

## Part 3: English in a BLAZE!

20. M&M rule: **Secret tip 1:** The M's go together!

He/she            whom

Him/her           who

**Secret tip 2:** Now...answer the question asked!

**Ex:** Who/whom would like to go on vacation?

**Ex:** Who/whom made these awesome cookies?

**Ex:** To who/whom was the letter addressed?

**Ex:** Who/whom do you believe?

**Ex:** I do not know with who/whom I will go to the prom.

**Ex:** Who/whom ate my sandwich?

**Secret tip 3:** Long sentences, focus on the clause, but still try to answer the question!

**Ex:** I curiously looked around the big empty room, wondering to (who/whom) the red and white notebook belonged.

**Ex:** The new resident surgeon, (who/whom) was working back-to-back shifts at the hospital, had to drink coffee to stay awake.

**Ex:** The seasoned pilot, (who/whom) we are very glad to have on staff, has over 25 years of extensive flying experience.

Take a note: \_\_\_\_\_

21. **Formula A:** *Suppose* the author had intended to...

The author is considering rewriting the sentence to *summarize*...

The author is considering *deleting paragraph 2*....

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Take a note: \_\_\_\_\_

## 22. Formula B:

The cat ran

It got scared

Woah! How can I get her from the tree?

## Types:

### a. Add/delete

The author is considering adding/deleting the following sentence.

Man, that is a crazy color!

### b. Add into the gap.

The author is considering adding the following sentence here.

I have never seen a creature jump that high before!

### c. Rearranger. Rearrange sentences/paragraphs

### d. Anti-razorblade -vs- razorblade

Take a note: \_\_\_\_\_

## 23. Tense rule:

### **Past-present = has**

**Ex:** Since **yesterday**, I notice that the little puppy **has** chewed on all my shoes in the closet.

### **Past-past = had**

**Ex:** Since **last night**, the little puppy **had** scratched the floor **8 hours** in a row without stopping.

Take a note: \_\_\_\_\_

Some of the hardest to distinguish are the different usages of “me” and “I,” and “who” and “whom.” Today, we’ll tackle the latter of the two.

Let's start by reviewing exactly what each of these pronouns can be used to refer to:

Who and whom — people only

Which — any noun other than a person

That — any noun

Always use "who" before a verb.

Incorrect: Last week, I went to visit my aunt Shana, whom lives in New York City.

Correct: Last week, I went to visit my aunt Shana, who lives in New York City.

Always use "whom" after a preposition.

Incorrect: The woman on who the character of Lisa is based criticized the series' portrayal of her.

Correct: The woman on whom the character of Lisa is based criticized the series' portrayal of her.

Let's look at an example of how this process works:

The villain, who everyone loves to hate, is defeated in the final moments of the movie.

"Who" doesn't come before a verb or after a preposition here, so there's no obvious hint whether "who" or "whom" is correct. "Who" sounds fine, but let's check it, by switching it for a personal pronoun.

who everyone loves to hate → he everyone loves to hate

That doesn't make sense, so let's think about what the phrase is meant to express—everyone loves to hate the villain. So the pronoun actually belongs at the end of the clause:

Incorrect: everyone loves to hate he

Correct: everyone loves to hate him

Since "him" is correct here, we need to use "whom" in the original sentence.

The villain, whom everyone loves to hate, is defeated in the final moments of the movie.

This trick can help you differentiate between who and whom, but remember that on the ACT you shouldn't need it most of the time. Also keep in mind that "who" is correct in the vast majority of cases, so when in doubt, stick to "who."

Let's look at a real ACT English question that deals with who vs. whom:

Looking at the answer choices, we can see that this is a question about who vs. whom. The pronoun is placed immediately before a verb, so we know "who" must be the correct pronoun. (You would say "they had died," not "them had died.") This means A is wrong, and B must be the answer.

C and D might be tempting, but both are incorrect. "Who they" is redundant, since both are standing in for "relatives and friends." "Of whom" may seem correct because it has "whom" after a preposition, but it doesn't make sense in context. If you have "relatives and friends of whom had died," who is "whom" referring to? It can no longer be the relative and friends, so it doesn't work.

Take a note: \_\_\_\_\_