is our kitchen. Perhaps the kitchen is the most important room in many houses, but it is particularly so in our house because it's not only (2) _____, but it's also the place (3) _____.

I have so many happy memories of times spent there: ordinary daily events such as making breakfast on dark, cold winter mornings for children (4) _____, before sending them off to school; or special occasions such as homecomings or cooking Christmas dinner. Whenever we have a party, people gravitate with their drinks to the kitchen. It always ends up the fullest and noisiest room in the house.

So what does this special room look like? It's quite big, but not huge. It's big enough to have a good-sized rectangular table in the centre, (5) _____. There is a large window above the sink, looking

out onto two apple trees in the garden. There's a big, old cooking stove at one end, and at the other end a wall with a huge notice board (6) _____ of our lives, past, present, and future: a school photo of the kids; a postcard from Auntie Nancy, (7) _____ to Australia; the menu from a take-away Chinese restaurant; an invitation to a wedding (8) _____; a letter from a friend (9) _____ for years. All our world is there for everyone to read!

The front door is seldom used in our house, only by strangers. All our friends use the back door (10) _____ they come straight into the kitchen and join in whatever is happening there. The kettle goes on immediately and then we all sit round the table, drinking tea and putting the world to rights! Without doubt some of the happiest times of my life have been spent in our kitchen.

4 Link these sentences with the correct relative pronoun: *who, which, that, where, whose*.

- 1 The blonde lady is Pat. She's wearing a black dress.
- 2 There's the hospital. My sister works there.
- 3 The postcard arrived this morning. It's from Auntie Nancy.
- 4 I passed all my exams. This made my father very proud.
- 5 Did you meet the girl? Her mother teaches French.

5 Complete the sentences with a word from the box in the present or past participle.

play give stick listen arrange

- 1 I spend hours in my room, _____ to music.
- 2 I have lots of posters _____ on the walls.
- 3 My brother is in his bedroom, _____ on his computer.
- 4 There are photos of my family _____ on my shelves.
- 5 I also have a colour TV _____ to me on my last birthday.

6 Write a similar description of your favourite room in about 250 words. Describe it and give reasons why you like it. Use relative pronouns and participles to link your sentences.