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Interrogative pronouns are used to **ask questions**. There are five interrogative pronouns in English: **Who**, **Whom**, **What**, **Which**, and **Whose**. They are also known as **question words** or **wh-words**. Thus, questions using these are called *wh-questions*:

- **Who** *called last night?*
- **Which** *books are yours?*
- **Whom** *do I ask for at the desk?*

Who and Whom

We use the words **Who** and **Whom** to ask about people. **Who** is used as the subject of the sentence:

- **Who** *is coming to the party?*
- **Who** *was there?*
- **Who** *did that?*

While **Whom** is used as the object of the sentence:

- **Whom** *did you visit? (You is the subject. Whom is the object of 'visit.')*
- **Whom** *did she talk to? (She is the subject. Whom is the object of 'talk.')*

What

We often use **What** to ask questions about things or activities. It is used when there are many possible answers:

- **What** *do you want for dinner?*
- **What** *is your friend's name?*
- **What** *time are we supposed to be there?*

Which

We use **Which** when there is a smaller number of possible answers:

- **Which** color do you prefer, red or blue?
- **Which** train should I take?
- **Which** seat would you like?

Compare:

- **What** is your name? – It's John.
- **'Which** is your name? (looking at a list of names) – This one here, 'John.'

Whose

We use **Whose** to ask about the owner of an object:

- **Whose** sweater is this?
- **Whose** shoes are these?
- **Whose** phone is that?

Check out this funny video!

See also:

[Using Pronouns for Possession](#)

[Pronouns: Subject and Object](#)