



Question Words

When
Where
What
Who
Why

Which
Whose
How
How much/many/red/deep

[Whom]

What vs. Which

We use **what** when it could mean anything, anyone in the group, and **which** when the group is restricted, we know the number.

What is your name? (you could have any name)

Which is your name on this list? (restricted number of names on the list)

What car do you have? (you could have any car)

Which is your car in the car park? (restricted number of cars in the car-park)

Who vs. Whom

In modern English we tend to use only who, both for who and whom, but there is a difference. Who is used when we do not know the subject, and whom when we do not know the object:

Who is that man?

We do not know the subject.

Whom were you speaking to?

[You were speaking to someone, we do not know whom, object]

This brings up another point, the position of the preposition or particle. In Italian it is still at the beginning of the sentence, while in English we have placed it at the end, though, in the past, which is now considered archaic, it was at the beginning of the sentence: