

Using Who and Whom

	Part of Speech	Description	Purpose
Who	Pronoun	Subject of a sentence	Denotes who is doing something
Whom	Pronoun	Object of a verb	Denotes who has something done to it

General Rule: When deciding between who and whom, ask yourself if the answer to a given question would be he or him.

- To [who/whom] did the prize go?

Answer: It went to him. (You would use "him" in the answer, so use "whom" in the question. To whom did the prize go?)

WHO → subject (he/she)

WHOM → object (him/her)

- [Who/Whom] went to the party?

Answer: He did. (You would use "he" in the answer, so use "who" in the question. Who went to the party?)

It's also a good idea to pay attention to prepositions in a sentence because they're often clues that you need to use "whom." Common prepositions include "at," "by," "for," "in," and "with."

Practice Questions

1. [Who/Whom] are you calling?
2. To [who/whom] did you send the letter?
3. [Who/Whom] is at the door?
4. [Who/Whom] did you want me to contact?
5. [Who/Whom] ate my pizza?

Answers

1. Whom are you calling? (I am calling him.)
2. To whom did you send the letter? (I sent the letter to him.)
3. Who is at the door? (He is.)
4. Whom did you want me to contact? (I wanted you to contact him.)
5. Who ate my pizza? (He did.)

