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# **Error Spotting Capsule 9 in PDF: Relative Pronoun - Part 1**

If you are preparing for competitive exams of **Banking**, **SSC**, **etc**. like (IBPS Clerk, IBPS PO, SBI Clerk, SBI PO, SSC CGL, SSC CHSL, RRB NTPC, RBI, LIC AAO, etc.) you will encounter English Language and Comprehension sections. One of the most important aspects of the English section, in any exam, is to **learn to Spot Errors and Correct Sentences**. These **Error Spotting** and **Sentence Correction Grammar** Capsules are aimed at helping you learn a little bit of Grammar every day. Let us start with Error Spotting Capsule 9 which deals with the concept of **"Relative Pronoun**". You can even download **Error Spotting Capsule 9** as PDF.

## **Definition of a Relative Pronoun:**

A relative pronoun is used to connect a clause or phrase to a noun or pronoun: **who**, **whom**, **which**, **whoever**, **whomever**, **whichever**, and **that**. Sometimes **what**, **where** and **when** are also used as relative pronouns.

| Pronoun | Used for                            |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Who     | People and sometimes pet animals    |
| Which   | Animals and things                  |
| That    | People, animals, and things         |
| Whose   | For people and animals usually;     |
|         | sometimes for things in             |
|         | formal situations <b>possessive</b> |
| Whom    | People                              |

### Error Spotting Capsule 9 Case 1 - Who Vs. Whom

- 1. Who is used to refer to people when the person is the <u>subject of the verb</u>.
  - **The woman** is my friend. **The woman** called you.



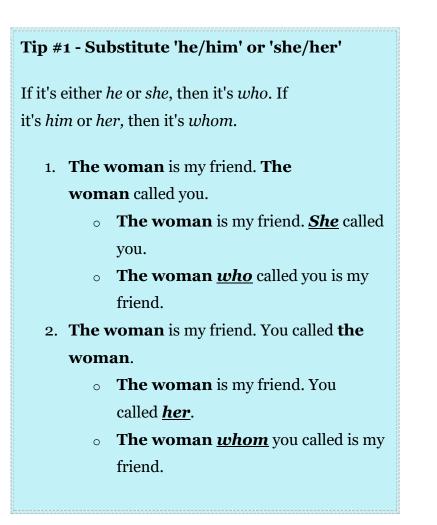








- **The woman** <u>*who*</u> called you is my friend.
- 2. Whom is used to refer to people when the person is the <u>object of the verb</u>.
  - **The woman** is my friend. You called **the woman**.
  - **The woman** *whom* you called is my friend.



### Error Spotting Capsule 9 Case 2 - Which Vs. That

- 1. When the relative pronoun is the object of a preposition, which is used instead of that.
  - This is the house <u>in which</u> I lived when I first came to the United States.
  - The tree <u>under which</u> they had their picnic was the largest and oldest in the park.
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- Water, <u>which</u> is essential for life, must be conserved. Here, the clause 'which is essential for life' doesn't affect the main idea 'water must be conserved'.
- The house <u>that/which</u> I bought last year is in Delhi. Here, 'I bought last year' helps us to identify about which house is he talking the one he bought last year. Hence, that and which can be used here.
- 3. That is used after superlatives instead of which.
  - This the **best** apartment <u>*that*</u> is available.

#### When is that more appropriate than which?

After the pronouns all, any(thing), every(thing), few, little, many, much, no(thing), none, and some(thing)

• She had **something** in her hand <u>*that*</u> she tried to hide from us.

#### Spot the error in the following sentences

- 1. With who were you talking?
- 2. The bill which deals with the land acquisition is passed by Lok Sabha.
- 3. Perhaps, this is the best thing that you can do for her.
- 4. They told nothing which could help me.

#### Here are the explanations!

1. With who whom were you talking?

When the relative pronoun indicates the object of the verb, *whom* is used instead of *who*. Think about an answer to this question: I was talking to **him/her**. Thus, the relative pronoun indicates an object of the verb (talk).

2. No error. Because the clause helps us identify the bill, both that and which can be used.

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- 3. No error. That is used after superlatives.
- 4. They told <u>nothing</u> which that could help me.
  Because that is more appropriate after pronouns like all, any(thing), every(thing), few, little, many, much, no(thing), none, and some(thing)

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