REDUCED RELATIVE CLAUSES

• they are especially common in academic English
• when the pronoun: "who", "which" or "that" is the subject of a defining relative clause, the clause can be reduced in this way
• to form one you change the verb from its original tense to an "-ing" form of the verb with an active meaning (to say what someone or something is or was doing, did or has done)
• the relative pronoun and any auxiliary verbs ("to be" or "to have") that were used to form the tense which the participle replaces can be omitted
Examples 1.

a.) We will look first at problems **arising** during the field-work, before describing the nature of Easton and its police station. *(that have arisen)*

b.) After all, hundreds of fundamental revolutions **involving** the whole and almost completely illiterate populace of countries have taken place in the history of civilization. *(which involved)*

c.) The survivors **swimming** from the wreckage were soon rescued. *(who were swimming)*
REDUCED RELATIVE CLAUSES

• when we are talking about things, the "-ing" clause can also describe permanent features of something (Ex. 2.a.)
• if a past participle is used ("-ed" not "-ing"), the meaning is passive instead of active
• if the verb is irregular, the past participle does not end in "-ed", as it is formed in a different way, but the meaning of the clause still has a passive meaning
Examples 2.

(a permanent feature)

a.) A database containing information relating to bibliographic references and abstracts will be a literary work. (that contains)

b.) The money saved in the last financial year can be reinvested on the stock exchange. (which was saved)

c.) The elephant rescued by the volunteers can eventually be released back into the wild. (which was rescued)

d.) A member of staff requested a thesis written by a Spanish researcher, who was funded by a Spanish university. (which was written)
Now try the exercises!

Good luck!