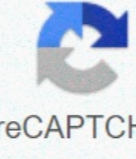


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## Whoever whomever and whatever are what pronouns

Are whoever ,whichever and whatever relative pronouns which is used to modify nouns in adjective clauses? eg: Most workers, whoever was not employed by the auto manufacturer, toiled at one of the millions of little minnow companies. The three approaches, whichever works is fine, produce a more ambiguous picture of a man. Any excessive profits, whatever exceeded accepted limits, would attract the notice of representatives. Are these sentences correct? And can we use whoever, whichever and whatever as relative pronoun? Welcome to the who family! Whom, whose, whomever, and whosoever are just some of the relatives. But where do they all fit in? One thing they do have in common is that they are all pronouns. A pronoun, by the way, is a word used instead of a noun to indicate someone or something already mentioned or is already known, and is being referred to again. For example: "The man has a bald head." "The man ran off with his best friend's wife." We can join both these sentences together and since "man" has already been mentioned we can use who as a pronoun when mentioning him a second time: "The man, who has a bald head, ran off with his best friend's wife." The other thing to note is that who is the subject. When the noun it is representing is the object then we use whom: "She cannot remember whom she met." The object whom stands for the person she met. If she had remembered, the sentence would have been: "She remembers meeting Jane." (She (subject), Jane (object)). So the key difference between who and whom is that it is essential to use who in place of the subject, and whom in place of an object in a clause. Before we get on to a more technical explanation let us look at a table of the who family. The Who family of pronouns SubjectObjectPossessive WhoWhomWhose WhoeverWhomeverWhomsoeverWhosoeverWho Who (pronoun) - what or which person or persons; of what name or standing. "Who said that?" "He cannot remember who did it." Who is also used in restrictive and non-restrictive clauses to give further information about a person or people previously mentioned (ie the specified antecedent, being a person or sometimes an animal or personified thing, who has already been mentioned). "The doorman who let us in checked our identification." "The family who live here have left." "Any child who wants to can learn to swim." So, using the first sentence as an example, where the doorman checked our identification, instead of repeating the noun, we replace "the doorman let us in" with "who let us in." Whom Whom (pronoun) - objective form of who. (ie when who is not the subject of its own clause): "Whom did you say had been in your house?" "She cannot remember whom she met." "Whom did you wish to see?" Note that whom is used less and less these days, especially in speech. It is still always used as the object of a preposition, however, when the preposition immediately precedes it: "All patients with whom you have had contact must be tested." "To whom do I owe the pleasure?" [a fancy way of asking who you are] The prepositions here are "with" and "to". Whose Whose (pronoun) - possessive form of who. Belonging to or associated with which person. Possessive case of which, used as an adjective. Possessive determiner: of whom, of which. "I told him whose car had broken down." "Someone whose belief is strong." "A house whose windows were broken." Whoever Whoever (pronoun) - any person who; whatever person; no matter who; also as an intensifier: "Whoever wants the money can take it." [any person] "I refuse to do it, whoever asks." [whatever person] "I will be over tomorrow, whoever may be there." [no matter who] "Whoever could have come up with that?" [as an intensifier] Whomever Whomever (pronoun) - objctive form of whoever [and of whatever, by the way]. It replaces whoever when acting as an object of a verb or preposition: "Whomever he spoke to he was always polite." "I will hire whomever I can find." Whosoever Whosoever (pronoun) - possessive form of whoever. Belonging to or associated with whichever person; also, whoever's. "Whoever car this belongs to, remove it." Whosoever Whosoever (pronoun) - formal term of whoever. "Whosoever breaks the rules will face prosecution." From the context we can see that whosoever is more usually reserved for legal matters. The same goes for the rest of this sub-family, of course: whomsoever and whosoever. Whomsoever Whomsoever (pronoun) - objective form of whoever. It replaces whosoever when working as an object of a verb or preposition. Whosoever Whosoever (pronoun) - possessive form of whosoever. "Whosoever books are overdue will be fined." This is an archaic form and rarely used, if at all, for legal matters. Further notes Who's Who's is simply a contraction of "who is", or "who has". Determiner A determiner goes in front of a noun. It includes a/an, the, this, those and every. Of course, the is also the definite article and a/an the indefinite articles. What Distant relations of the Who family are What, Whatever and Whatsoever. What (pronoun- neuter of who) - anything; asking for a repetition of something not heard or for confirmation of something not understood; asking for information specifying something; as an intensifier (emphasis or surprise); and, (as an adverb) to what extent. "Bring me what you have written." [anything] "What did you say the address was?" [confirmation] "What job does he do?" [asking for information] "What a good book!" [intensifier] "What do you care?" [adverb] Whatever (pronoun) - everything or anything that (usually used in relative clauses); any or any number of things; used to emphasise a lack of restriction in referring to anything; (informal) showing a lack of interest; as an intensifier. "Whatever happens next just go with the flow." (anything/everything) "Books, magazines, newspapers, or whatever." (any number of things) "Do whatever he asks you to do." (lack of restriction) "Do whatever you like." (lack of interest) "Whatever could she have said that upset the teacher so much?" (intensifier) Whatever (adjective) - at all; used as an intensifier with indefinite pronouns and determiners such as none, anybody. It is an archaic pronoun form of whatever, and more likely found in legal material. "In any place whatsoever." That The use of that in place of who when referring to a person is entirely acceptable in modern speech and writing. "The man that wanted to talk to you." "The man who wanted to talk to you." Both correct. Summary In summary the traditional rules that determine the use of who and whom are relatively simple: who is used for a grammatical subject, where a nominative pronoun such as I or he would be appropriate; and whom is used elsewhere. Thus, we write: "The actor who played Hamlet was there." In this sentence who stands for the subject of "played Hamlet". "Who do you think is the best candidate?" Here who stands for the subject of "is the best candidate". However, consider: "To whom did you give the letter?" In this sentence whom is the object of the preposition "to". "The man whom the papers criticised did not show up." And, again, whom is the object of the verb "criticised". "I met the man whom the government had tried to get France to extradite." Where whom functions as the object of the verb "extradite". In speech and informal writing who tends to predominate over whom. For example: "Who did John say he was going to support?" Here, the use of who is incorrect but is considered common usage. Whom would create a stilted tone. By contrast, the use of whom where who would be required, is incorrect: "Whom shall I say is calling?" (incorrect) "Who shall I say is calling?" (correct) The relative pronoun who may be used in restrictive relative clauses, in which case it is not preceded by a comma, or in non-restrictive clauses in which case a comma is required. Thus, we may say: "The scientist who discovers a cure for cancer will be immortalised," where the clause "who discovers a cure for cancer" indicates which scientist will be immortalised. "The mathematician over there, who solved the four-color theorem, is widely known." In this sentence the clause "who solved the four-color theorem" adds information about a person already identified by the phrase "the mathematician over there". The commas therefore bracket the clause that could be removed without spoiling the meaning. The grammatical rules governing the use of who and whom apply equally to whoever and whomever; to whosoever and whomsoever. Back to Top By Nigel Benetton, science fiction author of Red Moon Burning and The Wild Sands of Rotar Last updated: Thursday, 23rd April 2020 Whoever and whomever are pronouns that are used similarly to pronouns like he/him, she/her, and they/them. What causes most of the confusion between each word is that whoever is a subject pronoun and whomever is an object pronoun. In other words: Whoever is the subject of the verb and represents the person or people taking action in the sentence. Whomever is the object of a verb and represents the person or people acted upon. Subject pronouns vs. object pronouns? Subject pronouns are objects that perform the action of verbs, while object pronouns are the direct object of a verb or preposition. In case you're wondering, a direct object is typically a noun that receives the action of a verb or adverb in a sentence. Like the personal pronouns she, he, or they, whoever acts as a subject pronoun. For example, She loves sweaters. He loves sweaters. They love sweaters. Whoever loves sweaters. In contrast, whomever acts like the pronouns her, his, and them because they're used as object pronouns. The sweater is great for whomever. The sweaters belong to whomever. For these two examples, the word whomever is the direct object of the sentence adverb (great) and verb (belong) and is, therefore, the object pronoun. If we were to replace the word whomever with her, him, or them, the sentences are still grammatically correct. Let's take a look: The sweater is great for her.The sweater is great for him.The sweater is great for them. To summarize, try to remember the following equivalencies: Subject pronouns: He/she/they = who = whoever = whoseObject pronouns: Him/her/them = whom = whomever Whoever and whomever are also tricky to use because both terms appear to use "who." But, in reality, the term whomever uses the word whom-- and there's a big difference between the two! Who vs. whom? As explained through a previous article, we use pronouns like who or whom in place of a person or animal for phrases like, Who is this?Who are you?Who did this? Or, This belongs to whom?In meeting whom? When using words like who and whom, we're essentially answering such questions before they're asked. But the mystery is solved if we directly outline how whomever and whoever are connected and where they are not. Who is a subjective pronoun and whom is its objective form. Whose is the possessive form of whom and who. Whoever is a subjective pronoun and whomever is its objective form. What does whoever mean? Whoever is a relative and interrogative pronoun used for any person, no matter who they are. We can use the word whoever in any grammatical sense except in the case of a possessive pronoun. For example, You can love whoever you want. We use the word whoever as a relative pronoun for phrases that take the place of "the person," "the people who," "any person who," or "regardless of who." Whoever wants to eat ice cream needs to come over now. We serve any guest, whoever they support politically. When there's a question to "who is who" for questions, whoever is used as a singular pronoun. For example, Whoever did this is going to pay. The shirt belongs to Gary, whoever that is. Whoever would do such a thing? Show yourself, whoever you are! Synonyms Everyone, people, somebody, someone. Related to "whatever." Antonyms Nobody, no one, unknown. What does whomever mean? The word whomever is a pronoun used for the objective case of whoever. What this means is the word whomever is used as the object of a preposition or verb. For example, I can befriend and love whomever I choose. Synonyms Anyone, whoever, whichever. Antonyms Nobody, no one. English grammar guide for using whomever and whoever If you're confused about the difference between whomever and whoever, trying to navigate terms like subject pronouns, objective pronouns, or "object of the preposition," can make you feel like you've opened the Pandora's box of the English language. The words seem simple enough, but there are several basic grammar rules to consider before choosing the right word. The following three lessons can help dust off your grammar basics so that you can use words like whoever and whomever in no time. Lesson 1: Subject-verb agreement As you may know, we create sentences with verbs, nouns, and adjectives, and within every complete sentence, there must be a subject-verb agreement. For example, Example 1: The brother runs. Example 2: The brothers run. In either sentence, "the brother" is the sentence subject, and "run" is the verb. If "brother" is singular, the verb "run" must be singular, too (runs). But if "brother" is plural (brothers), then the verb "run" must be plural as well (run). You may notice how the letter "s" switches places depending on if the noun is plural or not, and we can think of this "s" as representing "singular." If the "s" is on the noun, the subject-verb agreement is plural. But if the "s" is on the verb, the subject-verb agreement is singular. Lesson 2: Subjective, objective, and possessive cases When grammarians use the term "case," they are discussing how pronouns and nouns work together in a sentence. There are three main types of cases that exist, which are the possessive, subjective, and objective case. Subjective case The subjective case, otherwise known as the nominative case, involves sentences where a pronoun or noun acts as the subject of the sentence or a predicate noun. For those who are unsure, a predicate noun follows a "be" verb in sentences. Subject noun: I want to visit my cousins. Predicate noun: She is a sweetheart. 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