

In English A **direct object** is the person or thing in a sentence that receives the action of the verb. It answers the question *whom?* or *what?*

I gave him the book. (*The book* answers the question, "What did I give him?")

I introduced Peter to Mary. (*Peter* answers the question, "Whom did I introduce to Mary?")

Direct object pronouns can be used instead of nouns. Three singular forms for these pronouns in English are **him**, **her**, and **it**.

I gave him the book. He read **it** immediately.
I introduced Peter to Mary. But she had already met **him**.

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

- I saw the film and enjoyed (it) immensely.
- David thought the cake was delicious, so he ate it.
- I met Liliana at the party, but I knew her from before.
- You want to meet Julián, so I will introduce him to you.
- They finished their mural, and they love it.
- If you are interested in Nick's game, I can lend it to you.
- We knew Raquel was going to come, but we didn't think we would see her here.
- I saw José at the beach yesterday and gave him my phone number.

In Spanish **Direct object pronouns** are also used to refer to someone or something that receives the action of the verb. The singular forms of these pronouns are **lo** and **la**.

Lo is used to refer to a masculine noun: Juan está aquí pero no **lo** veo.

La is used to refer to a feminine noun: La cartera no es cara; **la** compro.

In Spanish, the direct object pronoun is placed before the verb.

Marina **lo** probó.

La compramos.

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

- Tengo que hablar con María. (La) llamo por teléfono.
- La torta está deliciosa. La quiero comer.
- Quiero jamón. Lo necesito para hacer un sándwich.

4. ¿Cuándo compró el regalo Eva? Lo compró ayer.
5. Juan está en la playa. Lo veo nadando.
6. ¿Me puede traer un cuchillo? Lo necesito para cortar la carne.
7. ¿Tienes la tarea? La necesito hoy.
8. ¡Ése libro es de Nacho! ¿Dónde lo encontraste?

C Answer the following questions using direct object pronouns.

1. ¿Quieres ver la película de Almodóvar?

Sí, la quiero ver.

2. ¿Lees el periódico?
-

3. ¿Laila toma el autobús?
-

4. ¿Alejandro va a cuidar el gato?
-

5. ¿Dónde compras la comida?
-

6. ¿Tienes este libro?
-

7. ¿Quieres leer este libro de Laura Esquivel?
-

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

	ENGLISH	SPANISH
Mario		
Andrea		
book / libro		
party / fiesta		

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