

## JESI, 2009: The Correct Use of Who and Whom

Who isn't confused by these two words? These words are misused so rampantly that some people have given up trying to understand their correct use. Let's not be like that.

The word who is used as the subject of a clause; the word whom is used as an object.

Take a look at a good handout from The University of Kentucky.

<http://web.ku.edu/~edit/whom.html>

Let's take do some examples with explanations.

Example: Peter is the candidate whom I voted for.

Explanation: Break up the sentence into two clauses. Peter is the candidate. I voted for HIM. Generally, if the sentence makes sense when you remove the pronoun, the correct form is whom.

Example: Peter is the candidate who spent the most money on the campaign.

Explanation: Again, break the sentence up into two clauses. Peter is the candidate. He spent the most money on the campaign. You must use the word he, which is a subject case pronoun. The sentence does NOT make sense if you remove the word who.