

Chapter 1 : Who vs. Whom - Grammar and Punctuation

Whom should be used to refer to the object of a verb or preposition. Who or whom? If you're like most English speakers, you know that there's a difference between these pronouns, but you aren't sure what that difference is.

Can you please explain to me, in simple terms, how to differentiate between the two? It can be tricky to find the correct use, and sometimes you may feel like locating the person who invented both words and smacking him upside his head. But there is a difference. Who is used as the subject of a verb or complement of a linking verb. It was Carl who broke all the pencils in the house. When writing a sentence, first find the verb s "was and broke. Then, find the subject for each verb: Who needs a crayon to write this down? Whom is used as the object of the verb or the object of a preposition. You asked whom to the dance? This pronoun is the object of the preposition with, so whom is the right pick. For example, I cheered for who played hardest. When placed as a subject, always use who. One way to remember is to check to see which pronoun can replace the questionable word. Sometimes you may need to split the sentence to see it. For example, It was Carl "he broke all the pencils in the house. Who should be used here. You asked him to the dance? Whom is the correct choice. Want to have the first draft of your novel finished one month from today? Use this discounted bundle of nine great resources to make that happen.

Chapter 2 : Who vs. Whom - Grammar Rules

"Whom were you talking to?" just sounds a little uptight, doesn't it? Most teachers will use the word who in this case, even if they know better.. Nonetheless, the word still exists, and some people do take all grammar rules very seriously.

Are you sure you want to delete this answer? Yes Sorry, something has gone wrong. While many people ignore the rules of "who and whom", the old rules still apply in formal speech and published writings. Whom is the objective or accusative case of who and should be used whenever at least formally the interrogative or relative pronoun "who" is the object of a VERB or a preposition. Sentence b is correct or closer to being correct by formal standards but still sounds stilted and forced, so a is actually to be preferred at least in informal usage. But note how formal all the above sound. In everyday speech all that is unnecessary and sounds forced and stilted and even in published writings where you have dialogue, you can break any rules you like! This supposed "expert" on English should have consulted Mark Twain an expert on dialogue!! Where the written dialogue is an attempt to capture special dialects and forms of colloquial speech like "sich" for "such" or "jess" for "just" it is perfectly OK. Instead of "non compos mentis" the correct, I used "non compost mentis" which is what you are fit for after losing your mind! Quite a few old rules of grammar are regularly ignored even by expert writers like Stephen King. A Do you know who lives there In this case the entire phrase "who lives there" is the object of the verb "know" and sounds better unaltered. B sounds forced, stilted and is unnecessary, and by the standards of most other languages would be in error anyway. In older English, like in most foreign languages one would insert a preposition. Do you know him, who lives there? Do you know the person who lives there? Let me know him, who I must contact. They who speak with authority will overcome those who do not. But due to the lack of knowledge of foreign languages and the evolution of the English language itself from its Germanic roots, when it had noun cases like Latin, most supposed "authorities" on English Grammar simply do not know what they are talking about and their "rules" are often completely bogus. Still, your English teacher and not I, will be giving you the grade; so you would be advised to follow the rules he or she gives you. During the time of the s and early s many writers used the German rule of capitalizing all nouns or at least certain nouns when used as an abstraction or personified. Hence "This woman is my love. I rather like this old rule and still follow it habitually despite the fact that few people nowadays even know it. Russell used it well, so did H. What is correct here? But is it correct? When I say "I picked up the trash" contrary to what some blockheads think, the word "trash" is not the object of a preposition, but the object of a COMPOUND verb consisting of "pick up". This is the person I seek. To "look for", like to "look at" should be treated as an inseparable unit. Stephen King and Anne Rice both know this rule. Good writers avoid compound verbs if possible! Nobody even wastes time on this stupid rule anymore.

Chapter 3 : Who vs. Whom | Grammar Rules

When you're trying to figure out whether to use who or whom, it helps to know the difference between subjects and objects because you use who when you're referring to the subject of a clause and whom when you're referring to the object of a clause.

About Who vs Whom Many English speakers do not know the difference between who and whom. But for those who want to know the difference between who and whom, here is an explanation. Who Who is an interrogative pronoun and is used in place of the subject of a question. Is this who told you? Who can also be used in statements, in place of the subject of a clause. This is who warned me. Jack is the one who wants to go. Anyone who knows the truth should tell us. Whom Whom is also an interrogative pronoun, but it is used in place of the object of a question. Whom is this story about? With whom are you going? Whom did they tell? And whom can be used in statements, in place of the object of a clause. This is the man whom I told you about. John is the man whom you met at dinner last week. Whom is always the correct choice after a preposition. The students, one of whom is graduating this year, failed the test. The Bottom Line The difference between who and whom is exactly the same as the difference between I and me , he and him, she and her, etc. Who, like I, he, and she, is a subject – it is the person performing the action of the verb. Whom is also the correct choice after a preposition:

How to Use Who and Whom. The correct use of who and whom in questions and statements may seem like a lost battle, still fought only by punctilious English teachers. However, using who and whom correctly can come in handy in formal writing, and it will make you seem more educated.

I Advanced communications with client liaisons who had previously been uncommunicative. Would the question be: It is critical that I get this correct, as I am using this sentence in my resume! Since we have these cases, it means we are free to change word order around in poetry and what have you. In the latter, as we would agree, the girl is doing the hitting, and in the former, it is the boy, not the girl, who is laying the smack down. Many arbitrary grammatical rules are just that - arbitrary. Does this mean the latter is now the norm and therefore acceptable usage? Ponta 11 years ago Oh thank you so much for this clarification piece. This is yet another step in perfecting my grammar! I am just a few weeks in here, and only today beginning to get a few Hubs done. I appreciate your effort, for it is a service to many. I am a professional writer specialising in Corporate Communication. I have just begun to put together some short stories and little poems. I wonder if those who speak more than one language are more aware of grammar in their native tongue. What do you think? You are definitely right. When I started learning Spanish and then teaching English I found that learning Spanish not only makes one more aware of how we use English but also why we use it the way we do. And Grammar is nothing more than an explanation of how the majority of us use English or Spanish or French. Grammar is not a set of rules, it is a compendium of what the majority of us are speaking jerezano. In response to some of the comments, let me say that I believe that language is a means to an end. If enough people use a word incorrectly, it is no longer incorrect to use that word as such. If someone knows an obscure rule, and seeks to employ that rule only for the sake of propagation of the rule, while a majority does not use that rule, it is that person who is wrong, imho.

Chapter 5 : Tips and Tricks - Who vs. Whom

The difference between who and whom is similar to that between he and him, or they and them. He and they are the subjects of verbs, and him and them are objects. If you ever find yourself confused by whether to use who or whom, try substituting he / him or they / them to see which makes sense.

Examples of Who and Whom in Sentences Here are some examples of who and whom in sentences: Who paid for the meal? Who is the subject of the verb to pay. I have not seen the man who lives in the hut by the beach for a week. Who is the subject of the verb to live. I wonder who is in charge. Who is the subject of the verb to be, i. Sarah gave the tickets to who? Sarah is the subject of gave. Who is not the subject of any verb. Therefore, you cannot use who. It should be whom. This is like saying "Sarah gave the tickets to he. Who is the subject of rang. Real Life Examples of People Using Whom Incorrectly Often, you have to look closely at your sentence to see whether who is the subject of a verb. Here are two real-life examples of people getting it wrong: If you notice any faulty office equipment or hazards, please report them to your supervisor whom will notify the management. It should be "who will notify the management". Here is a slightly more complicated example from a TV magazine. The use of whom is incorrect because it is the subject of existed. This should be " Whom Is Never the Subject of a Verb Whom is like him, her, and them because it is never the subject of a verb. Whom is an object. Here, whom is a direct object. You gave whom a warning? Here, whom is an indirect object. Here, whom is the object of a preposition. Examples of Whom in Sentences Claire kissed whom yesterday? Here, whom is the direct object of the verb kissed. Here, whom is the indirect object of the verb gave. You sat by whom all night? Here, whom is the object of the preposition by. Remember, whom cannot be the subject of a verb. This should be "who lives". In the examples below, the prepositions are in bold. You have a child by whom? With whom did you see Janice? That is the lady to whom I made the promise. That is the lady whom I made the promise to. Some writers like to avoid ending a sentence in a preposition and construct their sentences like the one above. Remember, the preposition still governs whom. Here is an example of an estate agent forgetting that whom follows a preposition: It should be "Two hits to whom?"

Chapter 6 : Whom do I speak to / To whom do I speak | WordReference Forums

What I mean is, I still say, "For whom are you looking?" and "To whom do you wish to speak?" and so forth. I wish I could get the grammar stuff into my head, but I must have missed the golden hour when the human brain is open to absorbing these things.

Sometimes even the native English speaker is unsure of when to use who and when to use whom. The main reason for this is most likely that native English speakers most notably in North America tend to omit the use of whom both in written and most commonly in oral English. Given that this is the case, opt for who if ever you are uncertain of which one to use. People are much less likely to notice a who that should be a whom since it is so uncommon than the opposite. Using whom incorrectly, on the other hand, could give the impression that one is trying to come off as learned while in fact not entirely knowing what he or she is doing. Whom can be omitted in informal writing, again because it has slipped from common usage. It should, however, be used in formal writing. Please let me know who will be going. Whom is the object of a verb i. With whom did you go? Tomorrow we will announce whom we selected. He and they are the subjects of verbs, and him and them are objects. He or they would mean you should use who, and him or them would indicate that whom is the correct choice Hint to remember: For a question, you might need to use the answer, and other sentences might need rearranging for the trick to work. Therefore who is correct. I met three of the new professors yesterday; one of them has already published several books. Therefore whom is correct. However, this trick can prove to be problematic in certain instances. In this case, the sentence would have to be rearranged to use the trick discussed above. He believes that he may be his grandfather. Given the above, who is the correct choice. The reason this could potentially be problematic is the placement of the word in the sentence. Since it is placed next to another pronoun he , we might assume that who is in fact the object and should therefore be whom. This, however, is not the case. Here is another example: This example proves particularly difficult even with the trick because we automatically think of Ask him for directions, and this would lead us to believe that the correct choice is whomever. Conversely, whoever is correct. In this sentence, the entire phrase whoever walks by is the object of ask. In this case, whoever is the subject of walks by, and therefore the correct choice would be whoever.

Chapter 7 : Who vs. Whom | Owlcation

In fact, there's an easy way to tell when you should use who or whom in a sentence. If we had only been taught this in school. Consider the following sentence.

Chapter 8 : When Do You Use Whom? - Everything After Z by racedaydvl.com

We all know who/whom pulled that prank. This sentence contains two clauses: we all know and who/whom pulled that prank. We are interested in the second clause because it contains the who/whom.

Chapter 9 : Who vs Whom - Lawless English

Over the last years, the pronoun whom has been on a steady decline. Despite its waning use in speech and ongoing speculation about its imminent extinction, whom still holds a spot in the English language, particularly in formal writing. Understanding when and how to use this pronoun can set your.