Who vs. Whom

Grammar Mania Monday





Basic rule: if it's a **subject** like he or she or they, then it's who.

Here are some examples with correct responses in parentheses:

- Who is going? (He, she or they are going.)
- Is this who told you? (He, she or they told me.)
- My uncle, who was born in Canada, is an excellent fisherman. (He is an excellent fisherman.)
- People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones. (They shouldn't throw stones.)
- Who thinks who and whom are difficult? (He or she think who or whom are difficult.)



Basic rule: If it's an **object** like him or her or them, then it's whom.

Here are some examples with correct responses in parentheses:

- This is the man whom I told you about. (I told you about him.)
- These children, two of whom are in grammar school, have learned how to play the piano. (Two of them are in grammar school.)
- We are going to meet with the woman whom we met at lunch. (We are going to meet with her.)
- I don't know whom you are talking about. (I don't know him or her.)
- I want to speak to the person whom is in charge. (I want to speak to her or him.)

Group Practice

- 1. To ____ have you offered the flowers?
- 2. ____ wrote that beautiful love poem?
- 3. I just want to know _____ made this delicious dish.
- 4. Do you know the man _____ is standing there?
- 5. My parents will accept _____ I choose as my husband.
- 6. For _____ are you buying this present?
- 7. He is a kind of person for _____ family is very important.
- 8. Tell me, _____ told you this wonderful news?
- 9. The electrician _____ I asked for assistance was helpful.
- 10. _____ gave you permission to get into this room?

Individual Practice

- 1. The girl _____ hit the winning home run was a hero.
- 2. I don't know ____ made this mess.
- 3. _____ are you going to the movies with?
- 4. I need to know _____ will clean up this mess.
- 5. To _____ should I give the message?
- 6. For _____ the Bell Tolls is a book by Ernest Hemingway.
- 7. _____ are you talking about?
- 8. ____ will help him wash the dishes?
- 9. My cousin, ____ likes to dance, took me to a new club last night.
- 10. _____ are you voting for in the election?