

## 30. Direct Object Pronouns

We use Direct Object Pronouns often in both English and Spanish. First, let's figure out what a Direct Object is. A Direct Object can best be understood by asking the question of WHAT or WHO after the verb. The word that answers that question is the Direct Object. It is the object that is directly affected by the action of the verb!

Act. 1. Look at the following sentences in English and figure out what is the Direct Object in each of the sentences!

Example: I see the book. (I see What/ Who) = "book" is the Direct Object.

1. I open the gift.
2. You hear the bird.
3. He sends the package.
4. We learn the lesson.
5. They play the guitars.
6. I ate the enchiladas.
7. You washed the shirts.
8. She cooked the carrots.
9. We sold the houses.
10. They saw the girls.

We often use Direct Object Pronouns instead of repeating the Direct Object. Here are the Direct Object Pronouns in both English and Spanish:

|             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| me = me     | us = nos                     |
| you = te    | you (plural from Spain) = os |
| him = lo    | they = los                   |
| her = la    | they (feminine) = las        |
| it = lo, la | they (objects) = los, las    |

In English the Direct Object Pronoun goes after the verb. In Spanish, the Direct Object Pronoun always before the conjugated noun.

Example: I see the book= I see **it**. Yo veo el libro = Yo **lo** veo.

Act. 2. Write the translation of the English sentence into Spanish. We will use the verb “to see or ver” in all of the examples!

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. He sees me.                         | 1.  |
| 2. He sees you.                        | 2.  |
| 3. He sees him.                        | 3.  |
| 4. He sees her.                        | 4.  |
| 5. He sees the money. (dinero)         | 5.  |
| 6. He sees the film. (película)        | 6.  |
| 7. He sees us.                         | 7.  |
| 8. He sees you all from Spain.         | 8.  |
| 9. He sees them. (boys or mixed group) | 9.  |
| 10. He sees them (only girls)          | 10. |
| 11. He sees the cars. (carros)         | 11. |
| 12. He sees the houses. (casas)        | 12. |

In Spanish, if we have two verbs in one sentence and one of the verbs is an Infinitive, we may either put the Direct Object Pronoun in front of the conjugated verb or we can hook it onto the Infinitive, so it becomes part of the word.

Example: We want to learn the **lesson**. We want to learn **it**.

Nosotros queremos aprender la **lección**.

Nosotros **la** queremos aprender. OR Nosotros queremos aprender**la**.

Example: I cannot find the **information**. We cannot find **it**.

Yo no puedo encontrar la **información**.

Yo no **la** puedo encontrar. OR Yo no puedo encontrar**la**

Example: You need to buy the **lemons**. You need to buy them.

Tú necesitas comprar los **limones**.

Tú **los** necesitas comprar. OR Tú necesitas comprar**los**.

Act. 3: Write the translations with the Direct Object Pronouns in both of the possible ways!

1. I need to send the packages . I need to send them.

Yo necesito mandar los paquetes.

A.

B.

2. You want to sell the cars. You want to sell **them**.

Tú quieres vender los carros.

A.

B.

3. She prefers to prepare the food. She prefers to prepare **it**.

Ella prefiere preparar la comida.

A.

B.

4. We hope to attend the meeting. We hope to attend **it**.

Nosotros esperamos asistir a la reunión.

A.

B.

5. They desired to eat the cookies. They desired to eat **them**.

Ellos deseaban comer las galletitas.

A.

B.