

## Appendix D Position of Object Pronouns

Prior to studying the position of object pronouns (direct, indirect, and reflexive), you may want to familiarize yourself with the following terms.

### 1. Infinitives—**Infinitivos**

- a. In the following sentence, *to work* is an infinitive.

I have *to work* tomorrow.

- b. Infinitives in Spanish always end in either **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir**.

- c. The infinitive is the verb form listed in Spanish dictionaries.

- d. In the following sentence, **trabajar** is an infinitive.

Tengo que **trabajar** mañana.

### 2. Present Participles—**Gerundios**

- a. In English, present participles end in **-ing**. In the following sentence, *studying* is a present participle.

I am *studying*.

- b. In Spanish, present participles end in **-ando**, **-iendo**, or **-yendo**. In the following sentence, **estudiando** is a present participle.

Estoy **estudiando**.

### 3. Past Participles—**Participios pasivos**

- a. In English, many past participles end in **-ed**. In the following sentence, *traveled* is a past participle.

Have you ever *traveled* to Costa Rica?

- b. In Spanish, regular past participles end in **-ado** or **-ido**.

¿Has **viajado** alguna vez a Costa Rica?

### 4. Commands—**Órdenes**

- a. Commands are direct orders given to people to do something. In the following sentence, *help* is a command.

*Help* me!

- b. In the following sentence, **ven** is a command.

Niño, ¡**ven** aquí en seguida!

### 5. Conjugated Verbs—**Verbos conjugados**

- a. In the following sentence, *am* and *is* are conjugated verbs. Their infinitive is the verb *to be*.

I *am* smart and this *is* easy.

- b. Conjugated verbs are any verbs that are not infinitives, commands, or present or past participles.
- c. Conjugated verbs can be in the present, past, or future tense, the conditional, and can be in different moods (indicative and subjunctive). In the following sentences, the conjugated verbs are in bold.

Ella **trabaja** para IBM.  
 ¿Dónde **comieron** Uds. anoche?  
 Quería que ellos **vinieran** a mi casa.

## Object Pronoun Forms

- Object pronouns include direct objects (**me, te, lo, la, nos, os, los, las**), indirect objects (**me, te, le, nos, os, les**), and reflexive pronouns (**me, te, se, nos, os, se**).

**Le** compré un perfume a mi madre y **le** gustó mucho.  
**Lo** compré en Amazon.  
 Ahora mi madre **se** pone el perfume todos los días.

- When an indirect- and a direct-object pronoun are used in succession, **le** and **les** become **se** when followed by **lo, la, los, or las**. When two object pronouns are used in the same phrase, they are not separated and must be used in succession.

**Se lo** regalé para su cumpleaños.

## Placement of Object Pronouns

The placement of object pronouns is as follows.

- before a conjugated verb

<b>Lo</b> habré hecho para el lunes.	Si <b>lo</b> hiciera ahora, no podría terminar.
<b>Lo</b> haré el lunes.	<b>Lo</b> hice el lunes pasado.
<b>Te lo</b> voy a hacer el lunes.	<b>Lo</b> hacía los lunes.
Quiero que <b>lo</b> hagas el lunes.	<b>Lo</b> había hecho el lunes antes de trabajar.
<b>Lo</b> hago los lunes.	Si él <b>lo</b> hubiera hecho, yo no <b>lo</b> habría sabido.
<b>Te lo</b> estoy haciendo.	

- before the verb in a negative command

¡No **lo** hagas!      ¡No **se lo** compre!

- after and attached to an affirmative command

¡Haz**lo**!      ¡Cómpr**elo**!\*      ¡Dás**elo**!\*

\*When another syllable is added to a command consisting of two or more syllables, or when two pronouns are added to monosyllable commands, place an accent over the stressed syllable.

- a. When the reflexive pronoun **os** is attached to the **vosotros** command, the **-d** is dropped.

Besaos,                      Quereos.

The only exception is the verb **irse**: **idos**.

- b. When the reflexive pronoun **nos** or the indirect-object pronoun **se** is attached to the **nosotros** command, the **-s** is dropped.

Comprémonos un coche.                      Comprémosela.

4. after and attached to an infinitive

Voy a **hacerlo** el lunes.                      Voy a **hacértelo\*** el lunes.

\*When two object pronouns are added to an infinitive, place an accent over the stressed syllable.

5. after and attached to a present participle

Estoy **haciéndolo\***.                      Estoy **haciéndotelo\***.

\*When an object pronoun or pronouns are added to a present participle, place an accent over the stressed syllable.

6. Object pronouns can come before the conjugated verb or after and attached to an infinitive or a present participle. Therefore, the following sentences are synonymous.

Lo voy a hacer.                      Voy a **hacerlo**.  
Te lo estoy haciendo.                      Estoy **haciéndotelo**.