

When can the demonstrative “that” be omitted?

Answer Key

- **Cannot omit “that”:** 1, 4, 8, 11, 14, 17, 21, 25, 28 (because “that” introduces a noun clause functioning as subject or is part of a fixed phrase).
- **Can omit “that”:** 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30 (object clauses after verbs or adjectives).

Example rewrites for those that can omit:

- 2 → I believe honesty is essential in leadership.
- 6 → We were delighted you could join us.
- 12 → He promised he would return before midnight.