

# Reflexive Verbs

## Part II

You should have memorized a set of pronouns called "**reflexive** pronouns."

<b>me</b>	(myself)
<b>te</b>	(yourself)
<b>se</b>	(himself, herself, yourself)
<b>nos</b>	(ourselves)
<b>os</b>	(yourselves)
<b>se</b>	(themselves, yourselves)

You learned to conjugate **reflexive** verbs like this.

<b>lavarse</b>		
<i>Yo</i>	<b>me</b>	<b>lavo</b>
<i>Tú</i>	<b>te</b>	<b>lavas</b>
<i>El, ella, usted</i>	<b>se</b>	<b>lava</b>

<i>Nosotros</i>	<b>nos</b>	<b>lavamos</b>
<i>Vosotros</i>	<b>os</b>	<b>laváis</b>
<i>Ellos, Ustedes</i>	<b>se</b>	<b>lavan</b>

In the lesson titled Direct Object Pronouns Part III you learned that in sentences with two verbs, there are **two options** regarding the placement of the **direct object** pronoun.

1. Place it immediately before the **conjugated verb**.
2. Attach it directly to the **infinitive**.

**Lo quiero ver.**

**Quiero verlo.**

I want to see it.

**Lo debemos comprar.**

**Debemos comprarlo.**

We must buy it.

**María nos debe visitar.**

**María debe visitarnos.**

Mary should visit us.

**Juan lo necesita lavar.**

**Juan necesita lavarlo.**

John needs to wash it.

The same is true regarding **reflexive** pronouns. When the sentence has two verbs, the pronoun can be placed directly before the conjugated verb or attached to the end of the infinitive.

**Me quiero ver.**

**Quiero verme.**

I want to see **myself**.

**Nos preferimos lavar con jabón.**

**Preferimos lavarnos con jabón.**

We prefer to wash (**ourselves**) with soap.

**María se puede lavar la cara.**

**María puede lavarse la cara.**

Mary can wash **her face**.

**Juan se necesita lavar el pelo.**

**Juan necesita lavarse el pelo.**

John needs to wash **his hair**.

Whenever a verb directly follows a preposition, it remains in the infinitive form. For **reflexive** verbs, **the ending -se changes to agree with the subject**. Observe the differences in the following sentences, all of which are about counting burros before falling asleep.

Antes de dormir**me**, **yo** cuento **o** burros.

Antes de dormir <b>te, tú</b> cuentas burros.
Antes de dormir <b>se, la chica</b> cuenta burros.
Antes de dormir <b>nos, nosotros</b> contamos burros.
Antes de dormir <b>os, vosotros</b> contáis burros.
Antes de dormir <b>se, los chicos</b> cuentan burros.

<u>In English, many verbs can be used <b>transitively</b> (with a direct object) or <b>intransitively</b> (without a direct object).</u>	
The sun dried the clothes.	(transitive)
The clothes dried in the sun.	(intransitive)

<u>In Spanish, these intransitive constructions frequently employ the reflexive form.</u>	
The sun dried the clothes. (transitive)	El sol secó <b>la ropa</b> .
The clothes dried in the sun. (intransitive)	La ropa <b>se</b> secó al sol.

In Spanish, these **intransitive** constructions frequently employ the **reflexive** form.

The cake? **Maria** ate **it**.

¿ La torta? **María** **se la** comió.

For some verbs, the meaning changes when they are used reflexively.

<b>aburrir</b>	to bore	<b>aburrirse</b>	to be bored
<b>acordar</b>	to agree	<b>acordarse de</b>	to remember
<b>acostar</b>	to put to bed	<b>acostarse</b>	to go to bed
<b>casar</b>	to marry	<b>casarse con</b>	to get married
<b>despedir</b>	to fire	<b>despedirse de</b>	to say goodbye
<b>dormir</b>	to sleep	<b>dormirse</b>	to fall asleep
<b>ir</b>	to go	<b>irse</b>	to leave
<b>morir</b>	to die abruptly	<b>morirse</b>	to die from natural causes

<b>negar</b>	to deny	<b>negarse a</b>	to refuse
<b>parecer</b>	to seem	<b>parecerse</b>	to resemble
<b>poner</b>	to put	<b>ponerse</b>	to put on
<b>probar</b>	to try, to taste	<b>probarse</b>	to try on
<b>quitar</b>	to take away	<b>quitarse</b>	to take off

A few verbs are <u>always</u> used reflexively.	
<b>arrepentirse (e:ie)</b>	to repent, to regret
<b>atreverse a</b>	to dare
<b>darse cuenta de</b>	to realize, to be aware of
<b>jactarse de</b>	to boast
<b>quejarse de</b>	to complain about
<b>suicidarse</b>	to commit suicide

## PRACTICE LINKS:

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 [Basic Quiz 2](#)   
 [Oral Activity 2](#)   
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 [Quia games](#)

[Kahoot Infinitives](#)

[Kahoot Conjugated](#)

[Colby Quiz](#)

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