

Imperfect Subjunctive

I told and I ask someone to do something

Decir = to tell and pedir = to ask. These verbs require the Imperfect Subjunctive in the subordinate clause to express that we told or asked someone to do something.

Both *decir* and *pedir* require an indirect object and in most cases a clarifier with the *le/les* forms.

Subject	Indirect Obj.	Past Action	Clarifier	Past Subjunctive
María	le	dijo	a José	que trabajara ayer.
Yo	les	pedí	a Uds.	que vinieran anoche.

Remember, the desired action must be in past time to use the Imperfect Subjunctive.



Answers on next page.

1. I told him to study. Le dije a él que estudiara.
2. I told you (*Ud.*) to prepare lunch. _____
3. I told you (*tú*) to follow me. _____
4. I told the children to go? _____
5. I told Juan to send the fax. _____
6. He told me to work tomorrow. _____
7. She told you (*tú*) to buy milk. _____
8. He told you (*tú*) to answer the phone. _____
9. You (*Ud.*) told us to bring our books. _____
10. We told you (*tú*) not to lose your keys. _____
11. We told them (*m*) to use the other bathroom. _____
12. They (*f*) told you (*tú*) to do it. _____
13. They (*m*) asked us to go with them. _____
14. You all asked Maria to take out the trash. _____
15. We asked the students to speak to him. _____
16. He asked me to invite Maria. _____
17. My boyfriend asked me to go with him. _____
18. She asked you (*Ud.*) to sign the contract. _____
19. You (*Ud.*) asked her to write a recommendation. _____
20. You (*tú*) asked the cook to prepare a cake. _____
21. I asked the children to tell their friends. _____
22. I asked my mother to speak to me by telephone. _____



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As an oral exercise, cover the Spanish or English column and translate.

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| 1. Le dije a él que estudiara. | 1. I told him to study. |
| 2. Le dije a Ud. que preparara la comida. | 2. I told you (<i>Ud.</i>) to prepare lunch. |
| 3. Te dije que me siguieras. | 3. I told you (<i>tú</i>) to follow me. |
| 4. Les dije a los niños que fueran. | 4. I told the children to go. |
| 5. Le dije a Juan que mandara el fax. | 5. I told Juan to send the fax. |
| 6. Él me dijo que yo trabajara mañana. | 6. He told me to work tomorrow. |
| 7. Ella te dijo que compraras leche. | 7. She told you (<i>tú</i>) to buy milk. |
| 8. Él te dijo que contestaras el teléfono. | 8. He told you (<i>tú</i>) to answer the phone. |
| 9. Ud. nos dijo que trajéramos nuestros libros. | 9. You (<i>Ud.</i>) told us to bring our books. |
| 10. Te dijimos que no perdieras tus llaves. | 10. We told you (<i>tú</i>) not to lose your keys. |
| 11. Les dijimos a ellos que usaran el otro baño. | 11. We told them (<i>m</i>) to use the other bathroom. |
| 12. Ellas te dijeron que lo hicieras. | 12. They (<i>f</i>) told you (<i>tú</i>) to do it. |
| 13. Ellos nos pidieron que fuéramos con ellos. | 13. They (<i>m</i>) asked us to go with them. |
| 14. Uds. le pidieron a María que sacara la basura. | 14. You all asked Maria to take out the trash. |
| 15. Les pedimos a los estudiantes que le hablaran a él. | 15. We asked the students to speak to him. |
| 16. Él me pidió que invitara a María. | 16. He asked me to invite Maria. |
| 17. Mi novio me pidió que yo fuera con él. | 17. My boyfriend asked me to go with him. |
| 18. Ud. le pidió a ella que firmara el contrato. | 18. She asked you (<i>Ud.</i>) to sign the contract. |
| 19. Ud. le pidió Ud. a ella que escribiera una recomendación. | 19. You (<i>Ud.</i>) asked her to write a recommendation. |
| 20. Le pediste a la cocinera que preparara un pastel. | 20. You (<i>tú</i>) asked the cook to prepare a cake. |
| 21. Les pedí a los niños que les dijeran a sus amigos. | 21. I asked the children to tell their friends. |
| 22. Le pedí a mi mamá que me hablara por teléfono. | 22. I asked my mother to speak to me by telephone. |