**DIRECT OBJECT PRONOUNS**

**Notes #2**

Now, some examples of plural direct objects.

*Juan come dos sándwiches.****Los come.****or****Juan los come.***

*María tiene tres libros.****Los tiene.****or****María los tiene.***

*El chico compra dos revistas.****Las compra.****or****El chico las compra.***

*La chica ve dos coches.****Los ve.****or****La chica los ve.***

*Ella compra dos televisores.****Los compra.****or****Ella los compra.***

*Tenemos dos mesas.****Las tenemos.****or****Nosotros las tenemos.***

Now, some examples where the direct object is a person.

*I know you.****Te conozco.***

*She loves him.****Ella lo ama.***

*She loves me.****Ella me ama.***

*Juan sees her.****Juan la ve.***

*They call us.****Ellos nos llaman.***

*We call them.****Los llamamos.***

In a negative sentence with one verb, the direct object pronoun is placed between the negative word and the conjugated verb.

***Affirmative Sentence***

*I buy the books.
Compro los libros.
Los compro. (I buy them.)*

***Negative Sentence***

*I don’t buy the books.
No compro los libros.
No los compro. (I don’t buy them.)*

Compare the following affirmative statements with their negative counterparts.

*Los compras.
No los compras.*

*Guadalupe siempre lo estudia.
Guadalupe nunca lo estudia.*

*Ellos nos conocen.
Ellos no nos conocen.*

Remember, don’t try to translate word-for-word. Instead, think in terms of phrases, or concepts. For example, the sentence “No los compras” contains two concepts:

1. los compras (you buy them)
2. no (makes the whole sentence negative)

When a sentence has two verbs, the first verb is conjugated and the second verb remains in the infinitive form.

***poder*** *to be able*

***pagar*** *to pay*

***Puedo pagar diez pesos.*** *I am able to pay 10 pesos.*

***preferir*** *to prefer*

***hablar*** *to speak*

***Elena prefiere hablar español.*** *Elena prefers to speak Spanish.*

In sentences with two verbs, there are two options regarding the placement of the direct object pronoun.

1. Place it immediately before the conjugated verb.
2. Attach it directly to the infinitive.

Here are examples of the direct object pronoun placed before the conjugated verb:

***Lo quiero ver.*** *I want to see it.*

***Lo debemos comprar.*** *We should buy it.*

***María nos debe visitar.*** *Mary should visit us.*

***Juan lo necesita lavar.*** *John needs to wash it.*

Here are examples of the direct object pronoun attached directly to the infinitive:

***Quiero verlo.*** *I want to see it.*

***Debemos comprarlo.*** *We should buy it.*

***María debe visitarnos.*** *Mary should visit us.*

***Juan necesita lavarlo.*** *John needs to wash it.*

Here are the two methods side by side. Neither method is “better” than the other.

***Lo quiero ver.******Quiero verlo.*** *I want to see it.*

***Lo debemos comprar.******Debemos comprarlo.*** *We should buy it.*

***María nos debe visitar.******María debe visitarnos.*** *Mary should visit us.*

***Juan lo necesita lavar.******Juan necesita lavarlo.*** *John needs to wash it.*

These same rules apply for questions and negative statements.

***¿Lo debemos comprar?******¿Debemos comprarlo?*** *Should we buy it?*

***Juan no lo necesita lavar.******Juan no necesita lavarlo.*** *John doesn’t need to wash it.*