

Direct object pronouns

In English A **direct object** is a person or thing receiving the action of the verb.

I sent you a **novel**. (*a novel* answers the question *What did I send you?*)

She took **Peter** home. (*Peter* answers the question *Who did she take home?*)

Direct object pronouns can also be used to avoid repeating nouns that have already been mentioned. Singular forms are **me, you, him, her, and it**. Plural forms are **us, you** and **them**.

I sent you my first novel. You never read **it**, did you?

Mom took Peter to school and picked **him** up afterwards.

I wanted to see two movies, but my friend had already seen **them**.

A Circle the direct object pronoun and underline the noun it refers to.

1. I saw that film, and enjoyed it immensely.
2. They were not using their mountain bikes, so they sold them.
3. I met your sister at the game. I had never met her before.
4. I bought an apple for later, but I ate it immediately.
5. Do you like these flowers? I bought them for my mom.
6. If you are interested in this boardgame, I can lend it to you.
7. Do you know Russell? Let me introduce him to you!

In Spanish **Direct object pronouns** are also used to refer to someone or something that receives the action of the verb. These pronouns must agree with the nouns they stand for. For third person objects we have the following pronouns:

	MASCULINE	FEMININE
SINGULAR	lo him, it	la her, it
PLURAL	los them	las them

Direct object pronouns usually go *before* the conjugated verb. If an infinitive follows the conjugated verb, the pronoun can *either* go before the conjugated verb or be attached to the end of the infinitive.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ¿Quién pone la mesa? | Mi hermana la pone. |
| ¿Quién va a hacer las camas? | Mi hermano las va a hacer. |
| | Mi hermano va a hacer las . |

B Circle the direct object pronoun and underline the noun it refers to.

1. La torta está deliciosa. La quiero probar.
2. En el restaurante ustedes piden espinacas. No las pueden preparar en casa.

DIRECT OBJECT PRONOUNS

3. La ensalada está en la mesa. La voy a servir.
4. Andrés está en la cocina. Lo veo.
5. Me encantan los cereales, pero prefiero comerlos por la noche.
6. Mi madre sirve café con leche por las mañanas. Casi siempre lo bebemos.
7. Tu sopa no está caliente. Tienes que calentarla.

C. Answer the following questions using direct object pronouns. When there is an infinitive, answer in two ways by changing the position of the direct object pronoun.

1. ¿Quieres ver la película de misterio?
Sí, la quiero ver. / Sí, quiero verla.
2. ¿Vas a cenar comida picante antes?

3. ¿Siempre pides pescado en la cafetería?

4. ¿Tienes que comer el postre también?

5. ¿Vas a tomar refrescos?

6. ¿Podemos alquilar dos películas?

D Fill in the following chart with the direct object pronouns, in Spanish and English, that you would use instead of the nouns in the first column.

	Spanish	English
Mario		
Gloria		
el libro / the book		
la leche / the milk		
Mario y Gloria		
Gloria y María		
los pasteles / the cakes		
las naranjas / the oranges		

What is the main difference between direct object pronouns in the two languages? In Spanish, what do you need to know and keep in mind?
