

# I Miss My Mother

*Bob L. Occeus*

**BEFORE YOU READ:** The pandemic has separated us from many of our loved ones. Whom do you miss?

Before the pandemic, I visited my mother twice a week. She is old and sick. Our visits were important to both of us. When we met, she always asked me a lot of questions. She asked about my work, my school, and my plans for the next week. She also gave me advice. For example, she told me what attitude I should have in this country to avoid trouble with police and others. Sometimes she surprised me by making good food from our country, and we ate together.

Now, I can't see my mother. She lives only four miles away. But I can't see her because I don't want her to get sick. I am scared to lose her, like a lot of friends lost their mothers. I feel stressed about not seeing her for a long time. And I feel sad because I am not there to help her with her needs. I used to help her make her bed, do her laundry, put away her clothes, and make sure she took all her medicine.

When I miss my mother, I picture myself at her house. I imagine some of the best moments we had together. Sometimes, I give her a video call so we can feel close to each other. When will this situation become normal again? I want to see my mom, whom I love so much.

## Who vs. Whom

Most people make mistakes when using who and whom. If you get it wrong, it is barely noticeable and you'll have a LOT of company. However, it's good to know the rule:

**Use who** when you are referring to the *subject* of the sentence. E.g.: "Who misses me? My mom misses me!"

**Use whom** when you are referring to the *direct object*. E.g.: "Whom do you miss? I miss my mother."

Here is an easy way to remember: If the answer to the question is them, him, or her, then use *whom*. If the answer is they, she, or he, then use *who*. Work in pairs. Write questions using who and whom, and write the answers.



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