

Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_

Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

Escuela/Hora: \_\_\_\_\_

Profesor/a: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Personal **a** - Explanation AND Practice 1

The **personal a** is a construction in Spanish which has no equivalent in English.

When the direct object of a verb is a person, we use **a** before the object noun.

This rule does not apply for the verb *tener*.

I watch the programs.

Miro los programas. (the d.o. is a thing)

**-but-**

I watch the students.

Miro **a** los alumnos. (the d.o. is a person)

We listen to the music.

Escuchamos la música. (the d.o. is a thing)

**-but-**

We listen to the teacher.

Escuchamos **a** la profesora. (the d.o. is a person)

### **-but- with the verb tener – no a**

We have two cousins.

Tenemos dos primos.

(the d.o. is a person, but no **a** is used with *tener*)

**Práctica.** In the following sentences write **a** if a personal a is needed and **x** if nothing is needed.

1. Busco \_\_\_\_\_ los libros.
2. Busco \_\_\_\_\_ los estudiantes.
3. Nosotros tenemos \_\_\_\_\_ unos papeles.
4. Nosotros tenemos \_\_\_\_\_ unos amigos.
5. Juan mira \_\_\_\_\_ la chica
6. Juan mira \_\_\_\_\_ la televisión.
7. Ellos esperan \_\_\_\_\_ los trenes.
8. Ellos esperan \_\_\_\_\_ los niños.
9. Yo invito \_\_\_\_\_ María.
10. Yo visito \_\_\_\_\_ la profesora.