

Did You Get It? *Presentación de gramática*

Level 1 p. 204
Level 1A p. 230

¡AVANZA!

Goal: Learn how to use direct object pronouns.

Direct object pronouns

- **Direct objects** answer the question *whom?* or *what?* after a verb. The direct object can be a **noun** or a **pronoun**. Read the following sentences, paying attention to the boldfaced words.

Ana compra el vestido. → Ana **lo** compra.
(*Ana buys the dress.*) (An *buys it.*)

Aldo prefiere las camisas azules. → Aldo **las** prefiere.
(*Aldo prefers the blue shirts.*) (Aldo *prefers them.*)

EXPLANATION: Direct object pronouns are used to replace direct object nouns. In the first example above, **lo** is a direct object pronoun that replaces the direct object noun **el vestido**. In the second example, **las** is a direct object pronoun that replaces the direct object noun **las camisas**. Note that the direct object pronoun in Spanish is placed *before* the conjugated verb. Use the chart below as a quick reference for direct object pronouns.

Direct object pronouns	
Singular	Plural
me (<i>me</i>)	nos (<i>us</i>)
te (<i>you</i>) (<i>familiar</i>)	os (<i>you</i>) (<i>familiar</i>)
lo (<i>you/him/it</i>) (<i>formal</i>)	los (<i>you/them</i>) (<i>formal</i>)
la (<i>you/her/it</i>) (<i>formal</i>)	las (<i>you/them</i>) (<i>formal</i>)

- Read the following sentences, paying attention to the boldfaced words and to the placement of the direct object pronouns in Spanish.

Ana quiere comprar el vestido.
(*Ana wants to buy the dress.*)



Ana **lo** quiere comprar.
(*Ana wants to buy it.*)
Ana quiere comprar**lo**.

Luis quiere comprar los zapatos.
(*Luis wants to buy the shoes.*)



Luis **los** quiere comprar.
(*Luis wants to buy them.*)
Luis quiere comprar**los**.

EXPLANATION: Direct object pronouns are either placed *before* a conjugated verb or *attached* to an infinitive.