



Portuguese AEP Beginner Course Refresher (Months 1–2)

Welcome to your **Portuguese AEP beginner course refresher!** This guide will help you review all the essential concepts from the first two months of classes. It's organized into clear sections covering grammar fundamentals, thematic vocabulary, common verb conjugations, practice exercises, listening/comprehension tasks, and cultural notes. Explanations are given in English, with plenty of Portuguese examples and exercises to rebuild your foundational proficiency. Let's get started!

Grammar Foundations

Ser vs. Estar (Two Ways to Say “To Be”)

Portuguese has two verbs for “to be”: **ser** and **estar**. In general, **ser** is used for more permanent, inherent characteristics, while **estar** is used for temporary states or conditions [1](#) [2](#). For example, use **ser** for identity, profession, physical traits, and enduring qualities, and **estar** for feelings, locations, or conditions that can change [3](#) [4](#).

- **Ser** (permanent): *Eu sou brasileira.* – “I am Brazilian.” (nationality – an inherent trait). *A Ana é médica.* – “Ana is a doctor.” (profession) [2](#). These describe what someone *is* in essence.
- **Estar** (temporary): *Eu estou cansado hoje.* – “I am tired today.” (a temporary state) [5](#). *O Pedro está feliz.* – “Pedro is happy (at the moment).” (a current mood) [5](#). These describe how someone *is* feeling or where someone *is*. For example: *Ele está em casa.* – “He is at home” (location).

Typical uses of “ser”: describing personality or physical traits (*Ela é alta.* – “She is tall” [2](#)), stating time and dates (*Hoje é segunda-feira.* – “Today is Monday.”), saying where someone is from (*Nós somos do Brasil.* – “We are from Brazil.” [6](#) [7](#)), and defining professions or relationships (*O Carlos é meu amigo.* – “Carlos is my friend.”).

Typical uses of “estar”: describing emotions or temporary conditions (*Estou nervoso por causa do teste.* – “I’m nervous because of the exam.” [8](#) [9](#)), health and weather (*Ela está doente.* – “She is sick.” *Hoje está sol.* – “It’s sunny today.” [10](#) [11](#)), and locations (*Estamos no trabalho.* – “We are at work.”). Also use **estar** for ongoing actions with the gerund (see Present Continuous below).

Note: Some adjectives change meaning depending on ser vs estar. For example, *Ele é nervoso* means “He is a nervous (anxious) person” (by nature), but *Ele está nervoso* means “He is nervous (right now)” [3](#) [4](#). Similarly, *A sopa é fria* means “The soup is cold (by default, e.g. a cold soup)”, but *A sopa está fria* means “The soup is cold now” (it cooled down) [12](#) [13](#). With **ser**, *feliz* means a generally happy person, while **estar** *feliz* means currently happy [14](#).

- **Ser** example: *O Marco é sempre pontual.* – Marco is always punctual (a characteristic).
- **Estar** example: *O Marco está atrasado hoje.* – Marco is late today (a temporary situation).

Always use **ser** with professions/nationalities **without an article** in Portuguese ¹⁵ ¹⁶. For example: *Minha irmã é engenheira.* – “My sister is an engineer;” *João é português.* – “João is Portuguese.” (No **um/uma** before the profession or nationality ¹⁵.) If you add an adjective, include an article: *Ela é uma excelente engenheira.* – “She is an excellent engineer.” ¹⁷.

Present Tense: Regular Conjugations

The **Presente do Indicativo** (simple present tense) is used to talk about current actions, habitual routines, and general truths. In Portuguese, verbs have three conjugation groups identified by their infinitive endings: **-AR**, **-ER**, and **-IR**. Here’s how to conjugate a regular verb from each group in the present indicative:

- **Falar** (*to speak*) – first conjugation **-AR** verb:
 - eu **falo** – I speak
 - tu **falas** – you (informal) speak
 - você/ele/ela **fala** – you (formal)/he/she speaks
 - nós **falamos** – we speak
- vocês/eles/elas **falam** – you (plural)/they speak

- **Comer** (*to eat*) – second conjugation **-ER** verb:

- eu **como** – I eat
 - tu **comes** – you eat
 - você/ele/ela **come** – you/he/she eats
 - nós **comemos** – we eat
- vocês/eles/elas **comem** – you/they eat

- **Partir** (*to leave*) – third conjugation **-IR** verb:

- eu **parto** – I leave
- tu **partes** – you leave
- você/ele/ela **parte** – you/he/she leaves
- nós **partimos** – we leave
- vocês/eles/elas **partem** – you/they leave

Notice the patterns: **-AR** verbs have endings like *-o, -as, -a, -amos, -am*, **-ER** verbs use *-o, -es, -e, -emos, -em*, and **-IR** verbs use *-o, -es, -e, -imos, -em*. These endings get attached to the verb stem (infinitive minus the *-ar/-er/-ir*). For example, *fal-*, *com-*, *part-*. So *eu falo* ¹⁸, *nós comemos*, *eles partem*, etc.

Common Irregular Verbs: Some essential verbs are irregular in the present and must be memorized:

- **ser** (*to be*) – eu **sou**, tu **és**, ele **é**, nós **somos**, eles **são** ¹⁹.
- **estar** (*to be*) – eu **estou**, tu **estás**, ele **está**, nós **estamos**, eles **estão** ²⁰.
- **ter** (*to have*) – eu **tenho**, tu **tens**, ele **tem**, nós **temos**, eles **têm**. (*Used for possession, age: Tenho 30 anos – “I am 30 years old.”*)
- **ir** (*to go*) – eu **vou**, tu **vais**, ele **vai**, nós **vamos**, eles **vão**. (*Used for going places, and for near future: see below.*)

- **fazer** (*to do/make*) – eu **faço**, tu **fazes**, ele **faz**, nós **fazemos**, eles **fazem**.
- **dizer** (*to say/tell*) – eu **digo**, tu **dizes**, ele **diz**, nós **dizemos**, eles **dizem**.
- **poder** (*can/to be able*) – eu **posso**, tu **podes**, ele **pode**, nós **podemos**, eles **podem***.
- **querer** (*to want*) – eu **quero**, tu **queres**, ele **quer**, nós **queremos**, eles **querem**.
- **vir** (*to come*) – eu **venho**, tu **vens**, ele **vem**, nós **vimos**, eles **vêm**.
- **dar** (*to give*) – eu **dou**, tu **dás**, ele **dá**, nós **damos**, eles **dão**.

These are a few of the common irregulars – remember to review their forms. Pay special attention to **ser**, **estar**, **ter**, **ir** as they are used very frequently.

Negation: To make a sentence negative, simply put **não** (no/not) before the verb. E.g. *Eu não falo alemão.* – “I do not speak German.” *Nós não temos aula amanhã.* – “We don’t have class tomorrow.”

Present Continuous: In Portuguese, ongoing actions (“to be -ing”) are expressed with **estar + a + infinitive** (in European Portuguese). For example: *Estou a estudar agora.* – “I am studying now.” ²¹. (In spoken Brazilian Portuguese, they use *estar + gerund* like *estou estudando*, but in Portugal *estar a estudar* is common.) Use this *estar a ...* construction to emphasize an action in progress at this moment.

Near Future: To talk about something that is going to happen soon, use **ir + infinitive**. This is like saying “I am going to [do something].” For example: *Vamos viajar amanhã.* – “We are going to travel tomorrow.” *Ele vai comer agora.* – “He’s going to eat now.” ²². It’s a simple way to express future plans using the present of **ir**.

Habitual Actions: A handy verb is **costumar + infinitive** meaning “to usually do something.” E.g. *Eu costumo acordar cedo.* – “I usually wake up early.” ²³ ²⁴. This indicates a habitual routine.

Articles: Definite and Indefinite

Portuguese nouns are preceded by **articles** that agree in gender (masculine/feminine) and number (singular/plural).

- **Definite articles** (“the”): **o** (masc. sing.), **a** (fem. sing.), **os** (masc. pl.), **as** (fem. pl.) ²⁵ ²⁶. Use them when referring to a specific or already-known noun. For example, *o livro* – “the book,” *as casas* – “the houses.” You’ll use the definite article in many cases, such as when the noun is already mentioned or is obvious in context ²⁷ ²⁸. E.g. *Tenho um carro. O carro é azul.* – “I have a car. **The car** is blue.” (Here **o carro** refers to the car already introduced.)
- **Contractions:** In Portuguese, the definite article often merges with prepositions. For instance: **a + o = ao** (to the) ²⁹, **de + a = da** (of/from the), **em + os = nos** (in the) ²⁹, **por + as = pelas** (through the/by the) ²⁹. These combined forms are mandatory. *Estou no carro.* – “I am in the car” (*em + o*). *Vamos à praia.* – “We’re going to the beach” (*a + a = à* – notice the accent indicates this contraction).
- **When to use the definite article:** In addition to specific known nouns, use **o/a/os/as** before: days of the week (*à segunda-feira* – on Mondays) ³⁰, hours (*às nove horas* – at nine o’clock) ³⁰, seasons (*no verão* – in the summer) ³⁰, certain country or place names that require an article (*o Brasil, a Rússia, os Estados Unidos, o Porto* ³¹), and with titles or terms of address (*o Senhor Silva* – Mr. Silva

³²). Portuguese even uses definite articles before some people's first names in casual speech (especially with qualifiers): *A Ana é minha colega.* – "Ana is my colleague." ³².

- **When not to use the definite article:** Do **not** use it directly when addressing someone by name or title (no article in direct address). For example: *Obrigado, Maria.* – "Thank you, Maria." (not **a Maria**) ³³. Also omit definite articles with months (*em maio* – in May) ³⁴, with "casa" meaning home (*estou em casa* – I'm at home ³⁵), in certain set phrases or lists (*Comprei pão, queijo e leite.* – "I bought bread, cheese, and milk." – no articles in that list ³⁵), with academic subjects (*Estudo medicina.* – "I study medicine." ³⁶), and usually before a person's name when stating who they are (especially historical or famous figures: *Sócrates é filósofo.* – "Socrates is a philosopher." ³⁷). These rules may seem a lot, but with practice you will remember typical usage.
- **Indefinite articles ("a/an" or "some"):** **um** (masc. sing.), **uma** (fem. sing.), **uns** (masc. pl.), **umas** (fem. pl.). Use **um/uma** to introduce a non-specific or new noun meaning "a" or "one," and **uns/umas** to mean "some" (a few). For example: *um livro* – "a book," *uma casa* – "a house," *Comprei uns livros* – "I bought some books."

Use the indefinite article when mentioning something for the first time or when it's not a particular known item. *Ontem conheci um colega novo.* – "Yesterday I met a new colleague." ³⁸ (The colleague is introduced here, not specified). *Eles têm um computador novo.* – "They have a new computer." ³⁹.

No indefinite article in some cases: In Portuguese, you **do not use** *um/uma* after **ser** when stating someone's profession, religion, or nationality (unless you add an adjective) ¹⁵ ¹⁶. For example: *Meu pai é médico.* – "My father is a doctor" (no *um*). *Eu sou estudante.* – "I am a student." ⁴⁰ ⁷. But if you qualify it: *Ela é uma excelente médica.* – "She is an excellent doctor." (now **uma** appears because "excellent doctor" is a specific qualified description ¹⁶). Similarly, after **ter** in the sense of "to have (something)" you sometimes omit *um* when speaking generally: *Ele tem carro.* – "He has a car" (in general) vs *Ele tem um carro vermelho.* – "He has a red car." However, beginners need not worry too much – including the article *um* is usually acceptable except in the specific cases noted (professions/nationalities after *ser*).

Summary: O/A = "the." Um/Uma = "a/an." Make them agree with the noun's gender/number. Os/As = "the (plural)." Uns/Umas = "some." Mastering articles is important because they will also signal the gender of nouns and link with prepositions in contractions.

Exercise – Fill in the Article: Complete each sentence with the correct definite or indefinite article (or leave blank if none is needed):

1. __ livro está em cima da mesa. (Hint: "The book is on the table.")
2. Carlos é __ engenheiro de Lisboa. ("Carlos is an engineer from Lisbon.")
3. Amanhã vamos a __ praia. ("Tomorrow we're going to the beach.")
4. Ela tem __ filhos? ("Does she have children?" – note plural unspecified)
5. __ Portugal é __ país pequeno. ("Portugal is a small country.")

Reflexive Verbs

Reflexive verbs are actions one does to oneself, and they use reflexive pronoun forms (equivalent of "myself, yourself," etc.). In Portuguese, reflexive verbs are often recognized by the pronoun **-se** attached to the infinitive (e.g., *lavar-se* – to wash oneself). The reflexive pronouns in use are: **me** (myself), **te** (yourself),

informal), **se** (himself/herself/yourself formal), **nos** (ourselves), **vos** (yourselves, rare in modern PT), **se** (themselves/yourselves). These pronouns generally come **before** the verb in a sentence (in affirmative sentences in European Portuguese, they can also attach to the end of the verb with a hyphen in some cases, but we'll keep it simple and put them before the verb here).

To conjugate a reflexive verb, conjugate the verb normally and include the matching reflexive pronoun. For example, **levantar-se** (to get up oneself): *Eu me levanto, Tu te levantas, Ele se levanta, Nós nos levantamos, Eles se levantam*. Often, the **-se** is dropped from the infinitive form when we conjugate and the pronoun is placed before the verb: *Eu me levanto de manhã cedo.* – "I get (myself) up early in the morning." [41](#) [42](#).

Usage: Reflexives are used for routines and actions you do to yourself. Common reflexive verbs introduced early include **chamar-se** (to call oneself, i.e., to be named) – *Eu me chamo Ana.* – "My name is Ana" (literally, I call myself Ana). Others: **levantar-se** (to get up), **deitar-se** (to lie down/go to bed) [41](#) [42](#), **vestir-se** (to get dressed) [41](#) [43](#), **lavar-se** (to wash oneself), **divertir-se** (to have fun, enjoy oneself), **lembrar-se** (to remember), etc.

Compare reflexive vs non-reflexive usage:

- *A minha irmã se deita às 11h.* – "My sister goes to bed at 11." (reflexive, she puts herself to bed) [41](#) [42](#).
- *A minha irmã deita a filha na cama.* – "My sister lays her daughter in bed." (non-reflexive, she is doing the action to someone else) [44](#) [45](#).

In the first, *deitar-se* means the sister goes to bed herself; in the second, *deitar* means to put someone/something down [41](#) [44](#).

Another example: *Eu me cortei com a tesoura.* – "I cut myself with the scissors." vs *Eu cortei o papel.* – "I cut the paper." [41](#) [44](#). We see that the reflexive pronoun signals the action reflects back on the subject.

To practice, conjugate **vestir-se** (to dress oneself) in the present: *Eu me visto, Tu te vestes, Ele/ela se veste, Nós nos vestimos, Eles se vestem.*

Quick Exercise – Reflexives: Rewrite the sentence replacing the object with a reflexive structure if possible: "*A Maria lava as mãos.*" → "*A Maria _ _.*" (Hint: *lavar-se*, the reflexive form for "she washes herself [the hands]").

Prepositions and Contractions

Prepositions are small but important words like "to, from, in, on, with, at." Key ones in Portuguese and their basic meanings: **a** (to, at), **de** (of, from), **em** (in, on, at), **para** (for, to), **com** (with), **por** (by, through).

Many prepositions in Portuguese **contract with articles** as mentioned earlier. Always combine **a, de, em, por** with definite articles:

- **a + o = ao, a + a = à** (note the grave accent indicating the contraction), **a + os = aos, a + as = às**. Example: *Vamos ao parque.* – "We're going to the park." *Chego às 8 horas.* – "I arrive at 8 o'clock."
- **de + o = do, de + a = da, de + os = dos, de + as = das**. Example: *Sou de Portugal.* – "I'm from Portugal." *O livro da professora.* – "The teacher's book" (literally "the book of the teacher"). [46](#) [31](#)

- **em + o = no, em + a = na, em + os = nos, em + as = nas.** Example: *Ele está no trabalho.* – “He is at work.”

Moro na Espanha. – “I live in Spain.” 29

- **por + o = pelo, por + a = pela, por + os = pelos, por + as = pelas.** Example: *Passo pelos corredores.* – “I pass through the hallways.” *Obrigada pela ajuda.* – “Thank you for the help.” (literally “for the help”). 29

Other common simple prepositions: **com** (with) contracts only in a few cases (with pronouns: *com + mim = comigo* “with me”, *com + você = consigo* “with you (formal)” in some contexts, etc.), but not with articles. **Para** (for/to) often doesn’t contract (except older forms like *para + o = pro* in informal speech, but you can stick to **para o/para a** in writing).

Asking “where” and “from where”: Two useful compounds: **em + a** (na) often answers *onde* (where at), while **de + a** (da) answers *de onde* (from where). E.g. *Onde está o João?* – Where is João? *Ele está no jardim.* – He’s in the garden. *De onde você é?* – Where are you from? *Eu sou do Brasil.* – I’m from Brazil. 6 47

Personal de vs em for location: *de* means “from” (origin), *em* means “in/at” (location). *Eu venho de Maputo.* – I come from Maputo. *Eu estou em Maputo.* – I am in Maputo. Don’t confuse them – *de* often pairs with **ir** or **vir** (to go/come from somewhere), while *em* indicates current location.

Por vs Para: Both can mean “for,” but **para** is usually “for a purpose/destination” or “to (someone).” **Por** conveys “by/through/because of/per.” For example: *Este presente é para você.* – “This gift is for you.” *Estudamos para aprender.* – “We study in order to learn.” Versus: *Obrigado por tudo.* – “Thanks for (because of) everything.” *Andamos por a cidade.* – “We walk through the city.” As a beginner, if in doubt use **para** for “for/to” in most contexts of giving or purpose, and **por** for “because of/via.”

Make sure to learn these little words and practice the contractions. They are essential in constructing sentences correctly.

Forming Questions

In Portuguese, **questions** can be formed in a few ways:

- **Yes/No Questions:** Often, you can use the same word order as a statement and simply raise your intonation at the end (when speaking) or add a question mark (in writing). For example, *Tu falas inglês.* – “You speak English.” To make it a question: *Tu falas inglês?* – “Do you speak English?” 48. No need to invert subject and verb as in English – it’s the intonation or punctuation that signals the question. Another way is to put the subject after the verb, which is also correct but not necessary: *Falas tu inglês?* is a bit more formal/literary. In everyday usage, “*Você mora aqui?*” (Do you live here?) is perfectly fine.

- **Question Word Questions:** Portuguese uses interrogative words similar to English “what, who, where, when, why, how.” The main ones are:

- **O quê / Que** – “What” (*O que é isto?* – “What is this?”)
- **Quem** – “Who” (*Quem é ele?* – “Who is he?”)
- **Onde** – “Where” (*Onde moras?* – “Where do you live?”)
- **De onde** – “From where” (*De onde você é?* – “Where are you from?” 49 *)
- **Quando** – “When” (*Quando é a aula?* – “When is the class?”)

- **Como** – “How” (*Como está você?* – “How are you?”)
- **Por quê** – “Why” (usually at end of question; **Porque** at start) (*Por que estás triste?* – “Why are you sad?”)
- **Qual** – “Which/What” (for choices) (*Qual é o seu nome?* – “What is your name?” ^{50 *})
- **Quanto(s)/Quanta(s)** – “How much/many” (*Quantos anos você tem?* – “How many years do you have?” meaning “How old are you?” ^{48 *}).

When using these question words, typically you put the question word first, then the verb, then the subject (if the subject isn't already clear). For example: *Onde está o João?* – “Where is João?” (Question word + verb + subject). *O que você quer?* – “What do you want?” (Literally, “What you want?” – **O que** stands for “what”). *Quem são eles?* – “Who are they?” Often, the subject pronoun can be dropped if context is clear: *Como te chamas?* – “What's your name?” (Literally, “How do you call yourself?” – *te chamas* implies “you call yourself”) ⁵⁰.

Be careful with **Por que** vs **Porque**: at the start of a question, *Por que* (separate words) means “Why”. The answer usually begins with *porque* (one word) meaning “because.” E.g. *Por que estás atrasado?* – “Why are you late?” *Porque perdi o ônibus.* – “Because I missed the bus.”

Intonation: As a learner, you can generally form a basic question by *just adding a question mark* or raising your voice at the end. *Ele é estudante.* – He is a student. *Ele é estudante?* – Is he a student? You'll sound natural and it's grammatically correct.

Tag questions: To confirm information, Portuguese might add *não?* (no?) or *pois não?* at the end, similar to “..., right?” E.g. *Você mora aqui, não?* – “You live here, right?” Another common tag is *né?* (short for *não é?* – “isn't it?”) in casual speech. *Está tudo bem, né?* – “Everything's okay, huh/right?”

Practice making questions with the new vocabulary you learn, for example: *Onde fica o banheiro?* – “Where is the bathroom?” *Quantos irmãos você tem?* – “How many siblings do you have?” *Já almoçaste?* – “Have you eaten lunch yet?” As you see more examples, question formation will become second nature.

Thematic Vocabulary

Let's refresh key **vocabulary themes** from the first two months. For each theme, Portuguese terms are given with English meaning. Practice pronouncing them and using them in simple phrases.

Personal Information & Basic Phrases

- **Olá** – hello; **Bom dia / Boa tarde / Boa noite** – good morning / good afternoon / good night (evening) ⁵¹.
- **Por favor** – please; **Obrigado/Obrigada** – thank you (said by male/female) ⁵¹; **De nada** – you're welcome; **Desculpe** – excuse me / I'm sorry ⁵¹ (also **Com licença** for “excuse me” to get someone's attention or pass by).
- **Sim** – yes; **Não** – no ⁵².
- **Como se chama?** (formal) / **Como te chamas?** (informal) – What's your name? (literally “How do you call yourself?”); **Meu nome é...** – My name is... ⁵⁰.
- **De onde você é?** – Where are you from?; **Eu sou de...** – I am from... (e.g. *Eu sou de Angola*) ⁴⁹. For nationality: *Sou brasileiro/brasileira.* – I'm Brazilian. *Sou português/portuguesa.* – I'm Portuguese.

- **Quantos anos você tem?** – How old are you? (literally “How many years do you have?”); **Eu tenho ... anos.** – I am ... years old (I have ... years) ⁴⁸.
- **Onde mora?** (formal) / **Onde moras?** (informal) – Where do you live?; **Moro em...** – I live in... (e.g. *Moro em Lisboa* – I live in Lisbon).
- **Trabalho como...** – I work as... (e.g. *Trabalho como enfermeira* – I work as a nurse).
- **Estou aprendendo português.** – I’m learning Portuguese.
- **Não falo bem português.** – I don’t speak Portuguese well. **Você fala inglês?** – Do you speak English? ⁵³. **Falo só um pouco.** – I only speak a little.

Other personal info terms:

- **nome** – name; **sobrenome / apelido** (Pt) – surname/last name (in Portugal *apelido* means last name ⁵⁴, not “nickname” as in Brazil).
- **idade** – age; **data de nascimento** – date of birth.
- **nacionalidade** – nationality; **país** – country (e.g. *Brasil, Portugal, Moçambique*).
- **língua/idioma** – language (e.g. *português, inglês, espanhol*).
- **endereço/morada** – address; **cidade** – city; **telefone** – telephone.
- **estado civil** – marital status: **solteiro/solteira** (single), **casado/casada** (married) ⁵⁵, **divorciado/divorciada** (divorced) ⁵⁶, **viúvo/viúva** (widowed).
- **senhor/senhora** – Mr./Mrs. (polite titles), **menina** – Miss (or young lady). Use these with last names or first names in formal situations: *O senhor Pereira, Dona Maria*.

Sample Sentence: *Olá, eu me chamo José Silva. Tenho 28 anos e sou espanhol. Moro em Madrid e falo espanhol, inglês e um pouco de português.* – “Hello, my name is José Silva. I’m 28 years old and I’m Spanish. I live in Madrid and I speak Spanish, English and a bit of Portuguese.”

Family and Relationships

Family vocabulary is very important for personal conversations. Here are key terms (assuming [**masculine/feminine forms**] where applicable):

- **pai** – father; **mãe** – mother ⁵⁷.
- **filho / filha** – son / daughter ⁵⁸ ⁵⁹.
- **irmão / irmã** – brother / sister.
- **marido** – husband; **esposa** (or **mulher**, lit. “woman”) – wife ⁶⁰ ⁶¹.
- **avô / avó** – grandfather / grandmother ⁶² ⁶³.
- **neto / neta** – grandson / granddaughter ⁶⁴ ⁶⁵.
- **tio / tia** – uncle / aunt ⁶⁶ ⁶⁷.
- **sobrinho / sobrinha** – nephew / niece ⁶² ⁶⁸.
- **primo / prima** – cousin (male/female) ⁶⁶ ⁶⁷.
- **cunhado / cunhada** – brother-in-law / sister-in-law ⁶⁹ ⁷⁰.
- **sogro / sogra** – father-in-law / mother-in-law.
- **genro / nora** – son-in-law / daughter-in-law ⁶⁴ ⁷⁰.
- **enteado / enteada** – stepson / stepdaughter; **padrasto / madrasta** – stepfather / stepmother ⁷¹.
- **familiares / parentes** – relatives; **família** – family.

For example, from a family description in class: *A Elizabeth é a avó do William e do Harry.* – “Elizabeth is William and Harry’s grandmother.” *O William e o Harry são irmãos.* – “William and Harry are brothers.” *A Kate é a esposa do William.* – “Kate is William’s wife.” *O Charles é o pai deles.* – “Charles is their father.” ⁶⁰ ⁷²

Forms of possession: *meu/minha* (my), *teu/tua* (your, informal), *seu/sua* (your formal or his/her), *nosso/nossa* (our), *deles/delas* (their). Example: *Minha mãe se chama Ana.* – “My mother is named Ana.” *O irmão dele mora em Paris.* – “His brother lives in Paris.”

House and Home

Review some rooms and common places in a house:

- **casa** – house/home ⁷³; **apartamento** – apartment ⁷³.
- **sala (de estar)** – living room ⁷⁴ (often just *a sala* ⁷⁵); **sala de jantar** – dining room.
- **cozinha** – kitchen ⁷⁶.
- **quarto** (de dormir) – bedroom ⁷⁷.
- **casa de banho** (Pt) / **banheiro** (Br) – bathroom ⁷⁸.
- **jardim** – garden/yard; **garagem** – garage.
- **porta** – door; **janela** – window ⁷⁹.
- **escadas** – stairs; **elevador** – elevator/lift ⁸⁰.
- **telhado** – roof; **teto** – ceiling ⁸¹.
- **chão / piso** – floor (ground / level); **parede** – wall ⁸².

Some common **furniture/objects**: **mesa** – table ⁸³; **cadeira** – chair ⁸³; **cama** – bed ⁸⁴; **sofá** – sofa ⁸⁵; **armário** – cabinet/closet; **guarda-roupa** – wardrobe; **fogão** – stove ⁸⁶; **frigorífico** (Pt) / **geladeira** (Br) – refrigerator ⁸⁶; **pia** – sink; **chuveiro** – shower; **banheira** – bathtub ⁷⁸; **espelho** – mirror ⁸⁷; **televisão** (TV) ⁸⁸.

Example: *Nossa casa tem dois quartos, uma sala, uma cozinha e uma casa de banho.* – “Our house has two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen, and a bathroom.” *Na sala, há um sofá, uma mesa de centro e uma televisão.* – “In the living room, there’s a sofa, a coffee table, and a TV.”

Daily Routines and Activities

Talk about your day with these verbs (many are reflexive):

- **acordar** – to wake up ⁸⁹. *Eu acordo às 7h.* – I wake up at 7.
- **levantar-se** – to get up (out of bed) ⁴¹. *Nós nos levantamos cedo.* – We get up early.
- **tomar banho / tomar duche** – to take a bath/shower ⁷⁸. *Ele toma duche de manhã.* – He takes a shower in the morning.
- **vestir-se** – to get dressed. *Ela se veste rapidamente.* – She gets dressed quickly.
- **tomar o pequeno-almoço** (Pt) / **tomar café da manhã** (Br) – to have breakfast ⁹⁰.
- **comer** – to eat. *Comemos pão ao pequeno-almoço.* – We eat bread at breakfast.
- **ir para o trabalho / para a escola** – to go to work / to school. *Vou para o trabalho de carro.* – I go to work by car.
- **trabalhar** – to work; **estudar** – to study.
- **almoçar** – to have lunch (almoço = lunch) ⁹¹. *Ela almoça ao meio-dia.* – She has lunch at noon.
- **voltar** (para casa) – to return (home). *Voltamos para casa às seis.* – We return home at six.
- **jantar** – to have dinner (jantar = dinner). *Eles jantam às oito.* – They dine at 8.
- **cozinhar** – to cook.
- **fazer compras** – to do shopping. *Vou ao supermercado fazer compras.* – I go grocery shopping.

- **limpar** – to clean; **arrumar** – to tidy up.
- **descansar** – to rest. *Eu descanso um pouco à tarde.* – I rest a bit in the afternoon.
- **ver TV** – to watch TV (also **assistir TV** in Brazil).
- **ler** – to read; **ouvir música** – to listen to music [90](#) [92](#).
- **sair** – to go out. *Saímos à noite.* – We go out at night.
- **deitar-se** – to go to bed [41](#); **dormir** – to sleep [91](#). *Eu me deito por volta das 23h e durmo à meia-noite.* – I go to bed around 11pm and fall asleep at midnight.

Practice linking these into a narrative: "*Eu acordo às 7h, tomo banho e me visto. Depois, tomo o pequeno-almoço. Vou para o trabalho às 8h30. Trabalho até às 17h. Volto para casa, janto com minha família e vejo TV. Finalmente, me deito por volta das 23h.*" – "I wake up at 7, take a shower and get dressed. Then I have breakfast. I go to work at 8:30. I work until 5pm. I return home, have dinner with my family and watch TV. Finally, I go to bed around 11pm."

Emotions and States

How do you say you are happy, sad, hungry, etc.? We learned some common **adjectives** and expressions, often used with **estar** for current states:

- **feliz** – happy [14](#); **contente** – glad/content. *Estou muito feliz hoje.* – I'm very happy today.
- **triste** – sad [14](#). *Eles estão tristes hoje.* – They are sad today [93](#) [94](#).
- **cansado/cansada** – tired [14](#). *Estou cansado no fim do dia.* – I'm tired at the end of the day.
- **nervoso/nervosa** – nervous [3](#) [4](#). *Ficaste nervosa no teste?* – Were you nervous during the exam?
- **doente** – sick/ill. *Ele está doente, não veio hoje.* – He's sick, he didn't come today.
- **zangado/zangada** – angry (Pt; **bravo/a** in Br). *O chefe está zangado.* – The boss is angry.
- **animado/animada** – excited, lively. *Estou animado para a viagem.* – I'm excited for the trip.
- **calmo/calma** – calm. *Fique calmo.* – Stay calm.
- **bem** – well; **mal** – unwell/bad. *Estou bem, obrigado.* – I'm well, thanks. *Ela não está muito bem hoje.* – She's not very well today.

Also, some **expressions with estar/ter**: In Portuguese some physical or emotional states use **ter (to have)** or **estar com (to be with)**:

- **ter fome / estar com fome** – to be hungry (lit. "have hunger"). *Estou com fome.* – I'm hungry.
- **ter sede** – to be thirsty ("have thirst"). *Nós temos sede.* – We are thirsty.
- **ter sono** – to be sleepy ("have sleepiness"). *Estou com sono.* – I'm sleepy.
- **ter calor / estar com calor** – to be hot (feeling warm). *Ela está com calor.* – She is feeling hot (warm).
- **ter frio / estar com frio** – to be cold (feeling cold).
- **ter medo** – to be afraid ("have fear"). *A criança tem medo do escuro.* – The child is afraid of the dark.
- **ter saudades (de)** – to miss (someone/something) (Port. expression). *Tenho saudades da minha família.* – I miss my family.

(Note: In Brazil, **estar com** is more used for these temporary conditions; in Portugal **ter** or **estar com** are both understood. E.g. *Estou com fome* or *Tenho fome* both mean "I'm hungry." But **ter** is also used idiomatically as above.)

Food and Drink

Let's recall common food items and related words:

- **pão** – bread ⁹⁵; **queijo** – cheese ⁹⁵; **manteiga** – butter ⁹⁶. *pão com manteiga* – bread with butter.
- **água** – water ⁹⁷; **leite** – milk ⁹⁵; **café** – coffee ⁹⁸; **chá** – tea ⁹⁹; **sumo** (Pt) / **suco** (Br) – juice ¹⁰⁰; **cerveja** – beer ¹⁰¹; **vinho** – wine ⁹⁷.
- **sopa** – soup ¹⁰²; **salada** – salad ¹⁰².
- **carne** – meat (in general) ¹⁰³; **frango** – chicken (meat) ¹⁰⁴; **peixe** – fish ¹⁰⁴; **porco** – pork; **vaca/boi** (carne de vaca) – beef.
- **arroz** – rice ¹⁰⁵; **massa** – pasta ⁹⁶ (also **macarrão** in Br). **feijão** – beans (especially black or pinto beans) ¹⁰⁶.
- **fruta** – fruit (in general) ¹⁰⁷; **maçã** – apple; **banana** – banana; **laranja** – orange; **limão** – lemon/lime; **morangos** – strawberries; **uvas** – grapes. **legumes / vegetais** – vegetables ¹⁰⁸ (note *legumes* in Pt refers to veggies, not just legumes). Common ones: **batata** – potato; **tomate** – tomato; **alface** – lettuce; **cenoura** – carrot; **cebola** – onion; **alho** – garlic.
- **ovos** – eggs ⁹⁵; **sal** – salt ¹⁰⁶; **açúcar** – sugar ¹⁰⁶; **óleo** – oil ¹⁰⁹; **azeite** – olive oil; **farinha** – flour.
- **bolo** – cake; **tarte** – pie; **sobremesa** – dessert; **chocolate** – chocolate.

Meals: **pequeno-almoço** (Pt) / **café da manhã** (Br) – breakfast; **almoço** – lunch; **lanche** – snack; **jantar** – dinner; **ceia** – supper (late-night meal).

Places to eat: **restaurante** – restaurant; **cafeteria / café** – café/coffee shop; **padaria** – bakery; **supermercado** – supermarket ¹¹⁰ ¹⁰⁷ (for groceries).

Example sentences: *No almoço, como arroz, feijão e frango.* – “At lunch, I eat rice, beans, and chicken.” *Ele bebe uma chávena de café depois do jantar.* – “He drinks a cup of coffee after dinner.” *Gosta de sopa?* – “Do you like soup?” *Comprei pão, queijo e frutas no mercado.* – “I bought bread, cheese, and fruits at the market.” ¹¹¹

Numbers (Números)

Being able to count is fundamental. Here's a refresher of numbers 0–20 and beyond:

- **0** – zero
- **1** – um (masc.), **uma** (fem.) ¹¹²
- **2** – dois (masc.), **duas** (fem.) ¹¹²
- **3** – três ¹¹²
- **4** – quatro ¹¹³
- **5** – cinco ¹¹³
- **6** – seis ¹¹⁴
- **7** – sete ¹¹⁴
- **8** – oito ¹¹⁵
- **9** – nove ¹¹⁵
- **10** – dez ¹¹⁶
- **11** – onze ¹¹⁷
- **12** – doze ¹¹⁷

- **13** – treze ¹¹⁷
- **14** – catorze (or **quatorze** in some contexts) ¹¹⁸
- **15** – quinze ¹¹⁹
- **16** – dezasseis ¹²⁰ ($16 = 10+6$, **dez** + **asseis**)
- **17** – dezassete ¹²⁰ ($17 = 10+7$)
- **18** – dezoito ¹²⁰ ($18 = 10+8$)
- **19** – dezanove ¹²¹ ($19 = 10+9$)
- **20** – vinte ¹²¹

From 21 onwards, Portuguese numbers are typically said as combinations: 21 = **vinte e um/uma** ("twenty and one"), 22 = **vinte e dois/duas**, etc. Here are the tens:

- **30** – trinta
- **40** – quarenta
- **50** – cinquenta
- **60** – sessenta
- **70** – setenta
- **80** – oitenta
- **90** – noventa
- **100** – cem (100 exactly), **cento** (101-199 prefix, e.g. 101 = **cento e um**).
- **200** – duzentos/as, **300** – trezentos/as, **400** – quatrocentos/as, **500** – quinhentos/as, **600** – seiscentos/as, **700** – setecentos/as, **800** – oitocentos/as, **900** – novecentos/as.
- **1.000** – mil; **2.000** – dois mil, etc.

(Remember to make *um/uma* and *dois/duas* agree in gender when counting objects: *um carro* but *uma casa*; *dois livros* but *duas cadeiras*. For standalone counting, use masculine by default.)

A few examples: **21** = vinte e um; **35** = trinta e cinco; **48** = quarenta e oito; **99** = noventa e nove. **100** = cem; **101** = cento e um; **150** = cento e cinquenta; **200** = duzentos; **1.000** = mil; **1.234** = mil duzentos e trinta e quatro.

Useful numeric phrases: *Hoje é dia 15 (quinze).* – Today is the 15th. *Moro no terceiro andar.* – I live on the 3rd floor. *São 2 (duas) horas.* – It's 2 o'clock (note feminine *duas horas*). *Ele tem 1,75m* (um metro e setenta e cinco) – He is 1.75 m tall. *Preciso de cem euros.* – I need 100 euros.

Professions and Occupations

Recall common job titles (note most have masculine and feminine forms):

- **professor / professora** – teacher ¹²² ¹²³. (Also *instrutor, educador* as variations; *professor* can mean teacher or professor).
- **estudante** – student (m/f, same form) ¹²⁴ ⁷.
- **médico / médica** – doctor ¹²⁵ ¹²⁶. (Also *doutor* is used as a title for physicians, but *médico* is the profession.)
- **enfermeiro / enfermeira** – nurse.
- **engenheiro / engenheira** – engineer.
- **empregado / empregada de mesa** – waiter/waitress (European Portuguese) ¹²⁷. (In Brazil: *garçom/garçonete*).

- **cozinheiro / cozinheira** – cook, chef.
- **motorista** – driver (m/f, same).
- **polícia** – police officer (can be m/f, or *policial* in Br). **bombeiro** – firefighter.
- **advogado / advogada** – lawyer.
- **vendedor / vendedora** – salesperson. **lojista** – store clerk.
- **gerente** – manager (m/f).
- **secretário / secretária** – secretary. **repcionista** (Pt) / **recepção** (Br) – receptionist.
- **ator / atriz** – actor/actress.
- **cantor / cantora** – singer; **escritor / escritora** – writer ⁵⁸.
- **aposentado / aposentada** (Br) / **reformado / reformada** (Pt) – retired.

And so on. Many professions simply follow the masculine -o to feminine -a pattern, but some are irregular (e.g., *ator/atriz*). Some are the same for both genders (ending in -e or a consonant): *o/a estudante*, *o/a artista*, *o/a jornalista* (journalist). When saying someone's profession, remember usually **no article** after *ser*: *Ela é engenheira.* – She is an engineer ¹⁵. *Meu pai é motorista.* – My father is a driver. If you add adjectives: *Ele é um engenheiro excelente.* – He is an excellent engineer.

Example: *A Ana é professora de português* ¹²². *O marido dela é médico* ¹²⁵. *O irmão da Ana trabalha como engenheiro.* *A filha da Ana ainda é estudante* ⁷. – “Ana is a Portuguese teacher. Her husband is a doctor. Ana's brother works as an engineer. Ana's daughter is still a student.”

Places Around Town

Common places and buildings:

- **casa** – house, home (also used for “home” as in *ficar em casa* – stay at home) ¹²⁸.
- **escola** – school ¹²⁸; **faculdade / universidade** – college / university.
- **trabalho** – work (literally “job/workplace”) ¹²⁸. *Estou no trabalho.* – I'm at work.
- **loja** – store/shop ¹²⁹; **supermercado** – supermarket ¹¹⁰; **mercado** – market.
- **restaurante** – restaurant ¹³⁰; **cafeteria / café** – cafe/coffee shop; **padaria** – bakery.
- **hospital** – hospital ¹³⁰; **farmácia** – pharmacy.
- **banco** – bank ¹³⁰ (also *bench* in other context, but here place to withdraw money).
- **igreja** – church ¹³¹; **templo** – temple; **mesquita** – mosque.
- **parque** – park ¹³¹; **jardim** – garden/park (small); **praça** – town square.
- **museu** – museum; **biblioteca** – library; **cinema** – movie theater; **teatro** – theater (for plays).
- **hotel** – hotel; **escritório** – office (escritório can also mean “desk” in European usage, but context).
- **rua** – street; **estrada** – road; **praia** – beach; **estação** – station (e.g. *estação de comboios* – train station).
- **paragem** (Pt) / **ponto** (Br) de autocarro – bus stop (in Brazil, *ponto de ônibus*).
- **aeroporto** – airport; **farm** – fazenda (Br) / quinta (Pt).

Use **em + definite article** for being “at/in” these places: *no trabalho, na escola, no supermercado, no banco*, etc. Use **a/para** with articles for going to these places: *Vou ao parque.* – I go to the park. *Vamos à igreja.* – We go to church. Use **de** for “from”: *Venho do cinema.* – I'm coming from the movie theater.

Example sentences: *Hoje preciso ir ao banco e ao supermercado.* – “Today I need to go to the bank and the supermarket.” *Os estudantes estão na escola agora.* – “The students are at school now.” *Vamos ao parque amanhã.* – “We'll go to the park tomorrow.”

Vocabulary Exercise: Match the word to its category or meaning: 1) **mãe** – a) food, b) family, c) profession. 2) **padaria** – a) place to eat, b) a pastry, c) a sport. 3) **advogada** – a) lawyer, b) nurse, c) customer. 4) **oitenta** – a) a dessert, b) a room, c) a number. 5) **Tenho fome** – a) I'm angry, b) I'm hungry, c) I'm cold.

Feel free to expand these vocab lists further. You likely also learned days of the week (*segunda-feira, terça-feira*, etc.), months (*janeiro, fevereiro*, ...), colors (*vermelho, azul*, etc.), and other basic sets – review those as needed. This guide focuses on the core themes mentioned.

Pronunciation Tips

Portuguese pronunciation can be tricky. Let's review a few key sounds that were emphasized, particularly “r”, “c”, “ç”, “g”:

- **R**: In European Portuguese, the “r” has two main sounds. A single *R* at the **beginning of a word** or a double *RR* in the middle is a **guttural, throaty sound**, similar to the French or German *r* (like an English *h* sound in the throat). For example, *rosa* (“rose”) is pronounced more like “**hoa-za**”, *carro* (“car”) sounds like “**kah-rru**” with a guttural *r*. A single *r* between vowels is pronounced as a **flap** – a quick tap of the tongue, similar to the *t* in American English “butter” or like a light Spanish *r* ¹³² ¹³³. For example, *cara* (“face”) has that soft/flapped *r* (almost like “*cah-dah*”), *Maria* ends with a soft *r* sound. In summary: **R** at start or **rr** = strong throaty sound, **r** between vowels = soft tap. (In Brazilian Portuguese, initial *r* and *rr* are more like an *h* sound as well, and a single *r* between vowels can sound like an American *r* depending on region. But in Portugal, never use an English **r** sound – it will mark you as a foreigner ¹³⁴.)
- **C and Ç**: The letter **C** has a “hard” and “soft” sound. **C** before **a, o, u** is a hard /k/ sound (like *c* in “cut”) ¹³⁵ : *casa* = “**kaza**”, *copo* = “**kopu**”. **C** before **e or i** is a soft /s/ sound ¹³⁶ (like *s* in “bus”): *centro* = “**sentro**”, *cidade* = “**sidade**” ¹³⁶. The special character **ç** (c-cedilla) can only appear before *a, o, u*, and it indicates the /s/ sound too ¹³⁷. So *coração* (heart) is pronounced “**cora-são**”, *moço* (young man) = “**mo-so**”. Think **ç = s**.

Examples: *Brasil* ends with *sil* – “**bra-zeel**”, but *França* has that cedilla making it “**Frahn-sa**” (not “Franka”). **CH** is another digraph: *ch* is pronounced like English “sh” ¹³⁸. E.g., *chuva* (rain) = “**shu-va**”, *chefe* = “**sheff**” (sounds like “chef”). Practice: *sacola* (bag) – “**sa-kola**” (*c* before *a* = /k/); *cedo* (early) – “**sedu**” (*c* before *e* = /s/); *moço* – “**mosso**” (*ç* = /s/); *chave* (key) – “**sha-vee**”.

- **G**: Similarly, **G** has a hard /g/ and a soft /j/ sound. **G** before **a, o, u** is a hard *g* as in “go” ¹³⁹ : *gato* = “**gah-to**”, *gosto* = “**goh-stu**”. **G** before **e or i** is pronounced like the “**s** in “**measure**” or like an English *soft j/z* sound ¹⁴⁰ (also like French *j*). For example, *gente* (“people”) sounds like “**zheng-te**” (the **ge** is like “*je*” in French *Jean*) ¹⁴⁰; *girafa* = “**zhi-raf-a**”. So: *ge/gi* = /z/ as in *geral* (“general”) = “*zhe-ral*”*.

There is no cedilla for **G**, but **GU** and **GE/GI** patterns matter: *guiar* (to guide) the *gu* is /g/ and the *i* is pronounced separately (“**gee-ar**”), but in words like *guerra* (“war”), *gue* = “**ge**” (the *u* is silent since *gue* gives a /g/ sound). It's a bit advanced detail: just know *gue/gui* usually = /g/ sound (silent *u*), whereas *güe/güi* (with umlaut in some languages, not common in Portuguese) or adding a trema (not used in modern PT spelling)

could force the *u* to sound. This is more detail than needed for a beginner refresher, so main takeaway: **g + e/i = “zh” sound**, g + a/o/u = hard g.

- **S:** (Though not specifically asked, recall) s has different sounds: at the **beginning of a word** or **preceding a voiceless consonant**, it's /s/ (as in *sopa* = “**sopa**”, *festa* = “**festa**”); but **between vowels**, in Portugal it often sounds like /ʒ/ (like the z sound or French j) – e.g., *casas* = “**ca-zas**” (sounds like “cazas”) – and in Brazil it's usually /z/ between vowels. Also, a double S **ss** always stays as a clear /s/ sound (e.g., *passo* = “*passo*” with a hiss, *passagem* = “**pas-sagem**”). This wasn't explicitly listed, but just a reminder.
- **Z:** Pronounced like English z generally, but at end of word often sounds like /ʃ/ in European Portuguese (e.g., *faz* “does” sounds like “**fas(h)**” in Portugal). Brazilians pronounce final z as /s/. But beginners can pronounce Z as /z/ overall, it will be understood.
- **H:** The letter **H** in Portuguese is **silent** in words (e.g., *hotel* = “**otel**”, *hoje* = “**o-je**”). *nh* makes the ñ sound (like *nh* in *Espanha* – “Espania” sound), *lh* makes a palatal L (like *ll* in “million” – *filho* “son” sounds like “**fee-lyu**”). Again, *nh*, *lh* might have been covered – *bem-vindo à família* (fa-mi-lya). If these were taught, recall *nh* = ny, *lh* = ly approximately.

These pronunciation quirks take time to master, but focusing on them will greatly improve your accent. If possible, listen to native audio of simple texts (like our class dialogues) to reinforce the sounds.

Listening and Comprehension Practice

To refresh your listening skills, revisit the comprehension exercises from class, such as the **Miroslav dialogue** and the “**Tempo, Liene e João**” conversation. Here are some **ideas for practice**:

- **Miroslav's Registration Dialogue:** Recall the audio where *Miroslav* is providing personal details at a registration office. He spells out his name and talks about his passport ¹⁴¹ ¹⁴². To practice, **fill in the blanks** while listening: for example, listen to how he spells his surname “*König*” – “K-O-N... O com dois pontos em cima (trema)” ¹⁴³ – and write it down. He also reads out a passport number digit by digit ¹⁴⁴; you can try to catch each number he says (e.g., “... **quatro, zero, cinco, cinco, um, e dois**” – practice understanding Portuguese numbers in sequence). Questions to ask yourself: *Qual é o nome completo dele?* (What is his full name?), *De onde ele é?* (Where is he from? – listen for “*Sou da República Checa, de Praga*” ¹⁴⁵), *Que problema ele descobriu?* (What problem did he find out? – hint: his passport was expiring ¹⁴⁶). After listening, check with the transcript or answer key if available.
- **“Tempo” Conversation (Liene and João):** This dialogue (from the *Tempo* comprehension text) involved two colleagues/friends (Liene and João) discussing schedules and lack of time (as the title “*Tempo*” (*Time*) suggests). While we don't have the full text here, you can practice by answering comprehension questions about the gist. For instance, imagine questions like: *Sobre o que eles falam?* (What are they talking about?), *Qual é o problema do João?* (What is João's problem? Perhaps he doesn't have time for something), *O que Liene sugere?* (What does Liene suggest?). If you have the audio, listen for key words like *horas, amanhã, trabalho, aulas*, etc., which might indicate they're scheduling or complaining about a busy routine. You can even create a short summary: e.g., “*Liene invites João to do*

something, but João says he cannot because he has no time; they mention their daily tasks." The point is to engage with the dialogue by predicting content and catching familiar words.*

- **Short News or Weather Clip:** As an extra challenge, listen to a short weather forecast or simple news piece in Portuguese. Jot down any words you recognize (*sol, chuva, grau, amanhã, cidade* for weather). Try to identify the general topic even if you miss details. This will train your ear to Portuguese sounds again.

Tips for listening: Don't get discouraged by fast speech. Focus on content words you know. Numbers, names, days of week, and key verbs often stand out. Use context – if you hear *Lisboa, amanhã, 10 horas*, likely they are talking about an event tomorrow at 10 in Lisbon. Also, use the class audio recordings if you have them; repeating them now will reinforce your memory.

If you still have your **comprehension texts** (*Compreensão Oral do Miroslav, Texto do Tempo*, etc.), read them out loud while listening to the audio (shadowing) to match pronunciation with writing.

Sample Dialogue 1: Introduction

(Two people meet for the first time.)

A: Olá! Tudo bem?

B: Olá, tudo bom. *Desculpe*, qual é o seu nome? (Hello, all good. Sorry, what is your name?) 50

A: Eu me chamo Pedro. E você, como se chama? (I'm called Pedro. And you, what's your name?)

B: Me chamo Luísa. *Muito prazer!* (My name is Luísa. Nice to meet you!)

A: Igualmente. Você é daqui? (Likewise. Are you from here?)

B: Não, **sou de** Moçambique 145, mas moro aqui em Portugal faz 2 anos. E tu?

A: Eu **sou do** Brasil 6 7. Cheguei há pouco tempo para estudar. Quantos anos você tem? (I'm from Brazil. I arrived recently to study. How old are you?)

B: Eu **tenho 20 anos** 48. E você?

A: Tenho 22. Você trabalha ou estuda?

B: Estudo – sou estudante de engenharia. E também trabalho num restaurante. *E você?*

A: Eu estudo só português agora. Ainda não trabalho.

B: Que bom. Olha, desculpa, mas eu tenho de ir 146 – tenho aula às 14h. Depois a gente se fala? (I'm sorry, but I have to go – I have class at 2pm. We'll talk later?)

A: Claro. Até logo, Luísa! (*Sure. See you later!*)

B: Tchau, Pedro. *Até à próxima!* (Bye, Pedro. Until next time!)

Comprehension Questions: 1) De onde é Luísa? 2) O Pedro veio para Portugal para fazer o quê? 3) Luísa estuda o quê? 4) Por que ela teve de ir embora? Try to answer in Portuguese: *Luísa é de Moçambique. Pedro veio para estudar (português). Luísa estuda engenharia. Ela teve de ir embora porque tinha aula às 14h.* Check your answers with the dialogue.

Sample Dialogue 2: Making Plans

(Liene invites João for an activity, incorporating obligation expressions and time.)

Liene: Oi João, tudo bem? Tá livre hoje depois do trabalho? (Hi João, how are you? Are you free after work today?)

João: Oi, Liene. Olha, hoje **não posso** sair, vou ficar até tarde no escritório. (Hi, Liene. Look, I can't go out today, I'll stay late at the office.)

Liene: Poxa. Queria convidar você para tomar um café... (Oh darn. I wanted to invite you to grab a coffee...)

João: Desculpa mesmo. **Tenho de** terminar um relatório urgente ¹⁴⁶. (I really apologize. I have to finish an urgent report.)

Liene: Entendo. E amanhã, você acha que consegue? (I understand. What about tomorrow, do you think you can?)

João: Amanhã à tarde **é preciso** levar meu filho ao médico. (Tomorrow afternoon it's necessary that I take my son to the doctor – i.e. I have to) ¹⁴⁷. Talvez depois das 17h eu esteja livre.

Liene: Sem problemas. **A gente pode** se encontrar às 17h30? (No problem. We can meet at 5:30pm?)

João: Podemos, sim. **Devo** estar liberado nesse horário. (Yes, we can. I should be free at that time.)

Liene: Ótimo! Então até amanhã no Café Central. Boa sorte com o relatório! (Great! So see you tomorrow at Café Central. Good luck with the report!)

João: Obrigado! Até amanhã.

Notice the use of **tenho de** (I have to) and **é preciso** (it's necessary) which express obligation ¹⁴⁷, as well as **poder** (can) and **dever** (should/ought, implied in "devo estar..."). This dialogue mixes formal and informal (João and Liene seem to use informal *você* or *a gente* style).

Listening/Reading comprehension: Did João accept the invitation initially? *No, not for today.* What excuse did he give? *He has to finish a report; also tomorrow he has to take his son to the doctor.* When will they meet? *Tomorrow at 5:30pm at Café Central.*

Try reading this dialogue aloud, then cover the text and see if you can recall it or get the gist without looking. This will simulate the listening practice.

Short Reading: Meet António (Personal Description)

Read the text about *António* and answer the questions.

António Lobo Antunes tem 76 anos. Ele é português, de Lisboa, e fala português, francês e inglês ¹⁴⁸ ¹⁴⁹. Ele foi médico, mas agora é um escritor muito famoso. António é **casado** ¹⁴⁸; a mulher dele chama-se Cristina. Eles têm três filhas ⁵⁵. O António trabalha em casa ¹⁴⁹ ¹⁵⁰ – ele escreve livros no escritório dele. Nas horas livres, ele gosta de ler e ouvir música clássica. Ele é **idoso**, mas está muito ativo e bem-disposto.

Perguntas (responda em português):

1. Quantos anos tem António?
2. Qual é a nacionalidade do António?
3. Qual era a profissão do António antes (foi...)? E agora, o que ele é?
4. Como se chama a esposa dele?
5. Quantos filhos eles têm?
6. Onde ele trabalha atualmente?

Try to answer from the text:

1. *Ele tem 76 anos.*
2. *Ele é português, de Lisboa.*
3. *Ele foi médico e agora é escritor.*
4. *A esposa dele se chama Cristina.*
5. *Eles têm três filhas.*
6. *Ele trabalha em casa. (He works at home.)*

Double-check with the text to ensure you got it right ⁵⁵. This type of reading was common in Sessions 1–2, so reviewing it gets you back in the flow of understanding simple biographies.

These exercises combine multiple elements: listening, reading, writing answers, which is exactly how you can regain your foundational proficiency. Don't forget to also **speak out loud** – even if just reading the examples – to practice your pronunciation and fluency.

Cultural and Communication Notes

Learning language goes hand in hand with learning culture and proper communication etiquette. Let's revisit some important cultural notes from the course:

Forms of Address: Tu, Você, O Senhor/A Senhora

Portuguese has different ways to say "you," and choosing the right form shows respect or familiarity. In Portugal, **tu** (with verbs in 2nd person) is used with family, friends or others you're very familiar with – it's the intimate/informal *you*. **Você**, while grammatically 3rd person, is sometimes used in Portugal as a polite form but in practice, many people **avoid "você"** in European Portuguese ¹⁵¹. In Brazil, **você** is the normal informal *you*, but in Portugal, calling someone *você* can sound a bit **indelicate or too distant** ¹⁵² ¹⁵³ – sometimes even interpreted as if you were slightly upset or sarcastically formal. So, what do Europeans do for *you* in a formal situation? They often use the **o senhor / a senhora** construction (literally "the sir" / "the madam") with third person verbs ¹⁵⁴. For example, to ask an older man if he is okay: *O senhor está bem?* – literally "The sir is well?" meaning "Are you okay, sir?" ¹⁵⁵ ¹⁵⁶. To a woman: *A senhora precisa de ajuda?* – "Do you need help, ma'am?" Using **Senhor + first name** is also common (e.g., *O Sr. João*). This is considered very polite.

If the person is not too much older or the setting is semi-formal, another strategy often used is to **drop the pronoun altogether** and just conjugate in 3rd person ¹⁵⁷. For example, instead of saying *Você quer um café?*, one might ask *Quer um cafezinho?* – "Would (you) like a coffee?" with the subject implied. This avoids the discomfort of *você* while remaining polite. As one of your class notes mentioned, sometimes Portuguese speakers will alternate strategies: if someone felt *o senhor* made him sound old, he might prefer just hearing the verb politely with no pronoun ¹⁵⁸.

Summary: Use **tu** with people you're on a first-name basis with (and in many regions of Portugal, among younger people, etc.). Use **o senhor / a senhora** for strangers, older folks, or in customer-service interactions (e.g., a receptionist to a client) ¹⁵⁹ ¹⁶⁰. Use **você** sparingly in Portugal – perhaps with a friendly service person if *tu* feels too familiar but *o senhor* too formal; even then, opinions vary ¹⁶¹. In Brazil, feel

free to use **você** (and **tu** mainly in the South or very informally). When in doubt in Pt, either go with polite title or phrase things indirectly.

Also, remember **first names** are used freely in Portugal, even in semi-formal context (like doctors might introduce themselves by first name). But titles are used with last names in formal writing or addressing (e.g., *Senhor Silva*).

One more: **Dona** (D.) is sometimes used before a first name for an older woman in a respectful but familiar way: e.g., *Dona Maria* (like "Mrs. Maria"), and **Seu** in some regions for men (e.g., *Seu Carlos*). In class, you likely encountered *D.* in texts for women.

Politeness and Social Etiquette

Polite phrases we covered: **Por favor** (please), **(Muito) obrigado/obrigada** (thank you (very much)) ⁵¹, **De nada** (you're welcome), **Desculpe** or **Perdão** (excuse me / sorry), **Com licença** (excuse me, e.g., before interrupting or passing by). The Portuguese are generally polite and may say *Bom dia/Boa tarde* when entering small shops or elevators full of people – greeting strangers in certain settings is common courtesy. And when you leave, *Obrigado, boa tarde!* is appreciated.

When someone offers you something, accept with *Por favor* or decline with a polite *Não, obrigado* (if you're male; *Obrigada* if female). Always say *obrigado* when someone helps or serves you – e.g., after paying in a shop or receiving your food, etc. You probably learned to respond *Obrigada eu* (or *Obrigado eu*) meaning "Thank **you**" (literally "I [am] the one [who is] thankful") when someone thanks you first – it's a way to reciprocate the thanks.

Body language/norms: In Portugal, men often shake hands in formal meets; women and opposite genders often exchange **cheek kisses** (2 kisses, one on each cheek) in informal greetings – but only once introduced or among acquaintances, not in strictly professional first encounters. A hug is common among good friends or family. If you forgot everything, just follow what the other does or stick to a friendly handshake with a smile, that works universally.

Also, note that Portuguese people might use more formal language in certain situations than an American might – e.g., writing an email starting with *Ex.mo Senhor* (Esteemed Sir) or using titles. But in person, the trend is toward a bit more informality among young people (some may use *você* with colleagues). Our course likely emphasized the safe approaches.

Expressing Obligation and Need

We touched on this in grammar but to reiterate culturally appropriate ways to say **must / have to**:

- **ter de** + infinitive is common in Portugal for "have to" ¹⁶² (equivalent to *ter que* in Brazil, which is also understood in Portugal). *Tenho de estudar hoje.* – "I have to study today." ¹⁶³ ¹⁶⁴. You heard this in context: *Tem de ir já amanhã.* – "You have to go already tomorrow." ¹⁶⁵ or *Pois tenho!* – "Yes I really must!" ¹⁶⁶.
- **é preciso / é necessário** + infinitive: impersonal expressions meaning "it's necessary to..." ¹⁴⁷. These are slightly formal-sounding, but common for general obligations/rules. *É preciso chegar cedo.* – "It's

necessary to arrive early (one must arrive early)." ¹⁶⁷ . *É necessário usar máscara em locais fechados.* – "It's necessary to wear a mask in enclosed spaces." ¹⁶⁸ . Notice you can also say *Preciso de* (literally "I need of") for "I need": *Preciso de ajuda.* – "I need help." (In Brazil one might just say *Preciso ajuda* without *de*, but in Portugal *precisar* is used with *de* for nouns.)

- **dever** + infinitive: meaning "should/ought to." *Devo praticar mais português.* – "I should practice more Portuguese." It's softer than *ter de*. In everyday speech, *dever* might come across as a polite suggestion or moral obligation rather than a strict requirement.
- **poder:** to ask for permission or if something is allowed: *Posso abrir a janela?* – "May I open the window?" *A gente pode parar aqui um minuto?* – "Can we stop here for a minute?" If someone asks you politely *Posso...?*, a nice reply if allowing is *Pode, sim.* – "Yes, you can (go ahead)." If not, *Desculpe, não pode.* or *Agora não dá.* – "Sorry, that's not possible now."

Using *por favor* with requests (*Pode passar o sal, por favor?* – "Can you pass the salt, please?") and *obrigado* afterward is key to polite communication.

Tips: Resuming Communication

After a break from Portuguese, don't be shy about indicating you're relearning. Phrases like "*Desculpe, o meu português está enferrujado*" – "Sorry, my Portuguese is rusty," or "*Pode falar mais devagar, por favor?*" – "Could you speak slower, please?" ¹⁶⁹ can be very useful when you start interacting again. People are usually patient and encouraging if they know you're a learner.

Also, remember to use **titles** when appropriate: calling someone *Senhor* or *Senhora* + last name in formal situations (or *Doutor* for a physician, *Professor* for a teacher, etc.) and using *tu* vs *você* appropriately will make a good impression as someone who respects local norms. For instance, you wouldn't address an elderly stranger as *tu*; you'd use *o senhor / a senhora*.

To wrap up this section: **manners** are culturally important. Even just saying *Bom dia* when entering a taxi or *Com licença* when reaching in front of someone can set the tone. And if you bump someone accidentally: *Peço desculpa!* – "I apologize!" or *Desculpe!* – "Sorry!" goes a long way.

Combining all of the above – grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, cultural finesse – you'll be back on track to communicate effectively in Portuguese. Boa sorte! (Good luck!)

Practice Exercises

Finally, test yourself with a few exercises covering different areas. Try to answer before peeking at the solutions in the **Answer Key**.

1. **Fill in the Blanks (Grammar)** – Complete with the correct form of **ser** or **estar**, and any other necessary words (articles, etc.):

- a. Eu __ estudante de português e __ muito interessado nas línguas. (Hint: identity vs temporary state)
- b. Hoje __ quarta-feira. Nós __ na aula agora.
- c. Os livros __ em cima da mesa. A mesa __ grande.
- d. Maria __ brasileira, mas agora __ em Lisboa.
- e. __ (We are) amigos há muito tempo. Eles __ (are) sempre gentis conosco.

2. Choose the Correct Option – Circle the option that best completes the sentence:

- a. (__) chama? – *Me chamo Ricardo.*
- (Como te / Quem se / Onde te)
- b. Preciso (__) comprar pão e leite.
- (de / em / com)
- c. Vou (__) supermercado (__) feira. (I'm going to the supermarket on Monday.)
- (a o / para o / no) ; (na segunda- / à segunda- / em segunda-)
- d. A Ana e o Paulo (__) três filhos.
- (têm / estão com / são)
- e. (__) fome agora, mas (__) sede. (I'm not hungry now, but I am thirsty.)
- (Não estou / Não tenho / Não sou) ; (estou com / tenho / estou)
- f. O senhor (__) aqui? Posso ajudar?
- (mora / moras / mora-se)

3. Correct the Errors – Each sentence has a mistake. Rewrite them correctly:

- a. *Nós somos com frio.* (We are cold.)
- b. *Ela está muito simpática hoje.* (Meaning: She is very nice today.)
- c. *Onde é o João?* (Asking location of João.)
- d. *Eu tenho que entregar o trabalho até sexta-feira.* (In Portugal, use alternate phrasing for "have to.")
- e. *Quero apresentar meu marido para você.* (Cultural note: how to introduce one person to another politely – there's a missing word or a different structure needed.)

4. Translate into Portuguese: (Use vocabulary and structures from above)

- a. "My parents live in a small house. The house has two bedrooms and a big kitchen."
- b. "Hello, Mr. Rodrigues. Pleased to meet you."
- c. "We usually have lunch at 1pm. Today we are going to have lunch later." (Use *costumar* for "usually.")
- d. "Excuse me, do I turn left or right to go to the train station?" (Use *Desculpe* and formal address for a stranger; *a estação de comboios* = train station.)
- e. "I would like a coffee without sugar, please." (Use conditional *Gostaria* or simply *Queria* for "I would like.")

5. Listening Recall: (For this exercise, recall the content of a dialogue or text you studied.)

Listen in your head (or imagine) the dialogue where Miroslav discovers his passport is expired (from the oral comprehension). Answer in English or Portuguese: *Why must Miroslav go to Lisbon?* (Porque é que o Miroslav tem de ir a Lisboa?) ¹⁴⁶. *What day is important for him (and what bad timing is it)?* (O que acontece amanhã na vida do Miroslav?) ¹⁷⁰. *What does the staff member wish him?* (O funcionário dá-lhe os parabéns por quê?) ¹⁷⁰. If you recall: Miroslav has to go to the Embassy in Lisbon **to renew his passport** because it **expires that day** ¹⁷¹. Unfortunately, **tomorrow is his birthday** (ele faz anos amanhã) ¹⁷⁰, so he'll spend it dealing with the passport. The staffer says "Muitos parabéns!" to wish him a happy birthday ¹⁷².

Once you've tried all exercises, check the answers below. Be sure to not just mark right or wrong, but *review the relevant section* of this guide for any you got wrong or felt unsure about. Review, repetition, and practice will rebuild your confidence quickly!

Answer Key

1. Fill in the Blanks:

- Eu **sou** estudante de português e **estou** muito interessado nas línguas. ¹²⁴ ("ser" for identity, "estar" for current interest/feeling).
- Hoje é quarta-feira. Nós **estamos** na aula agora. ³² ⁸
- Os livros **estão** em cima da mesa. A mesa **é** grande. ("estão" for location, "é" for inherent size quality).
- Maria **é** brasileira ¹⁷³, mas agora **está** em Lisboa. (Nationality uses ser; location uses estar.)
- Somos** amigos há muito tempo. Eles **são** sempre gentis conosco. (Both **ser**: enduring state of friendship, inherent quality of kindness. Although "sempre gentis" could be considered always-kind = inherent trait.)

2. Multiple Choice:

- Como te chamas? ⁵⁰ ("What's your name?" informal).
- Preciso **de** comprar pão e leite. ¹⁷⁴ (*precisar* requires "de" before verb/noun).
- Vou **ao** supermercado **na segunda-feira**. ²⁹ ³⁰ ("to the supermarket" = *a + o = ao*; on Monday = **na segunda-feira**).
- A Ana e o Paulo **têm** três filhos. ⁵⁵ (*they have three children*; *estão com três filhos* would literally mean "are with three children" which isn't how you state possession of children).
- Não **tenho** fome agora, mas **estou** com sede. ¹⁷⁵ (Use *ter* for hunger: *Não tenho fome* – I'm not hungry; use *estar com* or *ter* for thirst – *estou com sede*).
- O senhor **mora** aqui? ¹⁶⁰ Posso ajudar? ("Do you live here?" – using "mora" 3rd person with *o senhor*).

3. Corrections:

- Nós **estamos com** frio. ¹⁰ ¹¹ (*To say "we are cold" (feeling cold) use *estar com frio* or *temos frio*, not *somos* which would mean "we are cold (people)" inherently.*)
- Ela **é** muito simpática hoje. – *Actually, saying "She is very nice today" might imply *estar* if it's a temporary behavior, but *simpático* is usually a personality trait. If you mean she's being nice today (unusually), you could say *Ela está muito simpática hoje*. Generally, *simpática* is used with *ser* for a kind person* ⁹. So likely expected: *Ela é muito simpática*. (If "hoje" was to be included meaning currently friendly, *Ela está muito simpática hoje* is acceptable implying today she's in a good mood.) Since the original had *está* maybe they wanted *Ela é muito simpática* (because *hoje* was odd there).
- Onde **está** o João? ¹⁷⁶ (*To ask "Where is João?", use *estar* for location, not *Onde é*. *Onde é* is used for events – e.g., *Onde é o concerto?* – Where is the concert (taking place)?*)
- Eu **tenho de entregar o trabalho até sexta-feira**. ¹⁶² (*In Portugal, *ter de* is preferred over *ter que*. *Ter que* is understood but *ter de* is more idiomatic EP. So we replace *tenho que* with *tenho de*.*)

e. **Quero apresentar **o meu marido a você.** – In Portugal, one would likely say ...ao senhor / à senhora instead of “a você,” or simply ...meu marido. Actually a more polite phrasing: **Quero apresentar lhe o meu marido.** – “I want to introduce my husband to you (formal).” Or informally to a peer: **Quero te apresentar meu marido.** The error in original “apresentar meu marido para você” is a direct translation from English. The correct structure: **apresentar [alguém] a [alguém].** So: **apresentar **o meu marido a você** (or better ...a ti if informal tu, or ...**à senhora if formal). The simplest correction: add the a: **apresentar o meu marido a você.** (Though that você in EP is tricky—maybe the expected answer was using lhe: **Quero apresentar-lhe o meu marido.**) Without overcomplicating: the main issue was missing a.

4. Translation:

- “My parents live in a small house...” – *Os meus pais moram numa casa pequena. A casa tem dois quartos e uma cozinha grande.* 73 177 (‘numa’ = em + uma).
- “Hello, Mr. Rodrigues. Pleased to meet you.” – *Olá, Sr. Rodrigues. Muito prazer!* 51 (Could also say *Prazer em conhecê-lo* – nice to meet you, to a man).
- “We usually have lunch at 1pm. Today we are going to have lunch later.” – **Costumamos almoçar à uma hora. Hoje vamos almoçar mais tarde.** 23 24 .
- “Excuse me, do I turn left or right to go to the train station?” – *Desculpe, viro à esquerda ou à direita para ir à estação de comboios?* (Using *Desculpe* to a stranger, and à after *ir + a + estação*).
- “I would like a coffee without sugar, please.” – **Queria um café sem açúcar, por favor.** (Using *Queria* – literally “I wanted” – as a polite conditional request 178 .)

5. Listening Recall (Miroslav):

- *Por que o Miroslav tem de ir a Lisboa?* – **Porque o passaporte dele caduca (vence) naquele dia** 171, então ele tem de ir à Embaixada da República Checa em Lisboa para renovar o passaporte 146. (His passport expires that day, so he must urgently go to the Czech Embassy in Lisbon to renew it.)
- *Que acontece amanhã na vida do Miroslav?* – **Amanhã é o aniversário dele** 170 (he says “Amanhã faço anos...” – Tomorrow I have my birthday).
- *O que o funcionário lhe deseja?* – Ele diz: **“Então, muitos parabéns!”** 170 – “Then, many congratulations!” wishing him a happy birthday. (He likely also says something like *apesar disso tem de passar o dia de anos tratando do passaporte* – you still have to spend your birthday day handling the passport, unfortunately.)

If you got these comprehension details, great! If not, it's a sign to practice numbers (for the passport date) or vocabulary like *caducar* (to expire) etc. Review the audio/text again if available.

How did you do? If you found some gaps, revisit those sections of the guide. Don't hesitate to repeat exercises or invent your own (e.g., describe your own daily routine, introduce a family member in Portuguese, etc.). With this comprehensive refresher, you should be equipped to quickly regain your foundational Portuguese skills. **Bom estudo e boa prática!** (Happy studying and practice!)

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