



DIRECT OBJECT PRONOUNS

Twentieth lesson – Vingtième leçon.

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INTRODUCTION

- A **direct object** is a noun following the verb that answers the questions **what** (*quoi*)? or **whom** (*qui*)?
 - *Paul voit **Marie** tous les jours.*
 - *Paul sees Marie every day.*
 - *Whom does Paul see?*
 - *→ Marie*



INTRODUCTION

- In the sentence in the previous example:
- *Marie* is the **direct object** and the direct object pronoun that replaces *Marie* is **la**.
 - *Paul la voit.*
 - *Paul sees her.*



INTRODUCTION

- Note that “**le**” (l’) can replace adjectives in sentences such as:

- - *Est-ce que Marie est belle?*

- - *Oui, elle l’est.*

- *Is Marie beautiful? Yes, she is.*

- - *Paul et Marie sont français?*

- - *Oui, ils le sont.*

- *Are Paul and Marie French? Yes, they are.*



FORMS

- Me (m')
- Te (t')
- Le (l')
- La (l')
- Nous
- Vous
- Les

- Me
- You
- Him/it
- Her/it
- Us
- You
- Them



FORMS

1.1. When preceding a word starting with a vowel.

- **le** and **la** become **l'**
- **me** becomes **m'**
- **te** becomes **t'**.



FORMS

- *J'appelle ma mère. → Je l'appelle.*
 - *I call my mother. → I call her.*
- *J'appelle mon père. → Je l'appelle.*
 - *I call my father. → I call him.*
- - *Tu m'aimes? (pronoun=me)*
 - - *Oui, je t'aime. (pronoun=te)*
 - - *Do you love me? - Yes, I love you.*



POSITION

2.1. In the **present tense**, the direct object is placed just **before** the **verb**.

- *Paul voit Marie.*
- **→** *Paul la voit.*
- *Paul sees Marie. → Paul sees her.*



POSITION

2.2. In a compound tense (as in the *passé composé*), the pronoun precedes the auxiliary.

- - *As-tu vu tes parents?*
- - *Oui, je **les ai vus** hier.*
- *Did you see your parents? Yes, I saw them yesterday.*



POSITION

2.3. In the affirmative imperative, the direct object pronoun follows the verb and is attached to it by a hyphen.

- *Appelles tes parents!*
- **→ *Appelle-les!***
- *Call your parents! → Call them!*



NEGATIVE SENTENCES

3.1. In negative sentences in the present tense, *ne* precedes the object pronoun and *pas* follows the conjugated verb:

- *Paul et Marie sont heureux?*
- *Non, ils ne le sont pas.*
- *-Are Paul and Marie happy? -No, they aren't.*



NEGATIVE SENTENCES

3.2. In negative sentences in the **past** with **compound tenses**:

- **ne** precedes the direct object pronoun
- **pas** is placed between the auxiliary verb and the past participle of the main verb.



NEGATIVE SENTENCES

- *As-tu appelé tes parents hier?*
- *Non, je ne les ai pas appelés hier.*
 - *Did you call your parents yesterday?*
 - *No, I didn't call them yesterday.*



NEGATIVE SENTENCES

3.3. In the **negative imperative mood**:

- The pronoun is placed before the verb
- **Ne** at the beginning of the sentence and **pas** at the end.
 - **Ne les appelle pas!**
 - *Don't call them!*



NEGATIVE SENTENCES

- **Me** and **te** become **m'** and **t'**, respectively, when preceding a word starting with a vowel:
 - *Ne m'appelez pas!*
 - *Don't call me!*



NEGATIVE SENTENCES

- Note that **me** and **te** retain their form if the word starts with a **consonant**:
 - *Regarde(z)-moi!*
 - → *Ne me regarde(z) pas!*
 - *Look at me. → Don't look at me.*



AGREEMENT OF THE PAST PARTICIPLE

4.1. The past participle agrees in gender and number with a preceding direct object.

- If the direct object pronoun is **feminine**, add an **-e** to the end of the past participle.



AGREEMENT OF THE PAST PARTICIPLE

- - *Vous avez appelé votre amie?*
- - *Oui, nous l'avons appelée dimanche.*
 - - *Did you call your friends?*
 - *Yes, we called her on Sunday.*



AGREEMENT OF THE PAST PARTICIPLE

4.2. If the pronoun is masculine plural.

- If the **pronoun is masculine plural**, add an **-s** (unless the past participle already ends in **s**):



AGREEMENT OF THE PAST PARTICIPLE

- - *Vous avez appelé vos **amis**?*
- - *Oui, nous **les** avons appelés dimanche.*
 - - *Did you call your friends?*
 - *Y-es, we called them on Sunday.*



AGREEMENT OF THE PAST PARTICIPLE

4.3. If the pronoun is feminine plural, add **-es**.

- - *Vous avez appelé vos amies?*
- - *Oui, je **les** ai appelées samedi soir.*
 - *Did you call your friends?*
 - *Yes, I called them on Saturday night.*



C'est tout pour aujourd'hui!

Au revoir!

Merci!

