

Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns In the Same Sentence

You already know that the direct object receives the action of the verb and that it can be replaced by a direct object pronoun that goes in front of the conjugated verb.

Paco lanzó la pelota.
(action) (direct object)

Paco la lanzó.
(DOP) (action)

The direct object pronouns are:

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
1 st person	me	nos
2 nd person	te	
3 rd person	lo/la	los/las

You already know that the indirect object answers the question to/for whom or what and that it can be replaced by an indirect object pronoun that goes in front of the conjugated verb.

Paco le lanzó la pelota a María.
(IOP) (action) (direct object) (indirect object)

Paco threw what? He threw the ball.
To whom did he throw it? To María.

The indirect object pronouns are:

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
1 st person	me	nos
2 nd person	te	
3 rd person	le	les

Whenever you have a direct and an indirect object in the same sentence, they can both be replaced by a pronoun.

Ex. 1 Mi madre me escribió la carta. Mi madre me la escribió.
My mother wrote me the letter. My mother wrote it to me.

Ex. 2 Ellos te dieron el boleto. Ellos te lo dieron.
They gave you the ticket. They gave it to you.

Notice that the indirect object goes before the direct object and they both appear in front of the conjugated verb. Remember this saying, "indirect before direct, reflexive first of all, hey!"

Whenever the indirect object is a 3rd person, a ella, a él, a María, a ustedes, a Paco y María, something happens to the pronoun le/les when you put it in front of the direct object pronoun.

* Paco le lanzó la pelota a María. Paco se la lanzó. (a María)
(IOP) (action) (direct object) (indirect object)

Notice that the le changed to se. This happens whether it is 3rd person singular (le) or 3rd person plural (les). Remember this saying, "you can't le lo (lay low) en español!"

Paco les lanzó la pelota a ellas. Paco se la lanzó. (a ellas)
Paco threw the ball to them. Paco threw it to them.