

Object Pronouns

Direct Object Pronouns

Me (me)	Nos (us)
Te (you)	
Lo (him, it, you – formal)	Los (them, you-formal)
La (her, it, you – formal)	Las (them, you-formal)

Direct object nouns and pronouns receive the direct action of the verb. They answer the questions “**whom?**” or “**what?**” about the verb.

¿A quiénes viste? Whom did you see?
Vi a los niños. I saw the children. (Direct object noun)
Los vi. I saw them. (Direct object pronoun)

¿Qué escribiste? What did you write?
Escribí la carta. I wrote the letter. (Direct object noun)
La escribí. I wrote it. (Direct object pronoun)

Indirect Object Pronouns

Me (to/for me)	Nos (to/for us)
Te (to/for you)	
Le (to/for him, her, you)	Les (to/for them, you)

1. Indirect object pronouns are the persons or things to or for whom something is said or done. They answer the questions “**to whom?**” or “**for whom?**” about the verb.

Me leyó la carta. He read the letter to me.

Le devolví la bicicleta. I returned the bicycle to him/her/to you.

2. To clarify “le” and “les”, you may add the prepositional phrases a él, a ella, a Ud., a Uds., a ellos, or a ellas .

Le devolví la bicicleta a él. I returned the bicycle to him.

3. Prepositional phrases (a mí, a ti, a nosotros/as) can also be added to emphasize.

Alberto me dio el dinero **a mí**. Alberto gave the money **to me**.

Position of object pronouns

General Rule: Object pronouns generally precede a conjugated verb.

Los traje.	I brought them.
Me leyó la carta.	He read the letter to me.

IGA (Infinitives, Gerunds, and Affirmative Commands):

1. **Infinitives:** If a conjugated verb is followed by an infinitive the object pronoun can be **attached** directly to the infinitive or they can **precede** the conjugated verb. They **cannot separate** the two verbs.

Voy a leer el libro.	I am going to read the book.
Voy a leerlo.	
OR	
Lo voy a leer.	I am going to read it.

2. **Gerunds:** If a present participle or gerund (–ing) follows the conjugated verb, the object pronoun can either be **attached** to the gerund or they can **precede** the gerund. They **cannot separate** the two verbs.

Estoy leyendo el libro.	I am reading the book.
Estoy leyéndolo.	
OR	
Lo estoy leyendo.	I am reading it.

Siguen escribiéndole cartas a ella. They continue writing letters to her.

* An accent is **added** to the “a” in –ando or the “e” in –iendo if pronouns are **added to the end**.

3. **Affirmative commands:** In affirmative commands the object pronouns must follow the verb and be attached to it. Note: this rule does **not** apply to negative commands.

Tráeme los bocadillos, por favor.	Bring the sandwiches, please.
Tráelos.	Bring them.

Haz el café.	Make coffee for me.
Házmelo.	Make it.

* For accenting with commands, use the formulas—1 to 3 (if 1 pronoun is added, count back 3 vowel sounds for accent).