Find Customer Referee

Question:

CUSTOMER	
Column	**Type**
id	int
name	varchar
referee_id	int

id is the primary key column for this table.

Each row of this table indicates the id of a customer, their name, and the id of the customer who referred them.

Write an SQL query to report the IDs of the customer that are not referred by the customer with id = 2.

Return the result table in any order.

My Approach:

Although the question asks just to return the IDs of the customers, the sample output was displaying the names of the users. So following the sample output format, I approached the question and it was accepted.
We only need to return the **names** of the customers with the **ID !=2.**

We have the approach in English, now we just need to convert it into SQL.

Query 1

Using a simple **WHERE** clause.

```sql
SELECT

    name

FROM Customer

WHERE (referee_id != 2)
```

The problem with this query is that it is not handling NULL values so we need to handle them separately.
So we need to select the **names** of customers with **ID !=2** and **ID not null**.

Query 2

Using the same **WHERE** clause along with a condition for handling NULL values.

```sql
SELECT

    name

FROM Customer

WHERE (referee_id != 2) OR (referee_id IS NULL)
```

Note: I also found a 3rd using the IFNULL function but after some research , I found that it doesn't work with every **DBMS** so I haven't included here.
The query solutions I have here worked on all **3** SQL servers provided by **LeetCode**

Here is a link for the 3rd query:
https://leetcode.com/problems/find-customer-referee/discuss/103284/Fast-Solution-using-IFNULL