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Nominal Relative Clauses: Whoever, Whomever, and What

Hard | C2 | Proficiency | Adverb | Clause | Complex sentence | Determiner | Noun | Object | Preposition | Pronoun | Relative clause | Sentence | Subject | Verb

1. Read the eccentric billionaire's will and select ALL the clauses that use formal grammar correctly.

Select all that apply.

A) I leave my haunted mansion to whoever can spend a full night inside it.
B) I leave my vintage sports car to whomever my cat chooses to sit on.
C) I leave my vast fortune to whomever can decipher my secret diary.
D) I leave my private island to whoever my butler recommends as a worthy successor.

2. Help the starship captain issue her dramatic final orders before jumping to hyperspace by selecting the correct option for each blank.

"We must be prepared for _____ awaits us on the alien planet, and you are to give the experimental antidote to _____ shows the first signs of mutation. You must accomplish this _____ you can, even if it means breaking protocol!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1
A) what
B) which
C) that

Blank 2
A) whoever
B) whomever
C) whom

Blank 3
A) however
B) wherever
C) whichever

3. Help the head judge complete the rules of the magical baking tournament by selecting the correct pronoun.

The Golden Spatula will be awarded to ___ can bake a pie that genuinely sings a lullaby.

Select one.

A) whoever
B) whomever
C) whom
D) whichever

4. Help the detective classify the suspects' statements. Select ALL the sentences that contain a **nominal relative clause** (also known as a fused relative clause).

Select all that apply.

A) What the elusive thief left behind was a single red rose.
B) The inspector will aggressively pursue whoever tampered with the evidence.
C) The single red rose that the thief left behind was a crucial clue.
D) The inspector asked what the elusive thief had left behind.

5. Complete the eccentric billionaire's last will and testament by selecting the correct words for each gap.

"I hereby declare that _____ manages to survive a night in my mildly haunted mansion _____ to inherit my vast fortune, and _____ remains of my antique spoon collection shall go to my beloved cat, Mr. Whiskers."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** whoever
- **B)** whomever
- **C)** anyone

Blank 2

- **A)** is
- **B)** are
- **C)** be

Blank 3

- **A)** what
- **B)** which
- **C)** that

6. Complete the starship captain's final log entry about a bizarre alien encounter by choosing the correct word for each blank.

The crew eventually realized that _____ baffled them most was _____ the creatures effortlessly manipulated _____ matter they happened to touch.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** that
- **B)** which
- **C)** what

Blank 2

- **A)** however
- **B)** whereby
- **C)** how

Blank 3

- **A)** whichever
- **B)** whenever
- **C)** whatever

7. Help the sci-fi historian edit their manuscript by selecting ALL the grammatically correct sentences.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** What were once considered bizarre science fiction tropes have now become everyday realities.
- **B)** What was once considered a bizarre science fiction trope has now become an everyday reality.
- **C)** What were once considered bizarre science fiction tropes has now become everyday realities.
- **D)** What was once considered a bizarre science fiction trope have now become everyday realities.

8. Choose the correct word to complete the detective's dramatic courtroom revelation.

"Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, ___ the defendant hid inside that oversized tuba is exactly the missing diamond we've been searching for!"

Select one.

- **A)** that
- **B)** which
- **C)** what
- **D)** whom

9. Complete the eccentric billionaire's rather unusual last will and testament by choosing the appropriate word.

My entire fortune of vintage yo-yos shall go to ___ of my nephews manages to walk the dog for a full minute.

Select one.

- **A)** whoever
- **B)** whomever
- **C)** whichever
- **D)** whatever