

## 8-7d Structure 8.4

### Reading and writing to others *Les verbes lire et écrire et les pronoms d'objet indirect*

<b>lire</b> (to read)		<b>écrire</b> (to write)	
je lis	nous lisons	j'écris	nous écrivons
tu lis	vous lisez	tu écris	vous écrivez
il/elle/on lit	ils/elles lisent	il/elle/on écrit	ils/elles écrivent
passé composé: j'ai lu		passé composé: j'ai écrit	
imparfait: je lisais		imparfait: j'écrivais	

Vous <b>lisez</b> le journal le matin.	<i>You read the paper in the morning.</i>
Elle <b>écrivait</b> souvent à son copain.	<i>She used to write to her boyfriend often.</i>

The verb **décrire** (to describe) is conjugated like its base verb **écrire**.

### Indirect object pronouns

Communication verbs like **écrire** generally include the notion of transferring information from one source to another. They are commonly used with an indirect object, or an object preceded by a preposition. Indirect objects can be replaced by indirect object pronouns to avoid repeating the noun.

—Tu vas parler <b>à ton prof</b> ?	— <i>Are you going to talk to your professor?</i>
—Oui, je vais <b>lui</b> parler aujourd'hui.	— <i>Yes, I'm going to talk to him/her today.</i>

Note that only the third-person pronouns are different between direct and indirect object

pronouns.

direct object pronouns		indirect object pronouns	
singular	plural	singular	plural
me/m'	nous	me/m'	nous
te/t'	vous	te/t'	vous
le, la, l'	les	lui	leur

Here are some transfer verbs:

demander à	to ask	emprunter à	to borrow from
dire à	to say to	montrer à	to show to
donner à	to give to	prêter à	to lend to
écrire à	to write (to)	téléphoner à	to phone

### Word order with pronouns

Direct and indirect object pronouns precede the main verb of a sentence.

Elle <b>vous</b> donne son opinion.	<i>She's giving you her opinion.</i>
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In the **passé composé**, they precede the auxiliary verb **avoir** or **être**.

Le journaliste <b>t'</b> a posé des questions?	<i>Did the journalist ask you questions?</i>
Il <b>nous</b> a parlé de ses ambitions.	<i>He spoke to us about his ambitions.</i>

In the **futur proche** or any other two-verb sentence, the pronoun precedes the infinitive.

Je vais **te** téléphoner ce soir.

*I'm going to phone you this evening.*

J'aimerais **lui** raconter l'histoire.

*I'd like to tell him the story.*

Chapter 8: Souvenirs: 8-7d Structure 8.4

Book Title: Atelier

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