

# **CONVERSA BRASILEIRA**

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## **First Edition**

ISBN: 978-1-937963-05-7

Library of Congress number: 2013949124

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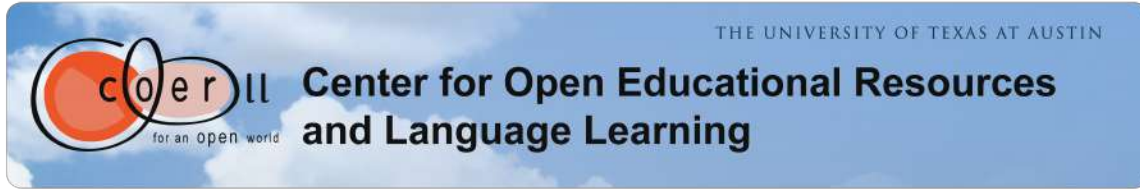
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*Conversa Brasileira*, <http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/>, is a web-based Portuguese program developed at the University of Texas, which is designed to provide intermediate- and advanced-level students of Portuguese with an opportunity to analyze and study how Brazilians actually talk to one another in informal conversations. The online materials are comprised of 35 short video clips that are accompanied with optional Portuguese subtitles, English translations, pop-up commentary and analysis, PDF lesson notes, and user discussion blogs. The content of the videos provides learners with a slice-of-live view of Brazilian conversations in natural settings. This textbook provides learners with a hard copy of the lesson transcripts, translations, and lesson notes. *Conversa Brasileira* is just one of the many Portuguese Language projects that make up the complete collection of *BrazilPod*, <http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/index.php>.

*Conversa Brasileira* was developed at the University of Texas at Austin in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. It was created by the Liberal Arts Instructional Technologies Services (LAITS) and the Center for Open Educational Resources and Language Learning (COERLL) at the University of Texas. This project was funded by the U.S. Department of Education International Research and Studies (IRS) Grant (P017A090373) from 2009-2012. These materials are an example of the open access initiative, which require neither passwords or fees. These are free and open multimedia resources that promote learning and scholarship for everyone.

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## Animals I: Dog lovers I

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=01>







So here's the scenario: Denise has been walking in the park with her dog Sandy. Michelle, who happens to pass by, loves dogs and decides to strike up a conversation with Denise. Well, she doesn't exactly love dogs, but Sandy reminds her of her brother's dog. Anyway, the two have a nice chat in the park, which makes for a great *Conversa Brasileira*.

MICHELLE: Oi...  
Hello...

DENISE: Oi, "menina"...  
Hey, "girl"...

MICHELLE: Ai, que amor! ❶ I Que coisa mais linda! Posso sentar um pouquinho?  
Oh, how cute! What a pretty puppy! Can I sit here for a little bit?

DENISE: Claro! Fica à vontade! ❷  
Sure! Please, have a seat.

MICHELLE: Ai, que lindo!  
It is so pretty!

DENISE: Vem, Sandy, vem, vem, aqui...  
Come on Sandy, come here...

MICHELLE: Qual é o nome dela?  
What's her name?

DENISE: ... "garota"? Aqui, aqui... é Sandy!  
... "little girl"? Here, here... it's Sandy!

MICHELLE: É ele ou ela?  
Is your puppy a boy or a girl?

DENISE: Ela!  
A girl.

MICHELLE: Ah, ela... então tá bom!  
Oh, it's a girl... that's cool!

DENISE: É Sandy!  
It's Sandy!



MICHELLE: Sandy?  
Sandy?

DENISE: É...  
Yeah...

MICHELLE: E cadê ③ o Júnior? ④  
Where is Junior?

DENISE: Pois é, eu tenho duas meninas em casa, aí elas que escolheram o nome, né? ⑤  
Well, I have two girls at home, so they chose her name...

MICHELLE: Ah!  
I see!

DENISE: Se fosse um “menino”, ia ser Júnior...  
If it was a “boy”, it would be Junior...

MICHELLE: Provavelmente...  
Probably...

DENISE: ... mas aí com a “garotona” aqui ficou Sandy.  
... but with this “big girl”, we chose Sandy.

MICHELLE: Ah! E quantos anos têm suas meninas?  
Oh, yeah! How old are your girls?

DENISE: Dez e seis.  
Ten and six.

MICHELLE: E essa daqui?  
How about this one?

DENISE: Essa tem três.  
This one is three.

MICHELLE: Três anos!  
Three years old!

DENISE: É, mas é uma...  
Yeah, but she is a...

MICHELLE: Ai, que linda!  
She's adorable!

DENISE: ... é uma garotona aí, uma boa garotona. ⑥  
... she's a big girl, a good girl.

MICHELLE: E parece não ser brava... não é brava?  
She doesn't seem like an agitated puppy... is she a difficult puppy?

**DENISE:** Não, não é, não é... esta é uma cachorra bem tranquila, dócil, eh, calma com as crianças, boa pra passear, entendeu, não vai te carregando assim... ⑦

No, no, she isn't... she's a very tranquil, docile puppy, she's easygoing with children, a good dog to walk with, you know, she doesn't pull you...

**MICHELLE:** Ah, isso é bom, né? Isso é bom...  
Oh, this is good! That's good...

**DENISE:** ... na coleira, eh, ela é tranquilona...  
... with her collar, she's very calm...

**MICHELLE:** Ai, que bonita! Você sabe a raça, eh, que raça que é?  
She's precious! Do you know her breed, I mean, what's her breed?

**DENISE:** Eh, é uma mistura: mãe é...  
It's a mixture: her mother is...

**MICHELLE:** Porque eu não entendo nada de cachorro...  
Because I don't understand anything about dogs...

**DENISE:** ... eh, não, eu também não muito, mas a mãe era labrador e o pai setter.  
I don't understand very much either, but her mother was a labrador e her father an Irish setter.

**MICHELLE:** Ah, tá.  
Oh, I see.

**DENISE:** Então é uma, uma mistura aí dos dois...  
So, it's a mixture of the two...

**MICHELLE:** Deu uma mistura aí dos dois...  
It is a mixture of the two...

**DENISE:** ... mas deu uma mistura boa, porque ela...  
... but it was a good mixture, because she...

**MICHELLE:** ... mas ela ficou muito boazinha...  
... she's so easygoing...

**DENISE:** ... eh, eu acho ela bonitona, né?  
... I think she's very beautiful...

**MICHELLE:** Ela, ela é treinada? Porque ela fica quietinha... ⑧  
Is she trained? She's so quiet...

**DENISE:** É, a gente contratou um treinador quando ela era bebê, né, assim, com seis meses e... mas pra falar bem a verdade, ele nem teve muito trabalho não, ⑨ porque ela é muito inteligente, assim, pega muito rápido, eh...  
Yeah, we hired a dog trainer when she was a baby, I mean, when she was six months old and... but to tell you the truth, he didn't have a lot of

work, because she's very smart, I mean, she learns things very fast...

MICHELLE: Olha!  
Wow!

DENISE: ... e por ela ser tranquila, assim, a índole dócil do cachorro, eh, não foi muito difícil; ela atende bem as ordens, eh...  
... and because she's calm, I mean, because of her docile nature, it wasn't so difficult to train her; she obeys our commands...

MICHELLE: Que bom!  
How nice!

DENISE: ... uma boa cachorra...  
... she's a good puppy...

MICHELLE: Eu tinha... o meu irmão, na verdade, tem, tem um cachorro parecido com ela, <sup>10</sup> por isso que quando eu olhei eu vim pra cá conversar com você; eu sempre tive muito medo de cachorro, mas depois convivendo com o cachorro dele eu fui perdendo o medo, me acostumando, <sup>11</sup> e ela lembra muito ele, por isso que...  
I had... actually, my brother has a dog that looks like her. Because of this, I came to speak with you when I saw her. I always had so much fear of dogs, but living with his dog I started getting over my fear, you know, becoming accustomed, and she reminds me of my brother's dog a lot. Because of this...

DENISE: Huh...  
Huh...

MICHELLE: Muito boazinha! Mas então tá bom. Prazer em conhecê-la.  
She's so easygoing! OK, that's it. Nice to meet you.

DENISE: Igualmente.  
Nice to meet you, too.

MICHELLE: E adorei a cachorra...  
I loved your puppy...

DENISE: Tá joia.  
OK.

MICHELLE: Até mais.  
See you

DENISE: A gente se vê.  
See you around.

MICHELLE: Tchau, tchau.  
Bye-bye.



### 1. *Ai, que amor!*

Notice that the translation we have given is “how cute”, but the phrase is literally “what love.” In Portuguese exclamations with *que* can be said with nouns or adjectives. In English speakers can only add adjectives: e.g., how nice, how pretty, how interesting. In English nobody says things like: how house, how book, how elephant. In Portuguese there is no problem with *que casa*, *que livro*, *que elefante*. Instead English speakers would say something like “what a house, what a book, what an elephant.”

### 2. *Fica à vontade!*

The word *vontade* is roughly equivalent to “your will.” So in *fica à vontade* you are saying, in essence “stay as you are willing.” English speakers would similarly say something like “stay as long as you would like to.”

### 3. E *cadê* o Júnior?

The phrase *onde está?* in Portuguese is informally rendered as *cadê?*, which some think originated came from *o que é de...*, “what ever happened to...” It works as a singular or a plural form. *Cadê o livro?* “Where is the book?” *Cadê os livros?* “Where are the books?” Notice also that there really is no verb in these sentences. Usually *cadê* is simply followed by a noun.

4. *Sandy e Júnior*

Sandy and Júnior are a sister and brother team who sang together while growing up and who became very popular in Brazil. They began singing together on TV when they were just 5 and 6 years old, but today they often perform solos. The reference here is to them. When Denise says that the dog's name was Sandy, Michele's response was, "Then where is Júnior?" Denise goes on to explain that had the dog been a boy, he would probably have been called Júnior.

5. ...*ai* elas *que* escolheram o nome

Notice how Brazilians emphasize items in Portuguese. The phrase *elas escolheram o nome* would be the standard rendition for "they chose the name." However, by putting the word *que* in between, it is like saying, "they are the ones that chose the name."

6. ...uma boa *garotona*

Brazilians often add diminutive or augmentative endings to words to give them an endearing quality. In this case that noun *garota* (young girl) is given an endearing quality with the feminine augmentative *-ona*: *garotona*. These forms are especially common among female speakers and listeners will note that Denise and Michelle have several other examples in this clip.

7. ... não vai *te carregando* assim...

The future tense in Portuguese is formed by a conjugated form of the verb *ir* followed by the infinitive of a verb, e.g., *vai carregar* (going to carry). However in this sentence Denise says *carregando*, which gives the sentence an ongoing feel, a sense of movement and motion. Notice also how the direct pronoun *te* (you) is placed between the two verb forms, rendering something akin to "she isn't going to go on carrying you off."

8. Ela é treinada? Porque ela fica quietinha...

In these two phrases we see excellent examples of Brazilian intonation. Michelle lengthens out the duration of the stressed syllables and there is a sharp rise in the pitch of her voice: **treiNAd**a... quie**T**inha.

9. ... ele nem teve muito trabalho não.

Brazilians often emphasize negative phrases by adding an extra *não* at the end of the sentence. In this example Denise, speaking of the dog trainer, is saying, “he really didn’t even have to work hard at all.” The word *nem* makes the sentence negative, but the word *não* at the end adds the emphasis.

10. ... tem um cachorro parecido com ela

Here’s a good example of a phrase that uses a preposition that is very different from English. Michelle is saying that her brother has a dog that looks a lot like Denise’s dog. However in Portuguese she uses the phrase *parecido com ela*, using the preposition *com* (with) which literally means something like “seems with her.” What generally happens is that native speakers of English want to say *\*parecido como ela*, because they think that *como* means “like.”

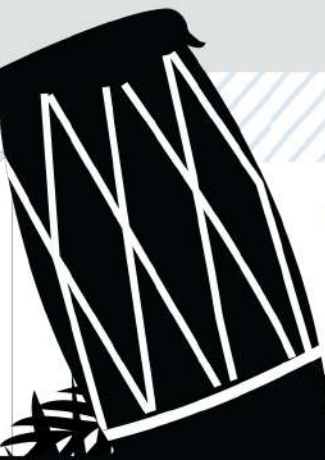
11. ... mas depois convivendo com o cachorro dele, eu fui perdendo o medo, me acostumando ...

One of the differences between Spanish and Portuguese is seen in how much more Brazilians use the “-ing” ending *-ndo*. This is actually more similar to English and in this example Michelle is saying something like “but after having lived with the dog I began losing my fear and I was getting used to it...” Notice how this gives a more ongoing and developing feel to her speech.



## Animals 2: Dog lovers 2

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=02>







True story, the day we videotaped this lesson Simone actually came to baby sit while others were recording. However, as soon as she saw the dog (who they called Belinha in this lesson), Simone began to pet him, whisper sweet nothings into his ear, and shower him with tons of love and affection. She was doing everything for real that we had hoped to catch on film. So, instead of watching the baby, Simone joined Sandra in a very natural, and totally honest Conversa Brasileira.

SIMONE: Que lindo! É seu? ❶  
It is so cute! Is it yours?

SANDRA: É, é minha. ❶  
Yes, it is.

SIMONE: É sua? ❶  
Is it yours?

SANDRA: É.  
Yes.

SIMONE: É mulher?  
Is it a girl?

SANDRA: É...  
Yeah...

SIMONE: Ela é fêmea? Eu posso pegar? ❷  
Is it female? Can I touch her?

SANDRA: Pode, pode, à vontade...  
Sure, sure, go ahead...

SIMONE: Não é brava?  
Isn't she agitated?

SANDRA: Não, não, é super mansinha...  
No, no, she's very tame...

SIMONE: Qual é o nome dela?  
Oh, it's a girl... that's cool!

SANDRA: É Belinha.  
It's Belinha.

SIMONE: Oi, Belinha. Tudo bem, Belinha? Como você tá, Belinha?  
Hi, Belinha. Are you fine, Belinha? How are you, Belinha?

SANDRA: Vê, super mansa...  
Look at how tame she is...

SIMONE: Quantos anos ela tem? ③  
How old is she?

SANDRA: Tem cinco.  
She's five.

SIMONE: Cinco anos? Ah, Belinha... você tá um pouco velhinha, hein Belinha?  
Five years old? Oh, Belinha... you're a little old, Belinha.

SANDRA: Ah, não fala assim porque ela é tão boa... ④  
Don't say that because she's so nice...

SIMONE: É mesmo?  
Really?

SANDRA: É... apesar de já ter cinco anos é super companheira... ⑤  
In spite of being five years old, she's a very good companion...

SIMONE: É mesmo?  
Really?

SANDRA: ... tem muita energia ainda...  
... she still has lots of energy...

SIMONE: E qual a raça dela? ⑥  
What's her breed?

SANDRA: Olha, ah, é meio vira-lata, viu? ⑦  
Well, she's sort of a mutt...

SANDRA: O pai era labrador, mas a mãe eu não sei...  
Her father was a labrador, but her mother I don't know...

SIMONE: Não sabe? Ah, então ela...  
You don't know? So, she...

SANDRA: ... e ela não tem pedigree, ⑧ então é meio que...  
... and she isn't a pedigree, so she's sort of...

SIMONE: Ah, então é vira-lata...  
So, she's a mutt...

SANDRA: ... meio que vira-lata...  
... sort of a mutt...

SIMONE: Mas não tem importância, né Belinha? A gente é carinhosa do mesmo jeito, né Belinha? ⑨  
But this is not important, right Belinha? Either way we are affectionate,

right Belinha?

SANDRA: Você tem cachorro?  
Do you have a dog?

SIMONE: Eu tenho, tenho quatro cachorros em casa...  
Yes, I have four dogs at home...

SANDRA: Quatro?  
Four?

SIMONE: Quatro... são todos vira-lata também. A gente pegou na rua, doentes e a gente cuida muito deles...  
Four... they're all mutts, too. We got them off the street; they were sick, but we took care of them...

SANDRA: Uau!  
Wow!

SIMONE: A gente pegou... leva ao veterinário pra poder cuidar e tudo e a gente castra também pra eles não terem mais filhos,<sup>10</sup> senão não cabe dentro de casa...  
We got them... we take them to the veterinarian to take care of them and we also castrate them, so that they don't have more babies; otherwise our house would be full of them...

SIMONE: ... mas a gente, eu amo muito, minha família toda gosta muito deles...  
... but we... I do love them, my whole family likes them a lot...

SANDRA: Então você tá sempre no veterinário?  
So, you're always at the veterinarian, right?

SIMONE: Sempre no veterinário!  
Always at the veterinarian!

SANDRA: Meu Deus!  
Oh my!

SIMONE: Mas a gente não importa não, porque a gente gosta muito...  
But we don't mind, because we like it so much...

SANDRA: E só tem cachorro em casa ou tem outros...  
Do you have only dogs at home or any other...

SIMONE: Tem oito gatos também...  
There are eight cats, too...

SANDRA: Oito?  
Eight?

SIMONE: Vira-latas também...  
Stray cats...

SANDRA: Todos de rua também? 11  
Did you take them off the street, too?

SIMONE: Pegamos pra cuidar também, do mesmo jeito...  
Yeah, we also took them off the street to take care of them, the same way as before...

SANDRA: Uau!  
Wow!

SIMONE: A gente gosta muito deles, são muito amigos...  
We like them a lot, they're very friendly...

SANDRA: Meu Deus!  
Oh my!

SIMONE: Eh, né Belinha?  
Yeah... right Belinha?

SANDRA: Eu prefiro cachorro do que gato.  
I prefer dogs over cats.

SIMONE: Eu gosto de qualquer um. Gato é bom pra dormir junto... 12  
I like either one. Cats are good to sleep with...

SANDRA: Ah, é?  
Oh, really?

SIMONE: Oh Belinha, foi um prazer te conhecer, viu Belinha? Prazer conhecê-la.  
Oh Belinha... it was nice to meet you, Belinha. Nice to meet you.

SANDRA: Igualmente.  
Nice to meet you, too.

SIMONE: Tchau, Belinha.  
Bye, Belinha.

SANDRA: Tá, tchau.  
OK, bye.



1. *É seu, é minha, é sua*

Notice that possessive pronouns have to agree in number and gender, but the important part is that it's the "thing possessed not the possessor" meaning that the gender is based on the things possessed, which in this case is a female dog. In English one would just say, "Is the dog yours?" When Simone asks "é seu?" she is supposing that the dog is male. When Sandra responds with "é minha" she is clarifying that the dog is female. And that is why Simone follows up with "é sua?"

2. *Eu posso pegar?*

Brazilians often eliminate pronouns. In this case a possible English translation would be something like, "Can I pet her?" or "Can I touch her?" Both would sound a little strange in English as simply "Can I pet?" or "Can I touch?" In Portuguese however, the normal tendency is to speak without the pronouns.

3. *Quantos anos ela tem?*

Note that Spanish speakers often change the word order to make a question, putting the verb before the pronoun. Brazilians rarely do that. In this sentence we don't see anything like *Quantos anos tem ela* which would follow a more Spanish type of pattern.

4. *Ah, não fala assim porque ela é tão boa...*

This is actually a very difficult sentence to translate because the English version sounds extremely harsh, almost mean. In Portuguese however it just doesn't carry that bold of a meaning, in fact it is rather playful.

5. É super companheira

Sandra has used the adjective super twice. First she said that Belinha was super mansinha (very gentle) and here she says that Belinha is a super companheira (a very good companion). This is pretty common, using the word super to intensify something.

## 6. E qual a raça dela?

The English speaking brain wants to see a verb in this sentence, but Brazilians often use qual without a verb. One could say “qual é a raça dela?” but people are just as likely to say “qual a raça dela?”

7. Olha, é meio vira-lata, viu?

What a great phrase in Portuguese. First of all Sandra starts with “olha” which is her way of saying, “well, look, um I’m thinking about what to say...” Then we hear the word meio which literally means “half” and it is used to show that something is half way there. And that is why the translation of “kind of” or “sort of” ends up being the modifier of nouns and adjectives. Finally we see the word vira-lata for mutt, literally being a dog that knocks over (virar) cans (latas). The dog’s a can knocker over!

8. Ela não tem pedigree

Listeners will be hard pressed to hear which syllable is stressed on the word pedigree. Is it pédigree or pedigrée? In English the word is clearly stressed on the third to last syllable, but in Portuguese it is stressed on the final syllable.

## 9. A gente é carinhosa do mesmo jeito, né Belinha?

Here's another phrase that is really hard to translate directly into English. A gente of course stands for “we”, but “we are affectionate of the same style” just doesn't work. What Simone is really saying is that even if Belinha doesn't have a lofty pedigree, even as a mutt we all love her just the same.

10. A gente castra também pra eles não terem mais filhos

Brazilians use the personalized infinitive a lot, even though grammatically you can say the sentence without it. Here we don't see *a gente castra também pra não ter mais filhos*. It's not even an issue of being ambiguous because we are sure that it's the dogs that are being fixed! The phrase *pra eles não terem* just clarifies and emphasizes who the subject of ter is, i.e., the dogs of course.

11. Todos de rua?

Notice that if Sandra and Simone had said *todos da rua* they would have been speaking of a specific street. While in English it might make more sense to say “from the street” – *da rua*, in Portuguese the idea of any street or from the streets in general is expressed by saying *de rua* without the definite article “the”.

12. Gato é bom pra dormir junto...

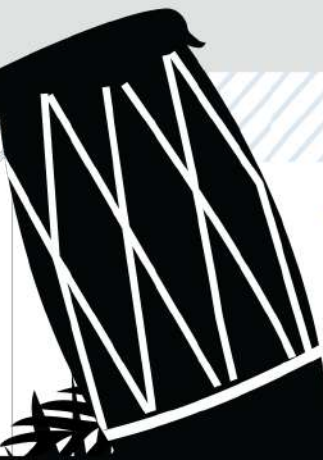
The question is why Simone said *junto* and not *juntos*. And the answer is because in this *junto* is an adverb, modifying the verb *dormir*. Adjectives have to agree with the noun they modify (*homens juntos* – *mulheres juntas*), but adverbs only have one form.





## Travel I: Hanging out at Breakfast I

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=03>





As Gilberto Gil sings, “*O Rio de Janeiro continua lindo.*” And that is the topic of discussion for Denise and Valentino as they chat at the breakfast table. The newspaper has an article on the violence in Rio, but Denise and Valentino just aren’t buying it. Nowadays São Paulo seems to have its share too. So our two *Paulistas* come to the defense of Rio de Janeiro. And São Paulo doesn’t have *Corcovado*, *Pão de Açúcar*, or *Maracanã*. It all makes for a nice *Conversa Brasileira*.

DENISE: Uh, olha só que absurdo aqui... tá desencorajando as pessoas a viajarem pro Rio ❶ por conta da violência.  
Uh, look at how absurd this is... it’s discouraging people from traveling to Rio because of the crime...

VALENTINO: Ah não, outra vez essa história....  
Oh, no! Not that same story again...

DENISE: De novo...  
Again...

VALENTINO: ... que o Rio é violento...  
... that Rio is unsafe...

DENISE: É, que droga... toda hora! ❷  
Oh, man ... every time!

VALENTINO: Essa é uma grande confusão, ❸ porque o Rio de Janeiro é uma cidade completamente turística, tem...  
This is a big misconception, because Rio de Janeiro is a tourist’s city, it has...

DENISE: Olha que... puh...  
Look how... puh...

VALENTINO: ... excelentes pontos, é uma cidade bonita...  
... there are excellent tourist spots, it’s a beautiful city...

DENISE: É lógico! E essa coisa de que o crime tá no Rio, o crime tá no Rio... o crime tá, infelizmente, em quase todas as cidades, mas principalmente as cidades grandes do Brasil...  
Clearly! And that idea that all the crime is in Rio, that all the crime is in Rio... the crime is, unfortunately, in basically all cities, but mainly in the big cities of Brazil...

- VALENTINO: Claro!  
Of course!
- DENISE: Mas... e também não é assim, né? Quer dizer, você vê a... a Zona Sul...  
④  
But... it's not really like that! I mean, you see the Southern region, for example...
- VALENTINO: É verdade...  
It's true...
- DENISE: ... é muito bem policiada...  
... is under police control...
- VALENTINO: Você pode andar tranquilamente por lá à noite, ⑤ de dia...  
You can walk around safely at night, in the day...
- DENISE: Uh, uh...  
Uh, uh...
- VALENTINO: ... qualquer hora que não tem, não tem problema...  
... anytime of the day, they don't have a problem...
- DENISE: Uh, uh...  
Uh, uh...
- VALENTINO: ... com violência na Zona Sul...  
... with crime in the Southern region...
- DENISE: Claro! Lembra da última vez que a gente foi? ⑥  
Clearly! Do you remember the last time we went?
- VALENTINO: Sim...  
Yes...
- DENISE: A gente levou as crianças e... puxa, a gente teve um tempo...  
We took the children and... my goodness, we had...
- VALENTINO: ... caminhamos pela praia sem nenhum problema.  
... we walked on the beach without any problems.
- DENISE: ... super legal... é verdade!  
... a great time... it's true!
- VALENTINO: Eh, mas essa é uma tradição já da imprensa, né? Eh... o Rio de Janeiro é violento, tome cuidado, e nós sabemos que isso acontece em São Paulo, Campinas – que você conhece –, outras cidades...  
Yeah, that's a habit the media has, huh? Rio is dangerous, you have to be careful, and we know that that happens in São Paulo, Campinas – as you are aware –, other cities...

DENISE: Ah, você lembra daquela pesquisa que a gente viu? Ah... na proporção número de habitantes/número de crime, que Campinas tá na frente...

7

Ah, do you remember that survey that we saw? Campinas has the highest per capita crime rate...

VALENTINO: Pois é...  
True...

DENISE: ... do Rio, de São Paulo...  
... more than Rio, more than São Paulo...

VALENTINO: ... mais, mais violenta que Rio, São Paulo...  
... it's more dangerous than Rio or São Paulo...

DENISE: ... e isso não tá na mídia...  
... and this is not in the media...

VALENTINO: E não é uma cidade...  
And Campinas is not a city...

DENISE: ... que droga!  
... my goodness!

VALENTINO: ... tão grande como o Rio...  
... as big as Rio...

DENISE: Uh, uh...  
Uh, uh...

VALENTINO: Agora... o Rio de Janeiro compensa, né? Aqueles pontos maravilhosos, o centro da cidade, Corcovado, 8 Pão de Açúcar, quer dizer...  
Oh, but Rio is worth it, is it not? All those wonderful sites, downtown, *Corcovado*, Sugar Loaf Mountain, I mean...

DENISE: Ah... aquilo é bárbaro... 9  
Ah... that city is amazing...

VALENTINO: ... eu adoro o Maracanã... 10  
... I love *Maracanã*...

DENISE: ... aquela vista do Cristo Redentor... ah, não tem coisa mais linda...  
... that view of Christ the Redeemer... ah, there's nothing more beautiful...

VALENTINO: Sem dúvida! E depois, excelentes restaurantes, teatros...  
Without a doubt! And then, there are excellent restaurants, theaters...

DENISE: Uh, uh...  
Uh, uh...

VALENTINO: ... uma vida cultural fantástica... 11  
... a rich culture...

DENISE: Os botecos todos... 12  
All the bars...

VALENTINO: Olha...  
Look...

DENISE: Uh, uh...  
Uh, uh...

VALENTINO: Faz quanto tempo que a gente não vai pro Rio, hein? 13  
How long has it been since we've gone to Rio, huh?

DENISE: Pois é... eu acho que...  
It's... I think that...

VALENTINO: Próximo fim de semana?  
Should we go next weekend?

DENISE: Oh! Muito bom!  
Oh, perfect!

VALENTINO: OK, combinado. 14  
OK, it's done.



## Usage Notes

### 1. Tá desencorajando as pessoas a viajarem pro Rio

Certain verbs in Portuguese require the use of a given preposition. In this case note that the preposition a that goes with the verb *desencorajar* even though that would not necessarily be logical in English. This is similar to gostar de and pensar em. Learners simply need to learn the prepositions that go with a given verb.

### 2. Que droga... toda hora!

The Brazilian version of “what a drag” is literally rendered “what a drug” even though it doesn’t have anything to do with drugs per se. Notice also that *toda hora*, which would literally be “every hour” takes on the meaning of “all the time.”

### 3. Essa é uma grande confusão

Notice that in this case the word *confusão* “confusion” actually takes on a meaning something more like “misconception” or “mistake.” English speakers do not use the word “confusion” for a mistake or a misconception, but it has more of a meaning of being bewildered or unclear.

4. Zona Sul

*Zona Sul* refers to the beach area around *Ipanema*, *Leblon*, and *Copacabana* that have some of the most famous tourist sites in Rio de Janeiro. In general Brazilians do not refer to the north, south, east, and west sides of Rio, but the *Zona Sul* is an exception.

5. Você pode andar tranquilamente por lá à noite.

Here the word tranquilamente (tranquilly, calmly) really takes on the meaning of being without any problem, or safely. It is a good example of a Portuguese word that has a similar equivalent in English, the difference being that it is a common word in Portuguese, but not really a daily word in the speech of native speakers of English. Notice also the use of *por lá* meaning “along there.” Many times the word *por* takes on the meaning of “along” or “through.”

6. Lembra da última vez a gente foi?

The verb *lembrar* can have a confusing mix of reflexive endings and prepositions. Generally the verb “to remember” is lembrar-se and takes the preposition de, e.g., *Ele se lembrou da canção*. “He remembered the music.” Without the *se*, the non-reflexive version of *lembrar* means “to remind” and it doesn’t have the preposition *de*, e.g., *Lembra-me o que ele disse*. “Remind me what he said.” However, in everyday usage it is common to drop *se* even when *lembrar* means to remember. This is what Denise said in this sentence.

## 7. violência/crime - Que Campinas tá na frente

Here Denise is talking about the statistics regarding violence in Brazil, stating that per capita Campinas is actually ahead of Rio. In Portuguese this is rendered with *Campinas está na frente*. “Campinas is in the front” might be said more naturally as “ahead.”



8. *Corcovado, Pão de Açúcar*

Two of the most famous landmarks in Rio are *Corcovado* and *Pão de Açúcar* “Sugarloaf”. *Corcovado* means “hunchback” and refers to the shape of the mountain that rises over 2,000 feet and has at its peak the 125-foot statue of *Cristo Redentor* “Christ the Redeemer.” The tram ride to the top of *Corcovado* provides the most spectacular views of the city. At the mouth of Guanabara Bay are two other peaks that make up *Pão de Açúcar*, which are visited by cable car. This 1,300-foot peak provides especially fantastic views of Rio at sunset.

9. Aquilo é *bárbaro*

If you translate this literally, one would say that this is “barbarous.” You would be hard pressed to think of the English word “barbarous” with positive connotations, but in Portuguese *bárbaro* often has a positive meaning, something like great or fantastic.

## 10. Eu adoro o Maracanã

This sentence is a good example to show that Brazilians generally reserve the verb *amar* “to love” when referring to people. They prefer to use the verb *adorar* when talking about other things that they love. Basically Valentino is stating that he loves *Maracanã*, the most famous soccer stadium in Brazil. *Flamengo*, *Fluminense*, *Botafogo*, and *Vasco da Gama* often play there. When originally built almost 200,000 fans could sit there. However, nowadays they have replaced the benches with seats and *Maracanã* holds around 88,000 people.

11. Uma *vida cultural fantástica*

This phrase is a good example of adjective placement in Portuguese. Limiting adjectives go after the noun. Here, for example, of all the types of *vida*, we are limiting things to the *vida cultural*. And of all of the *vida cultural* that exist, we are limiting it to the *vida cultural fantástica*. Each adjective limits *vida* a little more.

12. Os botecos todos

Rio really does have interesting bars and nightclubs. On one end there are the famous music and dancing venues such as *Rio Cenarium* in *Lapa* and on the other end there are the traditional corner stores, such as those that are in *Santa Teresa*. Besides the word *boteco*, you will often hear *Cariocas* talk about the *botequim*, *bar*, and *barzinho*, but they may actually be different words for the same type of location.

## 13. Faz quanto tempo que a gente não vai pro Rio, hein?

Time expressions in Portuguese are very different from those in English. To say how long something has NOT been happening, Brazilians use the following pattern: Faz TIME PERIOD que não ACTION. For example, *Faz 3 anos que não vamos pro Rio* “We haven’t gone to Rio for 3 years.” In this example we don’t know the time period, and so that is where quanto tempo substitutes for the time period. It is almost like saying, in essence, “It makes how long that we haven’t gone to Rio?”

14. OK, combinado

The word *combinado* literally means, “combined” but Brazilians use it to convey they idea that something has been arranged or coordinated. That is why we translated it as “OK, it’s done.”





## Travel 2: Hanging out at Breakfast 2

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=04>





Almost nobody loves his hometown more than Valdo loves Bahia. You can be sure that his invitation to take in the sights, hear the music, try some *moqueca*, and head out to *Chapada Diamantina* is real. Denise would love to go and it makes for a fun exchange in this *Conversa Brasileira*.

VALDO: Ei, Denise!  
Hey, Denise!

DESINE: Oi, cara, tudo bom? ❶  
Hi man, how are you doing?

VALDO: Tudo bom?  
How are you?

DESINE: Nossa, quanto tempo...  
Wow, it's been so long...

VALDO: Pois é, nunca mais te vi...  
That's true, I never see you anymore...

DESINE: Você tava sumido, ❷ onde é que você andava?  
You've been missing, where have you been?

VALDO: Eu tava viajando, rapaz, eu tava na Bahia...  
I was travelling, man, I was in Bahia...

DESINE: Ei, que delícia... ❸  
How wonderful!

VALDO: Eh... uh, uh...  
Eh... uh, uh...

DESINE: ... Bahia é um ba...  
... Bahia is a...

VALDO: ... cheguei, cheguei ontem à noite da Bahia...  
... I arrived last night from Bahia...

DESINE: Que que você tava fazendo lá? ❹  
What were you doing over there?

VALDO: Tava visitando um... você sabe que eu sou da Bahia, né?  
I was visiting a... you know that I'm from Bahia, don't you?

DESINE:	Ah, é verdade... Ah, that's true...
VALDO:	Então, eu tava visitando a minha família lá na Bahia... I was visiting my family in Bahia...
DESINE:	É, tá certo você já me falou... That's right, you told me...
VALDO:	Uh, uh... você não conhece a Bahia? Uh, uh... you've never been to Bahia?
DESINE:	Nunca fui... I've never been...
VALDO:	Puxa, ⑤ você tá perdendo... Wow, you are missing out...
DESINE:	Nunca tive o prazer... I've never had the pleasure...
VALDO:	Nossa, tá perdendo... ⑥ você nunca foi em Salvador? Wow, you are missing out... you've never been to Salvador?
DESINE:	Não... No...
VALDO:	Puxa, ⑤ você tem que vir pra Salvador... ⑦ Oh, you have to visit Salvador...
DESINE:	Já fui pro Nordeste, algumas cidades, mas nunca pra Bahia... I've been to the Northeast, a few cities, but never to Bahia...
VALDO:	Você tem que vim pra Salvador, pra conhecer, pra eu te mostrar lá o Farol da Barra, eh, o Farol de Itapuã... e você nunca viu, nunca foi num ensaio do Olodum, por exemplo? ⑧ You have to visit Salvador to get to know it, so I can show you <i>Farol da Barra</i> , eh, <i>Farol de Itapuã</i> ... and you have never seen, you have never gone to an <i>Olodum</i> rehearsal, for example?
DESINE:	Olodum... não! <i>Olodum</i> ... never!
VALDO:	Puh... você já conhece, já ouviu falar, não já ouviu falar? Puh... you have heard about it, you've heard, haven't you?
DESINE:	Conheço o Olodum, na verdade tenho uma camiseta do Olodum, que alguém trouxe pra mim, mas nunca fui... I know <i>Olodum</i> , actually I have a T-shirt from <i>Olodum</i> , that someone brought me, but I've never been...

VALDO: Ah, uh...  
Ah, uh...

DESINE: ... como é que é que rola? 9  
... how does the rehearsal work?

VALDO: Então, tem o que eles chamam de ensaio do Olodum, mas na verdade é um show que eles fazem, né? Então, você vai... eu não sei que... tipo... foi na terça ou na quarta, eu não lembro exatamente, eu acho que foi na terça-feira...  
Well, there's what they call an *Olodum* rehearsal, but actually it's a concert that they give. So, you go... I don't know what... like... it was on Tuesday or Wednesday, I don't exactly remember, I think it was on Tuesday...

DESINE: Uh...  
Uh...

VALDO: Daí, eu fui... você paga o ingresso, entra...  
From there I went... you pay the entrance, you go in...

DESINE: Uh, é caro?  
Uh, is it expensive?

VALDO: ... e curte! 10 Não, não é muito caro não.  
... and enjoy! No, it's not too expensive.

DESINE: Uh!  
Uh!

VALDO: Não é muito caro... E você quer ir?  
It's not very expensive... Do you want to go...

DESINE: Uai, uai...  
Uai, uai...

VALDO: ... na próxima... breve, breve?  
... next time... soon?

DESINE: Claro, como não? Quando é que você tá indo de novo?  
Sure, why not? When are you going again?

VALDO: Ah, eu não sei ainda... mas também tem outro lugar que eu queria lhe levar também...  
Ah, I don't know yet... but also, there's another place that I wanted to take you...

DESINE: Uh?  
Uh?



VALDO:	... que é a Chapada Diamantina. 11 Você já ouviu falar? ... it's <i>Chapada Diamantina</i> . Have you heard of it?
DESINE:	Já, já vi na TV, li a respeito, mas também nunca fui... Yeah, I saw it on TV, I read about it, but I have never been...
VALDO:	Uh, então... a Chapada é muito... com as cachoeiras, os rios... Uh, well... <i>Chapada</i> is very... with waterfalls, rivers...
DESINE:	Fica longe de Salvador? Quanto tempo? Is it far from Salvador? How many hours?
VALDO:	Fica uns quatrocentos quilômetros de Salvador. It's about 400 kilometers away from Salvador.
DESINE:	Uh, não é tão perto... Uh, it's not so close...
VALDO:	Não, não é muito perto, mas... No, it's not nearby, but...
DESINE:	E como é que é... vai de carro? And how is it that? Can you go by car?
VALDO:	Vai de carro, é. Vai de carro, mas... Yeah, by car. We can go by car, but....
DESINE:	Estrada legal... Good highway...
VALDO:	Eh, razoável... Eh, it's reasonable...
DESINE:	Estradas da Bahia... Highways of Bahia....
VALDO:	As estradas eu não sei, mas enfim... The highways I don't know, but...
DESINE:	... não são as estradas de São Paulo... ... are not the highways of São Paulo...
VALDO:	Primeiro a gente vai pra Salvador, né? First, we are going to Salvador, right?
DESINE:	Tá. OK.
VALDO:	E você toparia ir? 12 And would you like to go?
DESINE:	Ué... Well...

- VALDO: Eu vô tá conseguindo ir lá...  
I'm trying to go there...
- DESINE: ... qual é a melhor época pra ir?  
... what's the best time of the year to go?
- VALDO: ... tipo, verão, dezembro, janeiro...  
... like, in the summer, in December, in January...
- DESINE: Uh, não é muito calor, não?  
Uh, it's not very hot, is it?
- VALDO: Não, mas tem a cervejinha... tem a cervejinha... 13  
No, and there is beer... there is beer...
- DESINE: Tá certo...  
That's right...
- VALDO: ... tem as praias...  
... there are beaches...
- DESINE: Tá cer...  
That's right...
- VALDO: ... água de côco... 14  
... there is coconut water...
- DESINE: Tá certo...  
That's right...
- VALDO: ... as redes...  
... the hammocks...
- DESINE: A coisa da rede, do baiano, como é que é isso?  
About hammocks and people from Bahia, what is that about?
- VALDO: Ah, se bem que é meio folclórico isso aí, viu?  
So, you know that's just traditional folklore, you know?
- DESINE: Uh...  
Uh...
- VALDO: Eu sei bem, eu não fico muito em rede não, mas a cervejinha é sagrada, né?  
I know that well, I don't stay long in hammocks, but beer is important, is it not?
- DESINE: Ué, a gente podia...  
Well, we can...
- VALDO: E a moquequinha de camarão? 15  
And the shrimp *moqueca*?

DESINE:	Nossa! My goodness!
VALDO:	Você já comeu moqueca de camarão? 16 Have you tried this dish?
DESINE:	Adoro, adoro fruto do mar... já, mas não feita por baiano, né? ... só aqui em São Paulo... I love it, I love seafood... yeah, but not made by a Bahian, you know? ... only here in São Paulo...
VALDO:	Ah, então você não sabe o que é moqueca, pelo amor de Deus... Ah, so you don't know what <i>moqueca</i> is, for the love of God...
DESINE:	Pois é... You're right...
VALDO:	Você tem que saber o que é moqueca feita pelo baiano... You need to try what Bahian <i>moqueca</i> is...
DESINE:	Aquela coisa com muita pimenta, não? But that's really spicy, right?
VALDO:	Não, não, não... a pimenta vai do lado ali, você bota pimenta se quiser... No, no, no... the spicy part comes on the side, you can add it if you want...
DESINE:	Você põe se quiser... You add it if you want...
VALDO:	Exatamente. Exactly.
DESINE:	Tá bom. Ué, vamos, vamos pensar, né? OK. Well, let's, let's think about it, huh?
VALDO:	Vamos sim... Let's do it...
DESINE:	Dezembro você tá indo? In December you're going?
VALDO:	Dezembro tô, com certeza. In December I'm going, for sure.
DESINE:	Você vai que dia? What day are you going?
VALDO:	Eu vou no dia 15, mais ou menos, de dezembro. Viu, então a gente combina... I'm going on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of December, more or less. So, let's arrange it...

DESINE: Ué...  
OK...

VALDO: Vamos combinar?  
Let's schedule it?

DESINE: Jóia.  
Cool.

VALDO: Mande pra mim um e-mail...  
E-mail me...

DESINE: Jóia, legal.  
OK, cool.

VALDO: ... ou então me liga que a gente combina, viu?  
... or give me a call for us to arrange it, OK?

DESINE: Muito jóia, legal te ver...  
Very nice, it is good to see you...

VALDO: Eu tenho que ir agora...  
I have to go now...

DESINE: Tá legal.  
OK.

VALDO: Prazer em te ver.  
It was great to see you.

DESINE: Até.  
Later.

VALDO: Tchau.  
Bye.

DESINE: Tchau, tchau.  
Bye, bye.

VALDO: Tchau.  
Bye.



### 1. Oi, cara, tudo bom?

The word *cara*, when feminine, *a cara* means “face.” For example, *A cara dela é muito linda* (Her face is really pretty). The masculine form, *o cara*, means “guy.” Brazilians often use *cara* when calling out to somebody. It’s similar to saying, “Hey dude.” Although you can hear people use *o cara* when talking to a woman, generally it is limited to speaking to a man.

### 2. Você tava sumido

The phrase *estava sumido* sounds strange if you are thinking of the direct translation \*“You were disappeared.” However, in this sentence the past participle of *sumir* is functioning as an adjective. It is as if one were saying “you are a person who has disappeared a lot lately.” This is similar to what happens with the verb *cansar*, in the phrase, *Ele está cansado* (He is tired).

### 3. Que delícia

The context for this phrase is that Valdo has been talking about his trip to Bahia. Denise’s response to this was, *que delícia*. Literally *delícia* means “delicious.” When English speakers use “how delicious” they are almost always referring to food. In Portuguese however, *delícia* has a much wider range and includes the equivalent to “how nice” and “how wonderful.” Notice also that *delícia* is a noun, where as “delicious” in English is an adjective. It is for this reason that Portuguese speakers also say things like *uma delícia de viagem*.

4. Que que você tava fazendo lá?

Brazilians often double up their interrogative que. They could simply say *O que você está fazendo?* Or they could add é que between the phrases, *O que é que você está fazendo?* Sometimes the result is a string of que, leaving you with *Que que você está fazendo?*

5. Puxa, você tá perdendo / Puxa, você tem que ir pra Salvador

Literally the word *puxa* means “to pull.” (We won’t even get into the problem of pull versus push!) Of course *puxa vida* makes no sense as “pull life” and more closely carries a meaning similar to “jeez.” Similarly *puxa* can be used to avoid saying an expletive.

6. Nossa, tá perdendo...

Given Brazil’s strong Catholic history and background, it is not surprising to hear exclamations that have religious roots. *Nossa*, and *Nossa Senhora* make reference to the patron Saint of Brazil, namely *Nossa Senhora Aparecida*. Other similar exclamations that have religious roots include, *credo*, *cruzes*, *ai meu Deus*, *pelo amor de Deus*, *Ave Maria*, *vixe Maria*, etc. In everyday speech, *nossa* takes on the meaning of “wow.”

7. Você tem que vim pra Salvador

Technically the phrase *tem que vim*, although commonly heard in casual speech, is considered bad grammar. Perhaps it is on the same level as the English phrase “I don’t got none.” The correct form would be *tem que vir*, using the infinitive.

8. *Farol da Barra, Farol de Itapuã, Olodum*

In mentioning different places that Valdo could take Denise to, these three are among the most famous tourist locations in Salvador. *Farol de Barra* includes the beachfront in the *Barra* neighborhood and includes the lighthouse that is on the edge of the bay. *Itapuã* includes the lighthouse and beach that were made famous in the beautiful song by Vinicius de Moraes. It's a little farther inland than *Farol da Barra*. Finally, *Olodum* is a cultural group for youth from Salvador that performs its percussion and samba reggae styles during *carnaval*. Tourists can listen to their *bloco afro* practices when visiting Salvador.

9. Como é que é que *rola*

Literally the verb *rolar* means “to roll.” However, in everyday usage *rolar* takes on the meaning of “to happen.” *Rolar* is used in casual, informal speech, especially among younger generations.

10. Paga o ingresso, entra e *curte*

Generations ago the verb *curtir* used to carry the meaning “to tan leather.” Nowadays, however, it is used to simply mean “to enjoy.” Here Valdo is expressing the idea that one pays the entrance fee and then goes in to enjoy the performance.

11. *Chapada Diamantina*

*Chapada Diamantina* is a National Park in the interior of the state of Bahia, some 250 miles from Salvador. The word *chapada* refers to the plateaus and cliffs that are abundant in the area, creating majestic scenery with mountains, valleys, and waterfalls. The word *diamantina* refers back to the early history of the area when it was mined for gold and diamonds. Since we are in Texas, it reminds us of the Big Bend region, but non-Texans may not relate to that comparison.

12. Você toparia ir?

The verb *topar* carries a dictionary meaning of “to bump.” However, in every day usage it is more common to be used to show that you agree with something. So, although one can *topar o pé* (bang your foot) against the door, speakers are more likely to use *topar* to answer questions like, *Vamos comer na casa da Sandra? – Eu topo* (Let’s eat at Sandra’s house, OK? I agree).

13. Tem a cervejinha

Usually diminutive endings mean much more than just a smaller version of something. The word *cervejinha* is a good example of this because it implies much more than just a small glass of beer. When a Brazilian invites someone to *tomar cervejinha*, it also implies the whole scene of going out with friends, sitting down at a table, and hanging out for a while. In fact, given the nearly liter-sized containers that are common in Brazil, the *cervejinha* is anything but little sized.

14. Água de coco

Coconut Water is a big part of any day on the beach almost anywhere in Brazil. Asking for *água de coco* means that the seller chops off the top part of the green coconut, puts a little straw in the top, and gets you a light, clear liquid that is purported to be extremely healthy. *Água de coco* is not to be confused with *leite de coco* (coconut milk), which comes from the mature white meat of the coconut and is used in a lot of recipes in foods from the Northeast of Brazil.

15. Moqueca de camarão

A shrimp *moqueca* is a stew-like mixture commonly found in Bahia. It is served extremely hot in a clay pot and usually includes ingredients like *azeite de dendê* (palm oil) and *leite de coco* (coconut milk). There is another version of *moqueca* called *moqueca capixaba* (meaning that it comes from the state of Espírito Santo), which is similar, but usually does not have palm oil.



## 16. Informality of invitations

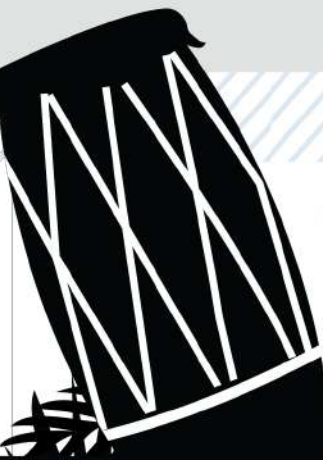
In this dialog we see that Valdo has extended a gracious invitation to take Denise all around Salvador and to introduce her to all the great culinary delights and tourist locations of Bahia. These invitations are given with honest intentions, but they are also extended simply as a suggestion for further planning some day down the road. The caution is that many times North Americans interpret Brazilian invitations too literally. Notice that Valdo invites Denise to send him an email so that they can put something together. When Brazilians extend invitation, if they are really sincere, there will be plenty of follow up to confirm that to you.





## Hobbies I : Anne's almost 4 months old

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=05>





It's a good thing that Michelle has such a great attitude, because taking care of a new baby can be a lot of work. But for Michelle, 'Anne is my new hobby.' Simone, typical of almost any woman who has had a child, starts asking about what Anne is up to. The result is a truly delightful *Conversa Brasileira*.

SIMONE: Oi, Michelle. Tudo bem?  
Hi, Michelle. How's it going?

MICHELLE: Oi, tudo bem, Simone?  
Hi, Simone. How are you doing?

SIMONE: Tudo jóia.  
I'm fine.

MICHELLE: Tudo jóia.  
I'm fine.

SIMONE: E aí, como você está?  
How have you been?

MICHELLE: Tudo bem.  
Pretty well.

SIMONE: O que tá fazendo?  
What have you been doing?

MICHELLE: Ah, agora só cuidando dela, né? ❶  
I'm just taking care of her.

SIMONE: É mesmo?  
Really?

MICHELLE: É o meu novo hobby, ❷ meu mais recente hobby: cuidar de bebê!  
That's my new hobby, my most recent hobby: taking care of the baby!

SIMONE: Oi Anne. Tudo bem, Anne? E como que é, ela dá muito trabalho? ❸  
Hi, Anne. How are you? How is she? Is she a lot of work for you?

MICHELLE: Olha, tranquila...  
Look, she's easy...

SIMONE: É?  
Really?

MICHELLE: Super tranquila, dorme bem...  
Very easy, she sleeps well...

SIMONE: É mesmo?  
Is it true?

MICHELLE: É... chora a hora que tá suja<sup>4</sup> ou querendo mamar ou alguma coisa assim, né? Mas, mas tranquila assim...  
Yes. She cries when she needs changing or when she wants to be breastfed, but she's an easy baby...

SIMONE: Com quantos aninhos ela tá?  
How many years old is she?

MICHELLE: Não, tá com três meses e meio.  
No, she is only three and a half months.

SIMONE: Ah, três meses...  
Oh, three months...

MICHELLE: Isso...  
Yeah...

SIMONE: Vixe, mas você tá muito feliz! <sup>5</sup>  
Wow, you're so happy!

MICHELLE: Três meses e meio!  
Three and a half months!

SIMONE: E ela já tomou as vacinas<sup>6</sup>?  
Has she already gotten her shots?

MICHELLE: Já.  
Already.

SIMONE: Você vai sempre ao pediatra?  
Do you always go to a pediatrician?

MICHELLE: Com dois meses tomou as vacinas... agora com quatro meses novamente...  
At two months she got her shots, at four months she'll do it again...

SIMONE: Ah, tá...  
Oh, I see...

MICHELLE: Uh, uh...  
Uh, uh...

- SIMONE:** E à noite ela dorme direitinho ou ela acorda? ⑦  
And at night, does she sleep through or does she wake up?
- MICHELLE:** Então... no início acordava mais à noite, né? E agora ela tá acordando só uma vez pra mamar... então tá bem boazinha... ⑧  
Well, at the beginning she used to wake up more during the night, but now she only wakes up one time to breastfeed... so, she's very easy...
- SIMONE:** Ah, então ela é muito boazinha mesmo!  
Wow, so she's pretty easy!
- MICHELLE:** Então, não tá dando muito trabalho não...  
She's not giving me too much work...
- SIMONE:** É...  
I see...
- MICHELLE:** É verdade... e agora tá na fase de brincar e mexer com as mãozinhas...  
It's true... and now she is in the stage of playing with her hands...
- SIMONE:** Eu acho que ela acabou de mamar, porque ela tá regurgitando um pouquinho... ⑨  
I think she has just finished breastfeeding, because she's spitting up a little bit...
- MICHELLE:** Ai!  
Oh!
- MICHELLE:** Eh... ainda não fez o... ela não arrotou ainda...  
Eh... she hasn't, she hasn't burped yet...
- SIMONE:** Ainda, né?  
Not yet?
- MICHELLE:** Mas é isso...  
So, that's it...
- SIMONE:** Mas ela não tá dando... ela é muito boazinha, ela não dá muito trabalho...  
But she's not giving... she's pretty easy, she's not giving you too much work...
- MICHELLE:** Upa!  
Upa!
- SIMONE:** Vixe, mãe, mas eu tô muito feliz! ⑩ Ah, então tá bom, Michelle.  
Hey, mommy, I'm so happy! So, that's it, Michelle.
- MICHELLE:** Então tá.  
That's it.
- SIMONE:** Então até mais.  
See you later.

MICHELLE: Até mais.  
See you.

SIMONE: Tchau.  
Bye.

MICHELLE: Tchau, tchau.  
Bye-bye.



## Usage Notes

### 1. Agora só *cuidando* dela, né?

Brazilians use ‘ing’ endings on verbs frequently. Here Michelle is stating that she has spent her time just taking care of her daughter. Note that frequently the verb *estar* drops out and Brazilians use the “ing” ending without the helping verb.

### 2. É o meu novo *hobby*

Although the word *passatempo* could be a Portuguese translation of “hobby,” most Brazilians would be more likely to use the English word “hobby.” As such, they even pronounce the “h” as one would do in English, sounding almost like the Brazilian “r”.

### 3. Ela *dá* muito *trabalho*?

Literally Brazilians use the verb *dar* “give” in the phrase ‘*Ela dá muito trabalho*’. “Does she give a lot of work?” means “Does she cause a lot of work?” or simply “Is she a lot of work?”



4. Chora a hora que tá suja ou querendo mamar

The phrase *a hora* means “at the time when” so Michelle is stating that Anne cries at the time when she has a dirty diaper. Speakers may also say *na hora* to emphasize the “at the time” part.

5. Vixe, mas você tá muito feliz.

*Vixe* is a reduced form of “*Virgem Maria*” which speakers usually pronounce as “*Vixe*” or “*Vixe Maria*.” *Vixe* is particularly common among speakers from the Northeast of Brazil and Simone, in fact, is from Recife.

6. E ela já tomou as vacinas.

Because the verb *tomar* means “to take,” native Speakers of English might find it strange to “*tomar uma vacina*” as if they were taking a vaccination. In Portuguese, however, there is no problem in *tomar remédios* orally or *tomar uma vacina* as in a shot.

7. E à noite ela dorme direitinho ou ela acorda?

The diminutive ending *-inho* takes on the nuance of saying that Anne sleeps just right. There is an endearing quality because she is talking about the little baby.

8. *Direitinho, boazinha, mãozinhas, um pouquinho*

Brazilians have an incredible use of diminutive endings, but they don't always have the same nuance in meaning. For example, *direitinho* emphasizes how well Anne sleeps, but *mãozinhas* specifically refers to the small size of Anne's hands. *Um pouquinho* means "a little bit."

9. Ela tá *regurgitando*

Words from one language to another have what is called a "semantic range." Here is a good example. In English we understand the word "regurgitate," but would never use that verb to describe when a baby is spitting up. The semantic range in Portuguese, however, permits its use in talking about babies too. Note that Brazilians also use the verb *golfar* to talk about spitting up.

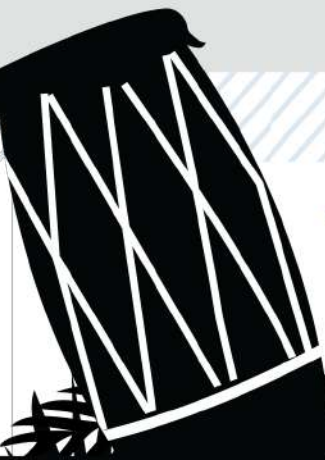
10. *Vixe mãe, mas eu tô muito feliz!*

Notice that Simone is talking or quoting Anne. A typical way to do baby talk is to talk as if you were the child. She is in essence imitating Anne's voice.



## Hobbies 2: Collecting Brazilian Musical Instruments

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=06>





Now there's an interesting hobby. Denise has been collecting musical instruments. And why not? Brazil has really cool instruments like her *cavaquinho*, her *ganzá*, and her *pandeiro*. So when Michelle was traveling recently, and knowing about Denise's collection, she was nice enough to buy Denise a *triângulo* to add to her collection. As they talk about it we see a nice example of a *Conversa Brasileira*.

MICHELLE: Olá, tudo bem?  
Hi, how are you?

DENISE: Oi, tudo bom.  
Hi, I'm fine.

MICHELLE: Tudo joia. E você?  
I'm great. How about you?

DENISE: Tô joia. Tô aqui, ó, com a minha coleção. ❶  
I'm great. I'm here, you see, with my collection.

MICHELLE: Ah, então tá bom. Eh, eu tô vendo a sua coleção, ❷ mas eu trouxe um novo objeto pra sua coleção.  
Oh, that's nice! I see your collection, but I brought a new item for your collection.

DENISE: Ah, que legal!  
How cool!

MICHELLE: Eu tive viajando no Nordeste e lembrei... me lembrei de você e comprei um triângulo.  
I was travelling in the Northeast and I thought... I thought of you, so I bought a triangle.

DENISE: Uau!  
Wow!

MICHELLE: Acho que você não tem ainda, né? ❸  
I believe you don't have one yet, right?

DENISE: Muito bom. Não, não tenho.  
Very nice. No, I don't have one.

MICHELLE: Ah, então tá bom...  
Well, that's good...

**DENISE:** Eu já te mostro tudo o que eu tenho, mas esse aqui eu não tinha... Que legal! Onde que você comprou?  
I'll show you everything that I have, but this item here I don't have one yet... How cool! Where did you buy it?

**MICHELLE:** Então,<sup>1</sup> eu comprei numa loja de instrumentos musicais lá no Nordeste.  
Well, I bought it in a store for musical instruments in the Northeast.

**DENISE:** Uh?  
Uh?

**MICHELLE:** Ah, você gostou?  
Did you like it?

**DENISE:** Ah, muito!  
Oh, yes!

**MICHELLE:** Ah, então tá bom...  
That's good...

**DENISE:** Obrigada, obrigada. Agora já tá...  
Thank you, thank you. Now it is...

**MICHELLE:** Mas, mas me mostra...  
But please show me...

**DENISE:** Minha coleção tá começando a tomar forma...  
My collection is starting to take shape...

**MICHELLE:** Isso, me mostra agora o seu...  
Yeah, show me your...

**DENISE:** Então, <sup>11</sup> ainda não tenho muita coisa, mas tenho aqui o cavaquinho... <sup>4</sup>  
Well, I still don't have many items, but I have here a *cavaquinho*...

**MICHELLE:** Hum...  
Hum...

**DENISE:** ... que de todos é o meu preferido, né? <sup>5</sup>  
... out of all of them is my favorite, you know?

**MICHELLE:** Ah, tá...  
Oh, I see...

**DENISE:** Acho que ele tem, assim, as formas bonitas... Acho que... Olha, é bem, bem legal, né?  
I think it has, you know, a beautiful shape... I think that... Look, it's very, very cool, huh?

**MICHELLE:** Super bonito.  
Very beautiful.

DENISE: A madeira... os detalhes todos da madeira... acho... adoro. Esse é o meu predileto!<sup>5</sup> Então, aí o ganzá...  
The wood... all the details in wood... I think... I love it. This is my favorite one! Then, there's a ganzá...

MICHELLE: Olha, e como é que toca isso? <sup>6</sup>  
Wow! How do you play it?

DENISE: Percussão...  
Percussion...

MICHELLE: Ah...  
Ah...

DENISE: Então,<sup>11</sup> aí é uma questão, né? <sup>7</sup> Assim... eu ainda não sei tocar, eu só coleciono...  
Well, that's a problem... I don't know how to play it, I'm only a collector...

MICHELLE: Ah, tá...  
Oh, I see...

DENISE: Mas eu vou aprender. Eu tô, tô no caminho... Eu já tenho... tenho já é...  
But I'll learn how. I'm, I'm on my way to learning... I already have... I already have...

MICHELLE: OK. Então o seu hobby é só colecionar por enquanto...  
OK. So, your hobby will be collecting for a while...

DENISE: Pois é...  
That's right...

MICHELLE: ... depois você vai aprender um por um.  
... then you'll learn them one by one.

DENISE: É.  
Yes.

MICHELLE: OK.  
OK.

DENISE: É, esse é um plano futuro, assim, de aprender.  
That's a future plan, to learn.

MICHELLE: OK, certo.  
OK, all right.

DENISE: Bom, aí temos o apito. <sup>8</sup>  
Well, then we have the whistle.

MICHELLE: Certo.  
OK.

DENISE: O tamborim...  
The *tamborim*...

MICHELLE: Eu gosto desse som.  
I like that sound.

DENISE: Uh, uh... carnaval, samba...  
Uh, uh... *Carnaval*, samba...

MICHELLE: Isso.  
That's right.

DENISE: E o nosso...  
And our...

MICHELLE: Pandeiro.  
*Pandeiro*.

DENISE: Pandeirinho, né?  
*Pandeirinho*, right?

MICHELLE: Que legal!  
How cool!

DENISE: Pele de cabra... também... Então é isso, não tem... e agora o triângulo, né?  
Goatskin... also... So that's it, there's no... and now the triangle, right?

MICHELLE: E agora o triângulo.  
And now the triangle.

DENISE: O triângulo...  
The triangle...

MICHELLE: Claro! Mas você já tem várias coisas... é muito bom!  
Sure! You have a lot of things... it's very good!

DENISE: Uh, uh!  
Uh, uh!

MICHELLE: Eu falei pra você que minha mãe toca, né?  
I told you that my mother plays, right?

DENISE: É mesmo? ⑨  
Really?

MICHELLE: É.  
Yes.

DENISE: Eu lembro que você falou, mas eu não lembro...  
I remember that you told me, but I don't remember...

MICHELLE: É.  
Yes.

DENISE: O que que ela toca mesmo? ⑨  
What is it that she plays?

MICHELLE: É verdade... minha mãe toca violão, toca piano, toca teclado...  
That's true... my mother plays the guitar, the piano, the keyboard...

DENISE: E você toca o quê?  
And what do you play?

MICHELLE: Ela não é colecionadora como você...  
She is not a collector like you...

DENISE: Eh...  
Eh...

MICHELLE: Não, eu não toco nada...  
No, I don't play anything...

DENISE: Mas como não toca nada? Sua mãe toca esse monte de coisa, você tinha que tocar também...  
How do you not play anything? Your mother plays all those things, you have to play something too...

MICHELLE: Eu não toco nada. Infelizmente, eu não sei nem pegar no cavaquinho ou no violão. ⑩ Mas, enfim, várias pessoas na minha família gostam de música e...  
I don't play anything. Unfortunately, I don't even know how to hold a *cavaquinho* or a guitar. But, anyway, several people in my family like music, and...

DENISE: Uh, uh.  
Uh, uh.

MICHELLE: ... é muito legal. Eu acho muito legal, mas não tenho esse dom.  
... it's so cool. I think it's very cool, but I don't have this talent.





### 1. Tô aqui, ó, com a minha coleção

Brazilians often end a phrase with the word *ó*. It's hard to describe the English equivalent, but is it something like "hey, are you listening?" but in kind of a soft, non aggressive sort of way. It comes from the verb *olhar*, meaning to look.

### 2. a) Tô aqui, ó, com a minha coleção

#### b) ... eu tô vendo a sua coleção

The challenge for non-native speaker is when to say *com minha coleção* (with my collection), *tô vendo sua coleção* (I see your collection) and when to say *com a minha coleção* (with the my collection), *tô vendo a sua coleção* (I see the your collection). Brazilians often add the definite article "the" before nouns. Notice that in English we could directly translate these phrases without the extra "the": with my collection, I see your collection. By adding the extra "the" it is almost like saying "with that collection of mine" or "I see that collection of yours," which adds a focus. Part of this is a regional difference where in the Northeast of Brazil there is a greater tendency to drop the definite article (*de minha mãe* instead of *da minha mãe*).

3. Acho que você não tem ainda, né?

When learning how to use the subjunctive in Portuguese, keep in mind that even though the verb *achar* means ‘to think’, it doesn’t trigger the subjunctive. So even though this sentence is negative (doesn’t have), the verb is still in the indicative, i.e., *não tem*. However, when Brazilians use the verb *achar* in the negative, then the subjunctive is required. For example, a Brazilian would most likely say, *Eu não acho que você tenha o dinheiro*. (I don’t believe that you have the money.) Just accept it. *Achar* doesn’t take subjunctive. *Não achar* does.

4. tenho aqui o cavaquinho

The *cavaquinho* is a small stringed instrument, similar in many ways to the Hawaiian ukulele, which also has 4 strings. The *cavaquinho* is especially popular in certain types of samba and choro styles of music.

5. a) de todos é o meu preferido, né?  
b) Esse é o meu predileto

Since the English word “favorite” sounds more like the Portuguese *favorito*, non native speakers tend to use *favorito* more than *preferido* and *predileto*. Brazilians, on the other hand, when talking about favorite things, seem to use the words *preferido* and *predileto* more often.

6. Olha, e como é que toca isso?

This is a beautiful example of Brazilian wording and phrases. A direct English phrase would be “How do you play this?” which in Portuguese would be something boring and stilted like “*Como você toca isso?*” Notice, however, a more Brazilian flow to a phrase like *Olha, e como é que toca isso?* It’s almost like saying, “and tell me again how it is that you play this”.

7. Então, aí é uma questão, né?

It takes a long time for native speakers of English to accept that fact that *questão* doesn't mean "question" as much as it means "problem." In this sentence Denise is stating that she has a problem, i.e., she collects instruments, but doesn't know how to play them. At the same time, *questão* can also take on the meaning of theme or topic, as in the phrase, *Eles querem discutir essa questão na próxima aula*.

8. Bom, aí temos o apito

The word aí can take on a meaning of location ("here" versus "there" – *aqui* X *aí*). But aí is also used to show sequence. Something comes first, aí something else follows. This second usage is what Denise is saying in this sentence. First we have the *ganzá* and then *aí*, we have the *apito* (whistle).

9. a) É mesmo?  
b) O que que ela toca mesmo?

The dictionary meaning for *mesmo* is "same" or "really." In actual usage however, the range is much broader. In the phrase *é mesmo?* Denise is saying, in essence, "is that really so? I'm surprised to hear that. Could it possibly be so?" The second example is even more subtle. "*O que que ela toca mesmo?*" is almost like saying "so what is it that you say that she plays again?" It supposes that this is information that you had already received and you are asking to have it repeated.

10. Infelizmente eu não sei nem pegar no cavaquinho

Negative phrases can be especially challenging when learning Portuguese. In this example Michelle uses the word *nem* to convey the meaning of "not even at all." She is saying, basically, "I don't even know how one even holds on to a *cavaquinho* at all." So in addition to the double negative, this phrase is even strong because of the implications of "not even at all" that it carries with it.

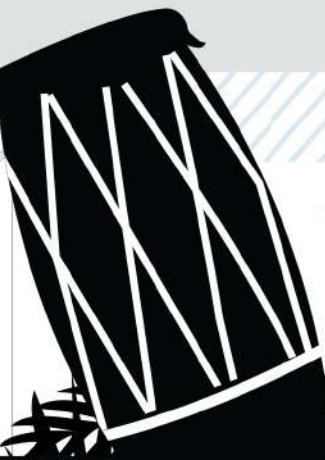
11. então

The word então is often used at the beginning of a sentence, but the meaning can have subtle differences. Sometimes it can be used to link something that was said previously with a new idea. For example, *Ela me deu o dinheiro, então eu fui comprar o carro*. “She gave me the money and then I bought the car.” Other times então is related to a summation or conclusion, similar to the English word “so” as in, *Ele tem muitos amigos, então é fácil passar tempo com eles*. “He has a lot of friends, so it’s easy to spend time with them.” Então is also often used at the beginning of a turn as a response marker to what has gone before, something like “well.” Notice that in this dialog Denise uses então several times as a response marker.



## Relationships I: It's the same thing all over again

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=07>





Michelle's cousin, poor thing, just can't hold on to her boyfriends. And the "shoulder to cry on" ends up being Michelle's. It's wears you out, so now Michelle needs to cry on Valdo's shoulder for a bit too. Of course we are sad that Michelle's cousin is having such a hard time with her boyfriend, but we do like how it ends up being a great *Conversa Brasileira*.

- VALDO: Ô Michelle, me conta alguma novidade ❶... tempão que a gente não conversa, né?  
Hey Michelle, tell me what's new... it has been a long time since we last spoke...
- MICHELLE: É verdade!  
That's true!
- VALDO: Puxa vida...  
Oh my...
- MICHELLE: Não, mas você não sabe o que me aconteceu de novo... ❶  
You haven't heard what's happened to me again...
- VALDO: O que...  
What...
- MICHELLE: ... essa semana.  
... this week.
- VALDO: O que foi? Me conta! ❶  
What? Tell me!
- MICHELLE: Não, você não adivinha de quem ❷...  
You will never guess from whom...
- VALDO: Uma carta...  
A letter...
- MICHELLE: ... eu recebi uma carta... outra carta...  
... I received a letter... another letter...
- VALDO: Ah, outra... é verdade, eh, puxa...  
Oh, another one... that's true, yeah...

MICHELLE:	Adivinha de quem? Guess from whom?
VALDO:	Sua prima? Escreveu novamente? ③ Your cousin? She wrote again?
MICHELLE:	De novo! Again!
VALDO:	Ela mandou duas cartas a semana passada... She sent two letters last week...
MICHELLE:	Pois é... Yeah...
VALDO:	Você falou que ela tinha ligado duas vezes pra você. ④ You said she has called twice for you.
MICHELLE:	Não, é inacreditável... e, pra variar, você sabe... ⑤ It's unbelievable... and you always know...
VALDO:	E qual é, e qual é a história dessa vez? ⑥ And what is, what is the story this time?
MICHELLE:	... o problema, né? ... the problem, right?
VALDO:	Uh! É a mesma, é a mesma história? Uh! It's the same, it's the same story?
MICHELLE:	O problema com os namorados, isso, que ela não, não consegue, né, eh, manter um namorado por muito tempo... The problem with boyfriends, is just that, she can't keep a boyfriend for a long time...
VALDO:	Coitada! Coitada... Mas o que... Poor thing! Poor thing... But what is...
MICHELLE:	Mas, de novo, Valdo... But, again, Valdo...
VALDO:	... o que tem de errado nela? ⑦ ... what's the matter with her?
MICHELLE:	Não, você lembra que eu te contei a semana passada que ela estava namorando uma pessoa... You remember that I told you last week that she was dating someone...
VALDO:	Certo. Right.

MICHELLE: ... e parece que ela pegou esse cara com uma outra mulher.  
... and it seems that she has caught this guy with another woman.

VALDO: Ah!  
Oh!

MICHELLE: Ai, foi um bafafá... ⑧  
It was a hassle...

VALDO: É a mesma história da outra vez, há um mês atrás...  
It's the same story again, one month ago...

MICHELLE: Pois é...  
Well...

VALDO: ... que ela te mandou uma...  
... when she sent you a ...

MICHELLE: ... ela não tem sorte realmente.  
... really, she's not lucky.

VALDO: Coitada, vixe, nossa... ⑨  
Poor thing, oh my...

MICHELLE: Ela tava super, assim, empolgada, ⑩ já tava namorando há uns meses, mas não deu certo. ⑪  
She was super, you know, enthusiastic, she had been dating for a few months, but it didn't turn out well.

VALDO: Uh, uh.  
Uh, uh.

MICHELLE: Não deu certo e ela teve que largar; lógico, né?  
It didn't turn out well, and she had to leave him, of course.

VALDO: E o que você acha que é o problema, porque sempre a mesma coisa, ela fica lhe alugando.<sup>12</sup>  
And what do you think is the problem, because it's always the same thing, she is always nagging.

MICHELLE: Eu não sei... não...  
I don't know...

VALDO: Puxa!  
Oh my!

MICHELLE: ... e me aluga direto com esses problemas... ⑫  
... she nags me all the time with these problems...

VALDO: Olha pra isso...  
Listen to that...



MICHELLE:	Eu sou prima, sabe como é, né? I'm her cousin; you know how it is...
VALDO:	Mas tem... But she has...
MICHELLE:	... tenho que dar um suporte moral. 11 ... I have to give a moral support.
VALDO:	... mas tem que procurar um psicólogo ou alguma coisa assim... como é que você aguenta, rapaz, um negócio desse... ... but she has to find a psychologist or something like that... how do you deal with that, man?
MICHELLE:	E agora ela tá começando a ficar preocupada. And now she is starting to worry...
VALDO:	É? Really?
MICHELLE:	Porque já vai fazer trinta anos, ela quer casar... Because she is going to turn 30 years old, she wants to get married...
VALDO:	Ah... Ah...
MICHELLE:	... e não consegue arrumar um namorado por muito tempo. 13 ... but she hasn't been able to keep a boyfriend...
VALDO:	Mas ela tá sozinha essa semana? Is she single now?
MICHELLE:	Não. No.
VALDO:	O que aconteceu? What happened?
MICHELLE:	Então, ela me mandou essa carta falando que ela escreveu... She sent me this letter saying, I mean...
VALDO:	Uh... Uh...
MICHELLE:	... ela escrevendo que ela arrumou outro namorado. ... writing that she found another boyfriend.
VALDO:	Xi... e o namorado: mais velho ou mais novo? Oh my... and the boyfriend: is he older or younger than her?
MICHELLE:	Não, essa vez é mais novo do que ela. This time he is younger than her.

- VALDO: Ah!  
Ah!
- MICHELLE: Porque ela sempre arruma bem mais velho, né?  
Because she always has older boyfriends...
- VALDO: Uh, uh...  
Uh, uh...
- MICHELLE: Essa vez é um pouco mais novo, mas...  
This time he is a little younger, but...
- VALDO: Pouco mais... Você acha que vai...  
A little more... Do you think it will...
- MICHELLE: ... pouca, pouca diferença...  
... only slightly...
- VALDO: Ah, certo... Você acha que vai...  
Right... Do you think it will...
- MICHELLE: Ah, quem sabe?  
Who knows?
- VALDO: Você acha que vai funcionar, assim...  
Do you think it will work, I mean...
- MICHELLE: Não sei... ela tá sempre muito empolgada...  
I don't know... she's always very enthusiastic...
- VALDO: O que que você diz...  
What do you say...
- MICHELLE: ... no início dos relacionamentos, né?  
... at the beginning of the relationships, you know?
- VALDO: O que que você diz pra ela, assim, o que que você diz pra ela quando ela liga pra você, assim...  
What do you say to her, I mean, what do you say to her when she calls you...
- MICHELLE: Não, eu sempre, né, assim, ajudo, tento dar uns conselhos, né?  
I always, you know, help her, I try to give her some advice...
- VALDO: Mas você fala...  
But you say...
- MICHELLE: ... apóio, no sentido de: “Olha...  
... I support, like: “Listen”...
- VALDO: Mas você fala pra ela: “Não me ligue mais, nunca mais!”  
You tell her: “Don't call me anymore, ever again!”

MICHELLE:	Não, não... Não falo isso. Eu deixo ela à vontade. No, no... I don't say that. I let her feel comfortable.
VALDO:	Certo. Right.
MICHELLE:	Lógico, se ela precisar, ela pode ligar, pode chorar, pode contar as novidades... Of course, if she needs to, she can cry, she can give me updates...
VALDO:	Mas isso toda semana... But the same thing every week...
MICHELLE:	Mas ela tá muito empolgada... She is very enthusiastic...
VALDO:	Toda semana, poxa... Every week, no way...
MICHELLE:	... dessa vez ela tá muito empolgada de novo. ... this time she's very enthusiastic again.
VALDO:	Se eu tivesse uma prima assim... Eu trocava meu telefone... If I had a cousin like that... I would change my telephone number...
MICHELLE:	Pois é, ou ela liga ou ela manda carta, escrevendo, né? Well, or she calls or she writes...
VALDO:	Eh, então, olha, e aí, pois é, e agora ela tá com o novo namorado, que é mais novo... Yeah, and now she is with a new boyfriend, who is younger...
MICHELLE:	É... Não, ela tá... Yes... She is...
VALDO:	Você acha que vai dar... Você conhecia esse novo namorado ou não? Do you think it is going to... Do you know this new boyfriend or not?
MICHELLE:	Não, ainda não conheci, mas ela falou bem dele, falou que parece ser uma pessoa séria... No, I still haven't met him, but she speaks well of him, she told me that he seems like a serious person...
VALDO:	Mas ela falou bem de todos, pelo que você me contou... E uma semana depois o negócio muda tudo, coitada dela! But she spoke well of all of her boyfriends from what you told me... And a week later everything changes, poor thing!
MICHELLE:	Mas é que ela sempre se empolga no início, né? It's because she's always enthusiastic at the beginning...

VALDO: Eu sei como é...  
I know how it is...

MICHELLE: Quem sabe?  
Who knows?

VALDO: Eh...  
Eh...

MICHELLE: Vamos ver se vai dar casamento...  
Let's see if there will be a wedding...

VALDO: Vamos torcer, né, pra que...  
Let's hope that everything...

MICHELLE: Vamos torcer, vamos torcer...  
Let's hope, let's hope...

VALDO: ... que dê certo, né?  
will turn out well.

MICHELLE: ... pra que dê tudo certo.  
... that everything will turn out well.

VALDO: ... pra que sua prima fique feliz, seja feliz...  
Let's hope that your cousin will be happy...

MICHELLE: Exatamente.  
Right.

VALDO: ... e viva feliz para sempre!  
and live happily ever after!

MICHELLE: Tomara!  
I hope so!

VALDO: Tá jóia.  
That's good.

MICHELLE: Então tá bom.  
That's it.

VALDO: Tá bom.  
OK.

MICHELLE: Tá bom.  
OK.



## Usage Notes

1. Ô Michelle, me conta alguma novidade...  
 (...) Não, mas você não sabe o que me aconteceu de novo...

These are examples of Portuguese pronoun placement. The English phrases would be “Tell me what’s new” and “You haven’t heard what’s happened to me again,” with the pronoun after the verb. Notice, however, that Brazilians prefer to place the pronoun before the verb. If placed after the verb, the phrases will be: *Conta pra mim* and ... *o que aconteceu comigo*.

3. Sua prima? Escreveu novamente?

Although Valdo uses *novamente* (again), another option here could be *de novo* (again), another expression that is often used by Brazilians. *Novamente* is slightly more formal than *de novo*.

4. Você *falou* que ela tinha ligado duas vezes pra você...

In order to talk about a past action that took place before another past action, Brazilians often use Past Perfect: tinha ligado. Think of the Past Perfect as “the past of the past.” That is, *falou* is in the past (she spoke). But even before that something happened, *ela tinha ligado* (she had already called). Note that *ligado*, in this case, is always in the same form; there is no grammatical gender or number agreement here.

5. e, pra variar, você sabe...

The expression *pra variar* ou só *pra variar* (literally, “to differ”) actually means, ironically, “as always”, “as usual”. This is a beautiful example of the Brazilian sense of humor expressed by the language. Michelle is saying, in essence that “it is unbelievable, like always.”

6. - E qual é, e qual é a história dessa vez?

- É a mesma, é a mesma história?

The challenge for non-native speakers is to realize when *história* means story and when it means “History”, what can be decided by the context. Although this difference used to be expressed in Portuguese by the words *estória* (story) X *história* (History), nowadays it is usual to have *história* in both cases.

7. o que tem de errado nela?

It takes a long time for non-native speakers to master the use of the right prepositions. In this example, we see an alternative use for “o que tem de errado com ela?” (what’s the matter with her?), that would be more similar to the English form. In this case, Valdo uses the preposition em (*em+ela* = *nela*) instead of com. Either version would be fine.

8. Ai, foi um bafafá...

This is an interesting word in Portuguese: *bafafá*. It is a very informal way to say that some situation or fact is a hassle, a tumult, a ruckus, a mess... Another common way to express the same thing in Portuguese is *foi um rolo*...

### 9. Coitada, vixe, nossa...

As a result of a very strong catholic heritage, Brazilians often use the interjections *vixe* and *nossa* (and the variations *vixe*, *ixe*, *ixe*) to express amazement, admiration, surprise. *Vixe* comes from *Virgem Maria* (Virgin Mary) and *nossa* from *Nossa Senhora* (Our Lady), an allusion to Mary, mother of Jesus Christ. The English equivalents could be “oh my” or “oh my God/gosh/goodness.”

### 10. Ela tava super, assim, empolgada

The words *empolgado(a)*, *animado(a)* or *entusiasmado(a)* are good ones to use when you want to say that someone is very excited or enthusiastic about something. Do not make the mistake of trying to say the same thing using the false cognate *excitado(a)*. In Portuguese, the meaning of this word is restricted to a sexual connotation.

### 11. a) já tava namorando há uns meses, mas não deu certo. (it didn't turn out well) b) Vamos ver se vai dar casamento... (Let's see if there will be a wedding...)

Dar is an interesting verb in Portuguese; it can have very different meanings (besides “to give”) depending on the expression in which it appears. Here we have two good examples: a) *dar certo* X *não dar certo* / *dar errado* – meaning “to turn out well” X “do not turn out well”; b) *vai dar (em)* – meaning “to end” or “end in”. *Vamos ver no que vai dar a história da prima da Michelle*... (Let's see how Michelle's cousin's story will end...).

### 12. - ela fica lhe alugando... - me aluga direto com esses problemas...

Here we have a very special meaning to the verb *alugar*, that usually means “to rent” (but not in this case). Here Michelle complains about her cousin who is always nagging her... In this case *alugar* means “to nag.”

13. ... e não consegue arrumar um namorado  
por muito tempo.

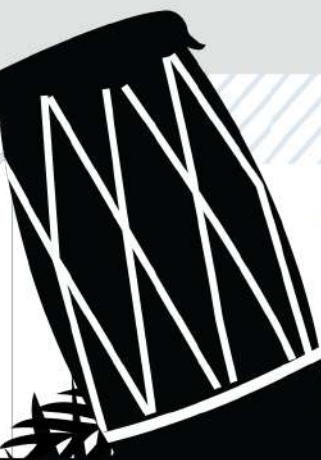
Non-native speakers often struggle with this structure. What Michelle is saying – with the intonation she used - is that her cousin hasn't been able to keep a boyfriend for a while. If, instead, it was the case that her cousin hasn't been able to find a boyfriend for a long time, she could have said the same thing but emphasizing the word *muito* (long) in her intonation or saying "...e não consegue arrumar um namorado há/tem **muito** tempo".





## Relationships 2: Eloísa's the black sheep of the family

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=08>





Oh my, Eloísa is breaking up with another boyfriend. And even worse, once again she wants Ingrid's advice about what to do. Ingrid doesn't really need Alexandre's opinion *per se*, but it's nice to have a friend who can at least lend a sympathetic ear. And even better, it makes for a really interesting *Conversa Brasileira*.

INGRID: Oh, então, Alexandre, você não sabe: recebi outra carta daquela minha tia, a Eloísa...

Alexandre, you don't know yet: I received another letter from my aunt Eloísa...

ALEXANDRE: De Curitiba? ❶  
From Curitiba?

INGRID: De Curitiba. Não, você não sabe o que ela me disse dessa vez. Dá uma olhada.

From Curitiba. You won't believe what she told me this time. Look at this.

ALEXANDRE: Certo. Uh, incrível, não?  
OK. Incredible, isn't it?

INGRID: Terminou de novo com o namorado. ❷ Já é o quarto, quinto namorado que ela tem, abandonou o filho lá em Curitiba, se apaixonou por esse carioca, ❸ foi viver no Rio com ele e agora terminou de novo. E o pior, essa mulher tem quarenta anos e me escreve uma carta pedindo conselho: o que que ela faz agora? Deixou o filho lá, foi pro Rio, arrumou emprego no Rio e, de repente, acabou a paixão, ❹ não sabe mais o que fazer...

She broke up with her boyfriend again. It's the fourth or fifth boyfriend that she has had, she left her son in Curitiba, she fell in love with this 'carioca', she went to live in Rio with him and now she broke up with him again. And the worst part: this woman is forty years old and writes me a letter asking for advice. What does she do now? She left her son there, she went to Rio, she got a job in Rio and, all of a sudden, the passion ended, she doesn't know what to do anymore...

ALEXANDRE: E o que a sua mãe pensa disso? ❺  
What is your mother's opinion about this?

**INGRID:** Bom, minha mãe sempre diz que essa minha tia é a mais imatura da família, né? Bom, se vê... Se ela pede, pede conselho pra uma menina de vinte e tantos anos, tendo quarenta, você vê que é um pouco imatura. Mas eu não sei o que dizer pra ela agora, tá nesse dilema se volta pra Curitiba ou não...

Well, my mother always says that this aunt is the most immature of the family. We can see that... If she is asking, asking for advice from a girl in her twenties, a woman at forty, you can see she is a little immature. But I don't know what to say to her now, she is in this dilemma: Should she return to Curitiba or not?

**ALEXANDRE:** Uh, ela seria aí a “ovelha negra” da família?  
Would that make her the black sheep of the family?

**INGRID:** É mais ou menos a “ovelha negra” da família. Já, como eu falei, já é o quarto ou quinto namorado com quem ela vai viver e abandona, ⑥ e dessa vez tem o filho envolvido na história, né?

She's more or less the black sheep of the family. As I've said, it's already the fourth or fifth boyfriend who she has lived with and then left, and this time she has her son wrapped up in the situation, you know?

**ALEXANDRE:** Sim, sim... Não, isso é grave.  
Yeah, yeah... This is serious.

**INGRID:** Eh, o filho é complicado... Mas, eu não sei, o que que você, o que você sugeriria pra ela se, ⑦ se tivesse no meu lugar? Eu não sei o que dizer...

The part with her son is complex... But I don't know, what would you suggest for her if you were in my shoes? I don't know what to say...

**ALEXANDRE:** Bom, é uma situação difícil, não? Eu acho que quem deve sofrer muito com isso é a criança, né?

Well, it's a difficult situation, isn't it? I think that the one who is suffering a lot is the child...

**INGRID:** Sim, claro!  
Yes, for sure!

**ALEXANDRE:** Então eu acho que, em primeiro lugar, tem que se, tem que se pensar na criança, ⑧ né?

So, I believe that, in the first place, one has to think of the child.

**INGRID:** Mas eu não sei... Ela me pergunta: “Não, o que que eu faço agora? Fico aqui no Rio...”, já que ela já tem um emprego, “... ou tento voltar pra Curitiba?”, onde tá toda a família, minha vô... Eu não sei o que dizer pra ela.

But I don't know... she asks me: "Oh no, what is it that I should do now? Should I stay here in Rio..." since she already has a job, "... or should I try to come back to Curitiba?", where all the family is, my grandmother... I don't know what to say to her.

**ALEXANDRE:** Eh, eu acho que tem que levar em consideração, eh, a criança, não? Em primeiro lugar... Então, se ela tem uma vida estável, trabalhando, tem um emprego fixo, então seria interessante ela levar a criança... Mas por outro lado, 9 também, eu fico pensando 10 que toda a sua família está em São Paulo, não?  
First and foremost, I think that she has to take into consideration the child... If she has a stable life, is working, has a steady job, it would be good if she takes the child... But, on the other hand, I have also thought that her whole family is in São Paulo...

**INGRID:** Sim, uma parte em Curitiba, outra parte em São Paulo; quer dizer, ela tem essas duas outras opções também... Mas, não sei, ela conseguiu um bom emprego no Rio, isso é um ponto positivo.  
Yes, one part in Curitiba, the other one in São Paulo; I mean, she also has those two other options... But I don't know, she got a great job in Rio, that is something positive.

**ALEXANDRE:** Eh, na minha opinião, eu acho que ela deveria voltar para São Paulo, 11 porque já que a família está lá e isso é muito bom pra criança, não?  
In my opinion, I think she should return to São Paulo, because now that her family is there it would be very good for the child.

**INGRID:** Sim, com certeza. A criança ficou lá, né?  
Yes, sure. The child is there, right?

**ALEXANDRE:** Sim...  
Yeah...

**INGRID:** OK, então, acho que é isso que eu vou sugerir pra ela, vou escrever pra ela...  
OK, I think that this is what I'll suggest to her, I'll write to her...

**ALEXANDRE:** Tá certo.  
That's good.



### 1. De Curitiba?

Curitiba is the capital city of the Brazilian state of Paraná, in the Southern Brazil. It is the 7th largest city nationwide and an important cultural, political and economic center in the country.

### 2. Terminou de novo com o namorado...

The verb *terminar* (to finish, end) is used to say that Ingrid's aunt just “broke up” with her boyfriend again. In English, you can also say “She ended things/the relationship with her boyfriend again.” In Portuguese, however, it is not necessary to use a complement (direct object) for the verb *terminar*, but you need to use it along with the preposition com (with) if you specify the other part involved. If not, you can say something like *Eles terminaram* (They broke up). You can also say *Eles se separaram* or *Eles não estão mais juntos*.

### 3. Terminou de novo com o namorado...

The verb *terminar* (to finish, end) is used to say that Ingrid's aunt just “broke up” with her boyfriend again. In English, you can also say “She ended things/the relationship with her boyfriend again.” In Portuguese, however, it is not necessary to use a complement (direct object) for the verb *terminar*, but you need to use it along with the preposition com (with) if you specify the other part involved. If not, you can say something like *Eles terminaram* (They broke up). You can also say *Eles se separaram* or *Eles não estão mais juntos*.

4. De repente, acabou a paixão

It's hard for Americans to get that *paixão* is a feminine word. There is something about that *-ão* ending that makes you want to say *o paixão*. Some other examples of feminine words with this same ending are: *a canção* (song); *a mansão* (mansion); *a expansão* (expansion), etc. But it is not always like that... Note: *o faisão* (pheasant); *o casarão* (big house); *o irmão* (brother), etc.

5. O que é que sua mãe pensa disso?

Prepositions, prepositions... Americans spend their whole life learning it is supposed to be *pensar em* (to think about) and now we hear *pensa disso*. What's going on? Actually, here we have an interesting meaning of this verb: *pensar de* means to have an opinion or evaluation about something or someone.

6. (...) já é o quarto ou quinto namorado com quem ela vai viver e abandona

This structure can be challenging for non-native speakers: the preposition *com* (with) appears at the beginning of the embedded clause. In English, one would say something like, "boyfriend who she has lived with and then left".

7. o que você sugeriria para ela.

Notice that Brazilians prefer to use prepositional phrases instead of indirect object pronouns. *Para ela* fits better than *lhe*. Brazilians use *me*, *te* and *nos*, but prefer *para ele(s)*, *para ela(s)*.

8. tem que se pensar na criança

Another challenging structure for non-native speakers: se (one) usually comes after que in this type of structure. It could be *tem-se que pensar*, but in this case the style would be more formal.

9. mas por outro lado também eu fico pensando que toda a sua família está em São Paulo, não?

The challenge for non-native speakers is to realize that *por outro lado* is the equivalent to the English expression “on the other hand”.

In Portuguese we have the pair: *por um lado* X *por outro lado* (on one hand X on the other hand).

10. a) (...) fico pensando que toda a sua família está em São Paulo, não?

*Ficar* (usually “to stay”) is a very interesting verb in Portuguese: among other meanings, it can be “to keep on”—which is the case here, “I keep on thinking.” Another meaning for this verb is “to become”: *Fico com sede/com fome/com frio/com sono* (I become thirsty/hungry/cold/sleepy).

11. Eu acho que deveria voltar para São Paulo

It's tough for English speakers to catch on to the conditional of the verb *dever*. In English we don't have a way of saying “would” in front of “should.” In Portuguese, the distinction between *deve*, *devia* and *deveria* is related to different levels of politeness: from the least to the most polite.







## Food I: Kill me now, or feed me something Brazilian

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=09>





Our apologies to everyone who listens to this lesson. First off, if you **have** eaten these foods, it is killing you to hear about them without being able to eat them. Second of all, if you **haven't** eaten these foods, you just won't relate to what the fuss is all about. No wonder Brazilians use the phrase *matar as saudades* (to kill your homesickness) to talk about the powerful feeling that comes over you when you miss foods from another culture. No doubt, this makes for an impressive *Conversa Brasileira*.

VALENTINO: Oi, Ingrid.  
Hi, Ingrid.

INGRID: Oi, Valentino.  
Hi, Valentino.

VALENTINO: Tudo certo?  
Is everything OK?

INGRID: Tudo. Onde é que você tava?  
Yes, it is. Where were you?

VALENTINO: Olha, eu fui às compras. ❶ Eu trouxe aqui algumas novidades, ❷ por exemplo, um suco...  
I went shopping. I brought some new things, for example, juice...

INGRID: Nossa, é suco de maracujá! Onde é que você comprou isso?  
Wow, it's passion fruit juice! Where did you buy it?

VALENTINO: Sim, eu fui na *Ana Brasil* e lá tem muito produto brasileiro, realmente...  
I went to *Ana Brasil* and there are a lot of Brazilian products there...

INGRID: Poxa! ❸  
Cool!

VALENTINO: ... no nosso caso, pra matar a saudade ❹ das coisas...  
... for us, in order to satisfy our longing for Brazilian things...

INGRID: Ah é, não, vamos fazer uma caipirinha ❺ de maracujá já...  
Sure, let's make a passion fruit *caipirinha* right now...

VALENTINO: Sim, a gente já tem a cachaça, né?  
Yeah, we already have *cachaça*, right?

INGRID:	Não tá faltando mais nada... We've got everything...
VALENTINO:	Mas também tem uma outra coisa que você gosta muito... But here's another thing that you like a lot...
INGRID:	Ai, bombom Garoto! Olha, o pessoal diz que é vagabundo, ⑥ mas pra mim não tem comparação... Oh, <i>Garoto</i> chocolate! People say it's shoddy, but for me nothing compares...
VALENTINO:	Não, pra mim também é o melhor bombom de chocolate do Brasil. For me it's the best Brazilian chocolate, too.
INGRID:	O que mais que ⑦ você trouxe aí? What else did you bring?
VALENTINO:	Bom, algumas coisas pra um... salgadinho, alguma coisa... Well, a few things for a... <i>salgadinho</i> , something...
INGRID:	Ai, farinha de mandioca... Oh, manioc flour...
VALENTINO:	... uma comida salgada, uma farofa... ⑧ ... savory food, <i>farofa</i> ...
INGRID:	Hum, fazer uma farofa... Hum, to make <i>farofa</i> ...
VALENTINO:	... bife à milanesa... ⑨ ... <i>bife à milanesa</i> ...
INGRID:	Farofa com... peru com farofa... <i>Farofa</i> with... turkey with <i>farofa</i> ...
VALENTINO:	Pode ser também, eu gosto muito... Sounds good, I like it a lot...
INGRID:	Natal, tá chegando o Natal... Christmas is coming...
VALENTINO:	Ah, outra coisa... Eu não sei fazer, mas eu sei que você sabe fazer um bom kibe... ⑩ Another thing... I don't know how to make, but I know that you know how to make, is a good <i>kibe</i> ...
INGRID:	Ai, kibe... Oh, <i>kibe</i> ...
VALENTINO:	A gente não encontra aqui... Esse é brasileiro... We can't find it here... This one is Brazilian...

- INGRID: Eh, não, eu sinto uma falta 11 dessas coisas, um kibezinho frito...  
Yeah, I really miss these things, some fried *kibe*...
- VALENTINO: Sim, a sua receita é muito boa, mas se você quiser fazer uma coisa mais rápida, aqui está...  
Yeah, your recipe is very good. But if you want to make something faster, here you go...
- INGRID: Ai, pão de queijo! 12 Pão de queijo com um cafezinho no meio da tarde, não tem igual...  
Oh, cheese bread! There's nothing like cheese bread with coffee in the middle of the day...
- VALENTINO: Ou então, pão de queijo...  
Or *pão de queijo*...
- INGRID: Pão de queijo com guaraná. 13 Nossa, com certeza!  
*Pão de queijo* with *guaraná*. Yeah, that sounds great!
- VALENTINO: Muito bom...  
It's very good...
- INGRID: Nossa, muito bom.  
Yeah, very good.
- VALENTINO: Engorda um pouco, mas vale a pena, 15 viu? O sabor é muito bom...  
It makes you a little fatter, but it's worth it. The taste is very good...
- INGRID: Engorda bastante, mas, enfim, a gente...  
It really makes you fat, but we...
- VALENTINO: Sim...  
Yes...
- INGRID: ... faz um regiminho 14 depois, não tem problema.  
... can start a diet after... no problem.
- VALENTINO: e toma pouco também. E também um docinho da terra, né, um docinho tradicional do Brasil.  
... and drink just a little. And I also brought something sweet, a traditional Brazilian dessert.
- INGRID: Ah, eu adoro goiabada. 16 Pra mim é o melhor doce. Eu gosto de doce de fruta...  
Oh, I love *goiabada*. For me, it's the best dessert. I like desserts made of fruit...
- VALENTINO: Sim, aqui também tem alguma coisa parecida...  
Here there's also something like this...

INGRID: Mas é muito doce...  
But it's too sweet...

VALENTINO: Goiabada, goiabada mesmo é essa.  
*Goiabada, the real goiabada is this one.*

INGRID: E o queijinho branco, não achou não?  
*How about queijo Minas, didn't you find it?*

VALENTINO: Ai, esse é o problema. A gente vai ter que comer com queijo daqui.  
Vai ter que fazer um "Romeu e Julieta" 16 com queijo... Goiabada  
brasileira e queijo americano, não tem...  
*That's the problem. We are going to have to eat it with cheese from  
here. We are going to have to make a "Romeo and Juliet" with  
cheese... Brazilian goiabada and American cheese, because there's no...*

INGRID: Não tem problema! Já tem a goiabada, já é alguma coisa...  
*There's no problem! We already have goiabada, that's good enough...*

VALENTINO: Já é alguma coisa, tá muito bom.  
*That's good enough. That's sounds perfect!*



## Usage Notes

### 1. Olha, eu *fui às compras*.

Nice Brazilian syntax and forms: *ir às compras* (to go shopping). It focuses more in the action of shopping itself, rather than in the things bought. Another option could be *fazer compras*.

### 2. Eu trouxe aqui algumas *novidades*.

*Novidade* has different meanings in Portuguese. Like English, it can mean “news,” but it is not the case here. In this example, it means “new things, innovation, things that are unusual in the context.”

### 3. *Poxa!*

This is an interjection that expresses happiness, admiration, annoyance, consternation. It’s a variation of *Puxa!*

### 4. pra *matar a saudade* das coisas

Brazilians use the phrase *matar as saudades* (“to kill your homesickness” or “satisfy our longing”) to talk about the powerful feeling that comes over you when you miss something or someone. There are other uses for *matar*: *matar a sede* ; *matar a fome*; etc.

5. vamos fazer uma caipirinha de maracujá já...

*Caipirinha* is the national cocktail of Brazil. The traditional *caipirinha* is made with lemon, sugar and *cachaça* - the Brazilian distilled alcoholic beverage made from the fermentation of sugarcane juice. There are several variations in which different fruits substitute for lemon (like passion fruit, strawberry, kiwi, etc). Another variation of the *caipirinha* is *Caipiroska*, in which vodka substitutes for *cachaça*.

To make this cocktail, place lemon (or another fruit) and sugar into a glass and mash the two ingredients together using a muddler or a wooden spoon. Fill the glass with crushed ice and add *cachaça* (or vodka). *Saúde!*

6. Olha, o pessoal diz que é vagabundo, mas pra mim não tem comparação...

This is a perfect example of a difference in range of meaning than in English. *Vagabundo* has several meanings in Portuguese: “stray, crook, scoundrel”—when used for a person; “shoddy”—when used for things.

7. O que mais que você trouxe aí?

A beautiful example of the syntax in Portuguese. It adds emphasis and is very used in the oral and informal speech.

8. ... uma comida salgada, uma farofa...

*Farofa* is a typical Brazilian dish made of toasted manioc (or coarse corn flour) and complements that may include garlic, onions, parsley, eggs, meat, vegetables or bananas and almost anything else... It's widely popular in Brazil, usually served as a side dish along with *feijoada* or grilled meat. A *churrasco* (barbecue party) without *farofa* is regarded as heresy in Brazil. It is also used in a stuffing for poultry or turkey. *Uma delícia!* (Delicious!)



9. *bife à milanesa*

*Bife à milanesa* is a common meat dish in Brazil. It consists of a thin slice of beef dipped into beaten eggs, seasoned with salt, and other condiments and then dipped in breadcrumbs and shallow-fried in oil, one at a time. The chicken version is called *frango à milanesa*.

10. ... eu não sei fazer, mas eu sei que você sabe fazer um bom *kibe*...

*Kibe* is an Arab dish very popular in Brazil, made of bulgur wheat and chopped meat. It is shaped as a torpedo, stuffed with a filling (usually meat) and fried.

11. Eh, não, eu *sinto uma falta* dessas coisas, um kibezinho frito...

*Sentir falta* or *sentir saudade*... Good phrases to use when you miss something or someone... But add the word *uma* with the right intonation and your *falta/saudade* will be even bigger!

12. Ai, *pão de queijo*! Pão de queijo com um cafezinho no meio da tarde não tem igual...

Humm... *Pão de queijo* (cheese bread) is a very popular snack in Brazil. It a small roll made of tapioca flour and cheese; chewy and moist inside... *Delicioso!* (Delicious!)

13. Pão de queijo com *guaraná*. Nossa, com certeza!

*Guaraná* is a Brazilian soft drink, made of the *guaraná* fruit – an effective energy booster.



14. kibezinho, cafezinho, regiminho

Brazilians love to add diminutive endings to words, not only to express small size, but to give them an endearing quality and/or add emphasis. In this dialog, we can see several examples, and regiminho is a subtle and special one. Eat a little fatty food, and do a little regiminho afterwards...

15. Engorda um pouco, mas vale a pena, viu? O sabor é muito bom...

What an interesting expression in Portuguese! *Valer a pena* is used to talk about something that it's worth of the effort, the work... Literally, "to cost the punishment/sorrow."

16. Vai ter que fazer um Romeu e Julieta com queijo... goiabada brasileira e queijo americano...

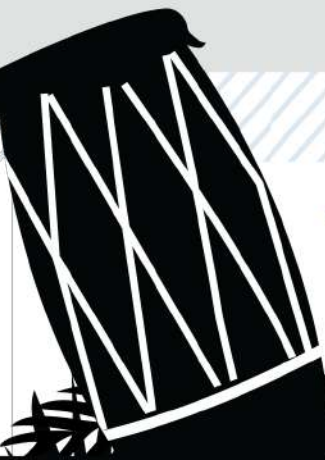
Romeu e Julieta is a popular dessert in Brazil made of goiabada (guava paste) and queijo Minas (a solid fresh cheese primarily from Minas Gerais State). An awesome combination of these two ingredients—so different from each other but so perfect together!





## Food 2: Brazilian “churrasco” with a capital BBQ!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=10>





## Dialog

This dialog deals with one of those invitations that we all dream of getting. Valdo and Denise have invited some of their North American friends to come over for a Brazilian *churrasco*. However, before the *picanha* main course (one of the prime cuts of a top sirloin), Valdo and Denise will be starting off with lots of appetizers like *kibe* and *pão de queijo*. Talking about food while sipping on a *caipirinha* or a super cold *guaraná* certainly sets the stage for a great *Conversa Brasileira*.

- VALDO: Denise, e aí? Como é que estão os preparativos pro churrasco<sup>①</sup> pros<sup>②</sup> amigos?  
Hey Denise, what's up? How are the preparations coming along for the barbecue we are throwing for our friends?
- DENISE: Ah, tá... a picanha<sup>③</sup> já tá...  
Oh, yeah... the *picanha* is already...
- VALDO: Huh? Cadê? Já tá?  
Huh? Where? Is it already there?
- DENISE: ... na geladeira...  
... in the fridge...
- VALDO: Certinho?  
Is everything all right?
- DENISE: Opa, garantida.<sup>⑤</sup> Churrasco brasileiro sem picanha...  
Sure, of course. Brazilian barbecue without *picanha*...
- VALDO: Tem que ter picanha, né?  
You have to have *picanha*...
- DENISE: ... não é churrasco brasileiro.  
... is not Brazilian barbecue.
- VALDO: Hum, hum.  
Uh-uh.
- DENISE: E os americanos têm que conhecer o nosso...  
The Americans need to know our...
- VALDO: ...churrasco, lógico...  
...barbecue, of course...

DENISE:	Real, né, verdadeiro. E aí, você achou o resto? ④ The real, the true one. Did you find the rest?
VALDO:	Achei sim. I did.
DENISE:	O que é que você tem aí? What do you have here?
VALDO:	Como a festa é pra americanos, eu tô trazendo... eu quis ⑥ trazer um monte de coisas, assim, pra mostrar a nossa cultura brasileira... aquilo que a gente come mesmo, assim... Since the party is for Americans, I’m bringing... I wanted to bring a bunch of things, you know, to show them our Brazilian culture... what we really eat, you know...
DENISE:	Hum, hum. Uh-uh.
VALDO:	Eu trouxe um suquinho de maracujá... I brought passion fruit juice...
DENISE:	Hum, a gente pode abrir com uma caipirinha e uma caipiroska... Ah, we can start (the barbecue) with a <i>caipirinha</i> and a <i>caipiroska</i> ...
VALDO:	Isso, esse aqui a gente faz uma caipiroska, né? Yeah, with this one we’ll make a <i>caipiroska</i> , right?
DENISE:	Com a vodka... With vodka...
VALDO:	A gente faz uma caipiroska, isso, porque... We’ll make a <i>caipiroska</i> , right, because...
DENISE:	... e a caipirinha com... ... and the <i>caipirinha</i> with...
VALDO:	... com limão e... ... with lime and...
DENISE:	... a cachaça... ... the <i>cachaça</i> ...
VALDO:	... cachaça e o limão, exatamente. ... <i>cachaça</i> and lime, exactly.
DENISE:	Tá certo, já temos aí. That’s right, it’s ready.
VALDO:	Joia... ⑦ Good...

DENISE:	Tá. OK.
VALDO:	Trouxe também... você lembra como é que faz kibe? I also brought... do you remember how to make kibbeh?
DENISE:	Hum... Um...
VALDO:	Porque eu trouxe aqui um... Because I brought a...
DENISE:	Deixa eu dar uma olhada... 8 Let me take a look...
VALDO:	... um trigozinho pra gente fazer um kibe... você lembra? ... some cracked wheat for us to make kibbeh... you remember?
DENISE:	Eu acho que eles têm a receita aqui... I think they have the recipe here...
VALDO:	Huh, a gente podia fazer uns... Uh, we could make some...
DENISE:	Ah, tem, tem, aqui, oh, kibe tradicional... Tá aqui... Oh yeah, there is, there is, here, ah, traditional kibbeh... It's right here...
VALDO:	... isso, isso, aperitivozinhos com, né... ... right, right, appetizers with...
DENISE:	Tá... OK...
VALDO:	... com kibezinho, tal... ... with kibbeh and stuff like that...
DENISE:	Tá... OK...
VALDO:	O que você acha? What do you think?
DENISE:	Não, tranquilo, tranquilo... 9 OK, no problem, no problem...
VALDO:	Tranquilo? Joia... No problem? Cool...
DENISE:	A gente faz no forno pra não ficar muita fritura... 10 We can use the oven to avoid too much fried food...
VALDO:	Ah, isso... Oh, yeah...

DENISE:	Né? A gente faz no forno. Pega leve 11 pra depois eles poderem comer mais picanha. Legal! You know? We'll make it in the oven. Let's start off light, so that later they can eat more <i>picanha</i> . Cool!
VALDO:	E isso aqui? How about this one?
DENISE:	Ah, pão de queijo... Oh, <i>pão de queijo</i> ...
VALDO:	O que acha, o que você acha? What do you think?
DENISE:	Claro! Isso aqui não tem, né? Of course! They don't have this here, right?
VALDO:	Não tem... They don't...
DENISE:	Isso aqui diretamente de Minas Gerais para o mundo... This one here, straight from <i>Minas Gerais</i> to the world...
VALDO:	... lá não, lá não, lá não tem, lá não, lá eles não têm isso aí não... 13 ... there is not, they don't have anything like this...
DENISE:	Tá certo... You're right...
VALDO:	Isso aí é muito gostoso... This is very delicious...
DENISE:	Não, não tem... No, they don't...
VALDO:	Você vai fazer, né, também isso aí? Não? You're going to make it too, aren't you?
DENISE:	Eh, mas sabe que eu vou botar mais queijo, 14 eu não gosto assim... Yeah, but I'm going to add more cheese, I don't like it like this...
VALDO:	Ah, é? Oh, yeah?
DENISE:	... acho que ele fica meio, eh... ... I think it is a little, eh...
VALDO:	Faz isso... Do that...
DENISE:	... acrescenta um pouco mais de queijo, dá mais sabor... ah, eles vão adorar! 12

... if we add a little more cheese, it tastes better... they'll love it!

VALDO: Joia.  
Great.

DENISE: Muito bom, muito bom.  
Very good, very good.

VALDO: E eu trouxe aqui também uma farinhazinha pra gente fazer uma farofa.  
And I also brought some flour for us to make *farofa*.

DENISE: Claro! Farinha de mandioca pra...  
Sure! Manioc flour for...

VALDO: E você já fez o vinagrete? 15  
Have you already made vinaigrette?

DENISE: Iiiii, o vina... ai, esqueci...  
Eeeee, vinai... I forgot it...

VALDO: Pô, esqueceu? 16  
You forgot it?

DENISE: Tomate, cebola... você vai ter que voltar depois...  
Tomatoes, onions... you have to go back to the supermarket later...

VALDO: ... cebola e cebolinha verde, eu acho...  
... onions and green onions, I think...

DENISE: Eh, não, o resto eu tenho...  
Yeah, I have the rest...

VALDO: Ah, então tem que comprar, eu vou comprar...  
So, we have to buy them, I'm going to buy them...

DENISE: Tomate e cebola não tem...  
We don't have tomatoes or onions...

VALDO: Daqui a pouco eu vou comprar...  
I'm going to buy them in a little while...

DENISE: Tá.  
OK.

VALDO: Não tem nada não.  
There's no problem.

DENISE: Então vamos fazer uma farofa...  
So, let's make *farofa*...

VALDO: Você chegando daqui umas duas horas dá tempo, né? 19  
If you arrive in about two hours, we have enough time, right?



DENISE:	Tá. Uma farofinha com bacon, alho... OK. <i>Farofa</i> with bacon, garlic...
VALDO:	Isso. That's it.
DENISE:	Ótimo, eles vão gostar... Excellent, they'll love it...
VALDO:	Joia. Good.
DENISE:	... também não tem lá. Farofa é coisa daqui. ... there's no <i>farofa</i> there. <i>Farofa</i> is a Brazilian thing.
VALDO:	E se eles não quiserem tomar cachaça, nem vodca, caipirinha ou caipiroska, olha o que eu trouxe... If they don't want to drink cachaça, vodka, <i>caipirinha</i> or <i>caipiroska</i> , look at what I brought...
DENISE:	Guaraná! <i>Guaraná</i> !
VALDO:	Legitimamente brasileiro. Que tal? Truly Brazilian. What do you think?
DENISE:	Muito bom, muito bom. Very good, very good.
VALDO:	Pronto. That's it.
DENISE:	O original do Brasil. The original of Brazil.
VALDO:	Se já não tem isso aí, né, quer dizer... If we don't have <i>guaraná</i> , I mean...
DENISE:	Não tem... Isso aqui só tem no Brasil. Ótimo, muito bem pensado. <sup>17</sup> They don't have it... They only have this in Brazil. Excellent, good thinking.
VALDO:	E pra fechar, a gente vai oferecer pra eles um, uma sobremesa... And to finish up, we'll provide a dessert for them...
DENISE:	Sobremesa brasileira by Garoto... A Brazilian dessert by <i>Garoto</i> ...
VALDO:	O que você acha? What do you think?
DENISE:	Muito bom. Batom, as meninas adoram isso... Very good. <i>Batom</i> , girls love it...

VALDO:	Nada mais brasileiro do que... Nothing more Brazilian than...
DENISE:	Go... ah, tá, a gente podia fazer sabe o quê? Hum... como é que chama? Go... do you know what we could make? A... what's it called?
VALDO:	Romeu e Julieta. “Romeo and Juliet”.
DENISE:	Romeu e Juli... iiiii... “Romeo and Juli...” eeeee...
VALDO:	Esqueci do queijo... I forgot the cheese...
DENISE:	O queijo branco, não tem queijo branco. Então... White curd, there's no white curd. So...
VALDO:	Eh... Eh...
DENISE:	Tomate, cebola... Tomatoes, onions...
VALDO:	Cebola, tomate... Onions, tomatoes...
DENISE:	... queijo branco. ... white curd.
VALDO:	... queijo branco. ... white curd.
DENISE:	Tá. OK.
VALDO:	Eu vou comprar... I'm going to buy them...
DENISE:	Deixa o celular ligado... Leave your cell phone on...
VALDO:	Ah, eu vou deixar ligado... OK, I'm going to do that...
DENISE:	... se eu lembrar de mais alguma coisa... ... if I remember something else...
VALDO:	... tá ligado, com certeza. ... it's on, for sure.
DENISE:	Eu te falo. I'll call you.

VALDO: Eu vou comprar. Eu vou deixar o saco aqui...  
I’m going to buy these things. I’m going to leave my bag here...

DENISE: Tá bom.  
That’s fine.

VALDO: Viu? E daqui a pouco eu volto. 18  
OK? I’ll be right back.

DENISE: Tá bom.  
That’s fine.

VALDO: Daqui a cinco minutos eu volto.  
I’ll be back in five minutes.

DENISE: OK.  
OK.



## Usage Notes

### 1. Como é que estão os preparativos pro churrasco pros amigos?

If you are invited to a Brazilian churrasco, you can expect much more than only a meal with grilled meat: you will have a whole event! People will be outside, drinking, eating and talking for hours. It is all about hanging together, chatting and having fun. Grilling is only a (good!) excuse.

### 2. Como é que estão os preparativos pro churrasco pros amigos?

Note the use of pro(s). Brazilians love the contractions! *Para + o = pro*; *Para + os = pros*. Use them and you'll sound more like a Brazilian!

### 3. Ah, tá... a picanha já tá... na geladeira...

*Picanha* is the best cut of beef – at least most Brazilians think so! – very well appreciated all over Brazil for grilling. In USA, it is divided among other cuts and is something similar to the cap of the top sirloin (sometimes called ‘rump cover’) with a layer of fat, which can be removed, if you want to do so, only after grilling. Uma delícia! (Delicious).

4. E aí, você achou o resto?

An interesting point here is the use of *achar* to mean “to find” instead of “to think”. Although the verb *encontrar* could be an alternative here, *achar* is the most commonly used by Brazilians in informal situations. Of course, as you probably know, “to think” is another possible meaning for this verb, but not in the example here.

5. ... opa, garantida.

*Opa* is an interjection that can express happiness, admiration, annoyance or consternation. It is like “oh!, wow!, whoop!” In this example, it is more like “for sure,” expressing Denise’s excitement about the certainty of having *picanha* to grill.

*Garantida* is another interesting word here: Denise makes it clear that the *picanha* is all set for the *churrasco*, since it would never be the truly Brazilian *churrasco* without it... “A *picanha* tá *garantida*.” (*Picanha* is arranged, for sure).

6. ... eu quis trazer um monte de coisas.

It is sometimes challenging to catch the subtle difference in meaning between the imperfect *queria* and the preterite *quis*. Often *queria* simply coincides with the English “wanted”, with the same normal features of the imperfect past. *Quis*, however, sometimes equates more with the English “attempt” or “tried” and followed the typical preterite characteristic of a completed action. In the negative form, *não quis*, sometimes means something similar to “refused”. Here Valdo is saying that he tried to bring a whole lot of things for the party.

7. Joia...

Again, another great example of a word with different meanings in Portuguese... Although “joia” can be translated as “jewelry”, it is not the case in this dialog. Here it is an informal expression for “all good”, “cool”.

It also can be used as an adjective to refer to a very good or interesting person or thing: *O filme é joia* (The movie is cool); *Esse professor é joia* (This teacher is cool).

8. Deixa eu dar uma olhada...

What a great Brazilian Portuguese structure! In English we’d say “Let me take a look”, always with the objective pronoun. In Portuguese, although the grammar books would say this is a wrong structure – the “right” one should be *deixe-me dar*, this *deixa eu dar* or *deixa eu* + verb in the infinitive is regularly used by Brazilians. There is even a song by *Ivan Lins* which says:

*Deixa, deixa, deixa*  
*Eu dizer o que penso dessa vida*  
 (...) *Você não tem direito*  
*De calar a minha boca...*

9. Não, tranquilo, tranquilo...

Another informal expression in Portuguese. It means “not a problem” or “it is easy”. It also can be used as an adjective to refer to a calm, serene, tranquil person or situation. *O dia hoje foi tranquilo* (It was a calm day today); *Ele é uma criança tranquila* (He is a calm kid).

10. A gente faz no forno pra não ficar muita fritura...

Nice Brazilian syntax and forms! Denise suggests baking the *kibe*, so there would not be a lot of fried food, or, in other words, to avoid too many fatty foods: *pra não ficar muita fritura*. *Ficar* here is something like *ter* or *haver* (there be). The phrase means, roughly, “We’ll bake it in the oven so that we don’t end up having too many fried foods.”

11. Pega leve pra depois eles poderem comer mais picanha.

What a great dialog, full of slangs and informal expressions! Here we have another one: *pega leve*, something like “take it easy” or “do not push too much.” In this case, Denise is suggesting that they start off light so the guests could still enjoy the meat after all of the appetizers.

12. ... ah, eles vão adorar!

Notice the use of the verb *adorar* instead of *amar*. Yeah, this is a good—and very common—way to say “They’ll love it!” in Portuguese. However, in Portuguese speakers can use either *adorar* or *amar* to talk about the people and the things that they love.

13. ...lá não tem, lá não, lá eles não têm isso aí não...

This is a great example of verb *ter* with two very distinct meanings. In the first case, we see *lá não tem* (...) *isso aí*, which corresponds to “there is not this one over there.” In the second case, *lá eles não têm* *isso aí*, it means “they don’t have this one over there.” Although Portuguese has the verb “have” for “there is/are,” *ter* is the verb most commonly used in oral and informal language.

14. ... eu vou botar mais queijo...

If you only learn Portuguese through textbooks, you will probably say: *eu vou pôr mais queijo...* As a good Brazilian, however, Denise says *botar*. Literally *botar* means “to lay” as in the way that chickens lay eggs. However, Brazilians almost always expand that meaning to including the verb “to put” in general.

15. E você já fez o vinagrete?

*Vinagrete* is a traditional Brazilian sauce served as a side dish with *churrasco*. It is a Brazilian version of *pico de gallo*, made of tomatoes, onions, parsley (or cilantro), vinegar, olive oil, spices and also can have green and red peppers.

16. Pô, esqueceu?

This is an interjection that expresses happiness, admiration, annoyance, consternation. It’s a short version of *Poxa!*

17. Ótimo, muito bem pensado.

Notice that in English we need prepositions here, “you thought about that a lot” or “you’ve thought that out well.” You don’t need them in Portuguese: *bem pensado!*

18. Daqui a pouco eu vou voltar... Daqui a cinco minutos eu volto.

Daqui a (...) is one way to express future time in Portuguese. *Daqui a pouco*: “in a while,” *daqui a cinco minutos*: “in five minutes.”

19. Você chegando daqui umas duas horas dá tempo, né?

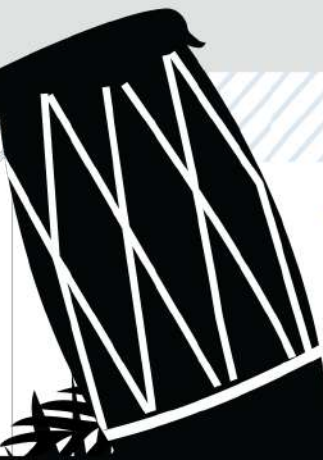
What a nice example of Brazilian syntax! The gerund here (*Você chegando*) is used with a total different effect, more than just “-ing.” Here it takes on the meaning of “if you arrive,” almost like the English “upon arriving”. And here we also have another interesting use of verb *dar*: *dar tempo* = “to have enough time.”





## Working Out I: I'm just not feeling it

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=11>





Andréia and Leandro have been working out for quite some time, and guess who finally shows up at the gym? That's right, Antônio. Sounds like he's going to take another crack at getting into shape. Andréia and Leandro aren't very sure he'll stick it out, but the rest of us are cheering for Antônio to get back into the routine. The three of them talk up a storm and it's a pretty nice *Conversa Brasileira*.

ANDRÉIA: E aí, Leozinho? Malhando ❶ bastante, rapaz?

Hey Leozinho, what's up? Have you been working out a lot, man?

LEANDRO: Diga aí, Andréia! Tô malhando muito! Mas só faz um mês que eu tô aqui. E você?

What's up, Andréia? I've been working out a lot! But it's only been one month that I've been coming here. And you?

ANDRÉIA: Ah... Eu já tô aqui há uns seis meses. Já tô sentindo tudo firme... tudo duro... Cheia de energia!

Ah... I've been coming here for about six months. I can feel things getting tighter. I'm full of energy!

LEANDRO: Ah, já tá é forte, hein?

Ah, are you already strong, hum?

ANDRÉIA: Ahn, ahn!

Uh, huh!

ANTÔNIO: Andréia?!

Andréia?!

ANDRÉIA: Antônio! Você aqui?! Vai chover ❷ hoje, rapaz!

Antônio! You, here?! What a big surprise, dude!

ANTÔNIO: Tudo bem? Como é que tá?

Is every thing ok? How you doing?

ANDRÉIA: Que passa?

What's up?

LEANDRO: Antônio, que milagre você aqui, rapaz!

Antônio, what a big surprise you're here, dude!

ANTÔNIO: E aí, tudo bem? Menino, tava cheio de coisa, né? Não dava pra aparecer aqui todo dia e... Tava complicado...

So, what's up? Man, I've been very busy, you know? There was no way I could come here every single day... It's been complicated...

LEANDRO: Olha as desculpas aí, ó! ③ Quando se trata de malhação... ④  
Check out all these excuses! Talking about working out...

ANTÔNIO: É, mas... Mas eu tô voltando! Eu até que vinha aqui antes... Eu passava umas duas vezes por semana, corria ali na esteira, também na bicicleta... E comecei a malhar, mas só que achei meio chato. ⑤ E aí eu disse: "Eu vou largar isso de mão..." ⑥ E num, num voltei. Mas agora eu tô, tô retornando aqui, né? E vocês, como é que vocês estão?

Yeah, but... But I'm getting back into it! I used to come by... I used to come, like, twice a week and jog on the treadmill, and ride the bike... And I started working out, but I got bored... Then I said: "I'm done, I'm giving up"... And I didn't come back. But now I'm coming back, you know? What about you guys, how are you guys doing?

LEANDRO: Então vamos malhar aqui com a gente, ó. Comecei faz uma semana... ⑦ nesse exercício aqui. É um exercício novo... E então você deveria começar aqui hoje também.  
So, look, come work out with us. I just started a week ago... with this exercise here. It's a brand new... So, today you could start with this one too.

ANTÔNIO: Pois é, eu vô...  
Ok, I'm going to...

ANDRÉIA: É... eu já tô fazendo já faz uns seis meses. Tô fazendo ⑧ esteira, faço a bicicleta, e também faço natação duas vezes por semana.  
That's it... I've already been at it for about six months now. I jog on the treadmill, ride the bike and swim twice a week.

ANTÔNIO: Vixe! Tá toda em forma aí! ⑨  
Wow! You're really in good shape!

ANDRÉIA: É! 'Bora nessa, rapaz! ⑩  
Yeah! Come on, man, let's go!

ANTÔNIO: Justamente! Mas eu acho que eu vou começar primeiro com os pesos ali. Depois eu passo pras máquinas. Tá bom? Eu vou lá pegar e já volto.

That's it! I think I'm gonna start over there with the weights first. Then I'll swing by the machines. OK? I'll go grab them and be right back!

ANDRÉIA: Beleza!  
Sweet!

ANTÔNIO: Tá bom?  
OK?

ANDRÉIA: 'Té mais!  
See ya.

LEANDRO: Tá bom, 'té mais!  
Ok, see ya.

ANDRÉIA: Você acredita mesmo?  
Do you really believe it?

LEANDRO: Olha só... Tá me cheirando a enrolada... 11  
Check it out... I don't buy it... It smells fishy...

ANDRÉIA: Eu não senti firmeza... 12  
I'm not feeling it...

LEANDRO: Também não... Não acredito nessa conversinha não de "volto já, já"...  
Me, either. I don't buy this, "I'll be right back"...

ANDRÉIA: Conversa fiada, 13 rapaz!  
Bullshit, man!

LEANDRO: Pois é...  
Yep...



### 1. *Malhando* bastante, *rapaz*?

Here we have a very special meaning of the verb *malhar*: “to work out.” This current usage of the verb is relatively new in Brazilian Portuguese: it has been used by Brazilians since the 80’s. *Malhar* can also mean “to criticize” or “to slander.”

Also note the use of the vocative *rapaz* at the end. Brazilians are very much into using vocatives (usually the name of the interlocutor) as a way to address the listener directly and keep him/her engaged in the conversation. In this dialog, the vocative is used several times, and the form used here is *rapaz*, that could be either “man” or “dude”. In this last case, as a slang word, sometimes Brazilians will not sound the final -z: *rapá*...

### 2. *Vai chover* hoje!

What a great expression in Portuguese! Here we have an example of a metaphorical use of this expression, and in this case it does **not** mean literally “It is going to rain.” Andréia is very surprised to meet Antônio at the gym, and this is the reason she says: *Vai chover* hoje, *rapaz*! It is a way to express that this is something that she was really not expecting to see happening. It’s a big surprise.

3. *Olha as desculpas aí, ó!*

Check out all the excuses Antônio is giving as he tries to explain his absence from the gym... And this is exactly what Leandro is focusing on when he says “*Olha as desculpas aí!*”

*Olha aí* or *Olha X aí* is a very common expression in Portuguese used to put something or someone on focus and maintain the interaction between speaker/listener: *Olha ele aí, gente!* It can also be used as a way to try to have the agreement of the listener about what is being said, reinforcing the speaker’s point of view: *Olha aí, tá vendo?* (See, can you see?)

Also note the use of *ó* at the end of the sentence: it is a short version for *olha*, and, again, it is a way to ask for the listener’s attention and agreement.

4. *Quando se trata de malhação...*

A non-native speaker can have a hard time with this one: *Quando se trata de...* (Talking about...). This is an expression that you cannot take literally!

5. ... *achei meio chato.*

Antônio has tried working out before, but he got bored. Note the way he expresses it in Portuguese: “*achei meio chato.*” *Chato* is the best Portuguese adjective you can use to describe something or someone as “boring”. It is also very commonly used to express “to get bored,” in this case along with the verb *achar* (to think, to consider).

Notice also the use of the word *meio*. Although one possible meaning of this word can be “half,” it is not the case here: Antônio got kind of bored...

6. Eu vou *largar isso de mão.*

Once more, another really interesting Brazilian expression that you cannot take literally. Nothing to do with your hand... *Largar de mão* is a way to say “to give up.” It can also be *largar mão de*. Either version would be fine.

7. Comecei faz uma semana...

What a great verb this one in Portuguese: *fazer*- talking about past time: *Faz uma semana* = *a week ago*.

Notice the structure here:

- **ACTION** (comecei) + **FAZ** (in the present tense) + **TIME** (uma semana).

Another possible way to say the same thing would be:

- **FAZ** + **TIME** (uma semana) + **QUE** + **ACTION** (comecei) – *Faz uma semana que comecei*.

*Faz tempo que o Antônio não malha.* (Antônio have not worked out for a long time)

8. É... eu já tô fazendo já faz uns seis meses. Tô fazendo esteira, faço a bicicleta, e também faço natação duas vezes por semana.

Ok, here comes the wonderful and neat verb *fazer* again... *Fazer exercício/academia* (to work out), *fazer esteira* (to walk/jog on the treadmill), *fazer bicicleta* (to ride the bike), *fazer natação* (to swim)... Use *fazer* to describe some of your physical activities and you'll sound like a real Brazilian!

9. Tá toda em forma aí!

You can use *toda*, *toda* as a mean to say “all, complete, entire”: *Estou toda suado!* (I'm all sweat!) But it is also a way to emphasize things, meaning approximately “very, “really”: *Você tá toda linda / brava!* (You are very pretty / really mad!). And this is the case here: Antônio points out that Andréia is really in good shape. *Ela tá toda, toda!*



10. *'Bora nessa!*

What a great dialog, full of slangs and informal expressions! Here is an interesting one. The expression *'Bora nessa!* (Come on, let's go!) is the mix of the very short version for *Vamos embora* (*'Bora*) and *Vamos nessa* (both of them meaning "let's go"). *'Bora nessa, gente!*

11. *Tá me cheirando a enrolada...*

*Cheirar a enrolada*—what a great way to say that something seems suspicious, causing you to think that someone is being dishonest. Poor Antônio! Leandro “smells fishy” and he is not buying his excuses...

12. *Eu não senti firmeza...*

Andréia, just like Leandro, is not buying Antônio's excuses; she *não sente firmeza* (literally “does not feel steadiness”) about what he's just told them. She is not feeling it...

13. *Conversa fiada!*

Here is another expression that cannot be taken literally. Although the original meaning of *fiado(a)* was “trusting, confiding” in the context of something sold on credit, note that here we have a very different meaning: *conversa fiada* is the Brazilian expression for idle talk, humbug, baloney. You will also sound very Brazilian if, in this situation, you'll say: *papo furado!* or *conversa mole!*





## Working Out 2: I love going to the gym

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=12>





Well, it looks like Denise is getting a good start at her new workouts in the gym. Valentino and Silvia know what they are doing and they've been at it for a while by now. Start slow, work your way up, and alternate between upper body and lower body. She should make it, and it also makes for an interesting *Conversa Brasileira*.

SÍLVIA: Valentino, você vai demorar muito aí ainda? ❶  
Valentino, Valentino, you going to be much longer?

VALENTINO: Olha, mais uns minutinhos, ❷ mas eu já tô de saída... ❸ Já malhei bastante hoje.  
Well, only a few more minutes, I'm about to leave. I've already worked out a lot today.

SÍLVIA: Ai, você não quer me ajudar ali na barra daqui a pouco?  
Ah, could you help spot me at the barbell for a bit?

VALENTINO: Posso te ajudar.  
I can help you.

DENISE: Dá licença, um pouquinho? ❹  
Excuse me, please.

VALENTINO: Claro, claro...  
Sure, sure...

SÍLVIA: Eu vou fi...  
I'm going to be...

VALENTINO: Posso te ajudar, sim...  
I can help you...

SÍLVIA: Eu vou fazer um pouco de barra, mas preciso de alguém pra ajudar...  
I'll be working with the barbell, but I need some help...

VALENTINO: Sim, eu vou lá...  
Ok, I'm going...

DENISE: Ai, gente, como é que é isso aqui mesmo? Você pode me dar uma ajudinha aqui? ⑤  
Hey, how does this one work here? Could you give me a hand here?

VALENTINO: Eu não entendo muito desse equipamento...  
I don't know much about this equipment...

DENISE: Isso aqui tá destravado?  
Is this one unlocked?

VALENTINO: Você conhece, Sílvia?  
You know about it, Silvia?

SÍLVIA: Ah sim! Isso é bem fácil, ó. Vira pra esquerda, depois pra direita e... pega o número de peso que você quer... Isso!  
Oh, yeah! This one is easy, look. Turn to the left, then to the right and... put how much weight you want... That's it!

DENISE: Ai, já foi.  
Ok, done!

SÍLVIA: Pronto! Isso, isso!  
Yeah! That's it! That's it!

DENISE: Acho que foi. Ai, tô toda atrapalhada aqui! ⑥ Tô começando essa semana! Não sei direito ainda muito bem o que fazer... ⑦ Vocês vêm sempre aqui? Como é que é? ⑧  
I think I got it. I'm kind of confused here... I just started this week. I'm still not very sure about what I'm supposed to do... Do you guys come here very often? How does this all work?

VALENTINO: Eu venho com frequência... Duas, três vezes por semana.  
I come quite a bit... Two or three times a week.

SÍLVIA: Ah, venho três vezes por semana. Se eu pudesse, eu morava na academia! ⑨  
I come three times a week. If I could, I'd be here all the time!

DENISE: Ah, meu Deus!  
Oh my gosh!

SÍLVIA: Eu adoro academia!  
I love the gym!

DENISE: Quero chegar lá! Ainda não tô não... Na verdade, sabe, eu saio daqui toda doída. 10 No outro dia... sabe, assim, descobrindo músculos que eu não sabia que eu tinha?  
I'd like to get to that point. But I'm still not... The truth is, when I leave the gym I'm really sore all over... The day after, you know, I discover muscles I never knew I had...

VALENTINO: Mas tem que equilibrar nos exercícios... tem que começar devagar e depois forçar um pouquinho mais...  
But you need to balance the exercises... you've got to start slowly and then you push a little bit harder...

SÍLVIA: A dica é você equilibrar peso, os dias da semana com os exercícios que você faz. Não é, Valentino?  
The tip is to balance the weight, the days of the week and the exercises you do. Isn't that right, Valentino?

VALENTINO: É...  
Yeah...

DENISE: Como é que vocês fazem?  
How do you guys do it?

SÍLVIA: Nós fazemos três vezes na semana... Como... Segunda, a parte de cima do corpo. Na ter... na quarta, a parte de baixo. E na quinta, a gente mistura... A gente sempre faz coisas juntos.  
We come three times a week... Like... On Monday, (we work out) the upper part of our body. On Tuesday, the lower part. And on Thursday, we mix things up... We always exercise together.

DENISE: Vocês fazem sempre musculação 11 ou outras coisas também aqui?  
Do you always lift weights or do you do other things too?

SÍLVIA: Sim...  
Yeah...

**VALENTINO:** Musculação, mas fora aqui da academia eu gosto de fazer uma caminhada. Eu acho aqui um pouco fechado, gosto de respirar um pouco de ar fora... Então eu intercalo. 12

We usually lift weights, but outside the gym I like to walk. I think the gym is kind of too enclosed, I like to get some fresh air... So I change things up...

**DENISE:** Então... Você sabe que essa é que é, essa que é a minha coisa também. 13 Eu gosto muito de correr, mas tô com um problema no joelho, por isso que eu tô aqui. Mas, enfim, experimentar uma coisa nova, né?

Well... You know, this is exactly my problem. I love to go jogging, but my knee isn't doing well, so that's why I'm here. So, anyway, I'm trying something new, right?

**VALENTINO:** Vai devagar, aumentando... Gente, eu tenho que sair. Olha Sílvia, eu te encontro na barra.

Start slowly, and then push harder... Guys, I gotta go. Look, Sílvia, I'll meet you at the bench.

**SÍLVIA:** Tá, daqui a pouco eu tô indo pra lá!  
Ok, I'll be right there!

**DENISE:** Tá legal...  
OK...

**VALENTINO:** Alongamento depois, hein?  
We need to stretch after it, ok?

**DENISE:** Tchau, hein?  
Bye then.

**VALENTINO:** Tchau, tchau.  
Bye-bye.

**SÍLVIA:** Olha, se você quiser, você pode começar com a gente na semana que vem.  
Look, if you want, you can start coming with us next week.

**DENISE:** Tá legal. Que horas vocês vem normalmente?  
Ok. What time do you guys usually come?

SÍLVIA: Segunda-feira, a partir da uma da tarde.  
On Mondays, starting around 1pm.

DENISE: Estarei aí!  
I'll be here.

SÍLVIA: Tá bom.  
Ok.



## Usage Notes

### 1. ... você vai demorar muito aí ainda?

Non-native speakers can struggle with this structure: *Vai demorar?* (Are you / Is something going to be much longer?). Note that the structure is totally different in both languages. Be aware of it, use it, and this way mastering it *não vai demorar!*

### 2. ... mais uns minutinhos...

Oh, here comes the lovely Brazilian diminutive again... As a way to attenuate things or make them slender, the diminutive is strongly used in Portuguese, and here we have a good example of it, along with the usage of the indefinite form *uns*. Valentino says that he will be working out only a few more minutes: *mais uns minutinhos*. *Só mais um pouquinho*...

### 3. ... mas eu já tô de saída.

*Estar de saída*: “being about to leave.” Notice that here we have another expression with totally different structures in Portuguese and in English. In English we express the same idea by saying something like “I’m about to leave.”

### 4. Dá licença, um pouquinho?!

“Excuse me, please / a sec.” The diminutive again... Note that, in the case here, the expression *um pouquinho* is a way to soften the request, with an interesting pragmatic effect. Denise asks for “permission” to pass between Valentino and the equipment, trying not to be impolite.

5. Você pode me dar uma ajudinha aqui?

Tired of diminutives? Don't be! You need them a lot in Portuguese! In her request, Denise asks for *uma ajudinha* and she could also have said *uma mãozinha*. "Could you give me a hand here?"

Notice also the word order here: *pode me dar uma ajudinha*. The pronoun *me* usually comes before the verb (*dar*) in spoken language. Speakers of Spanish may find this unusual, where *me puede dar* or *puede darme* are more standard. In Portuguese, however, the indirect object pronoun easily goes between the two verbs.

6. Ai, tô toda atrapalhada aqui!

Denise feels herself a little lost and confused setting up and using the equipment; she is not so sure about what she needs to do. She is *toda atrapalhada*, "kind of confused."

7. Não sei direito ainda muito bem o que fazer...

Denise is still "not very sure" about what she is supposed to do while setting up and using the equipment. Note the difference between the Portuguese and English structures. Here is another expression you cannot take literally, *não saber direito* = "not being very sure."



8. Vocês vêm sempre aqui? *Como é que é?*

This is a beautiful example of Brazilian wording and phrases. The equivalent English phrase would be “How does this all work?” Notice, however, the Brazilian flow to a phrase like *Como é que é?* It’s almost like saying, “how is it that this all works?”

9. Se eu pudesse, eu *morava* na academia!

Here we have a very special meaning to the verb *morar*, that usually means “to live” (but not in this case). Here Sílvia points out that she loves so much working out that, if she could, she’d be at the gym all the time! In this case, *morar* means “to be at some place all the time.”

One more thing here: when learning how to use the verb tenses in Portuguese, keep in mind that you cannot rely on the structures you have in English. In the case here, you might want to say “Se eu *pudesse*, eu *moraria*” (If I could, I’d live). Note that although grammarians do not ‘approve’ that, the subjunctive didn’t trigger the conditional (*moraria*). Brazilians prefer to use the Imperfect (*morava*) in cases like this one.

10. ... eu saio daqui *toda doída*...

Non-native speakers might struggle with this structure... What a great way to say “when I leave the gym I’m really sore all over”! Note the Brazilian wording: *toda(o) doída(o)*.

11. Vocês *fazem* sempre *musculação*...

One more time, here comes the wonderful *fazer* again. We’ve seen before: *fazer exercício/academia* (to work out), *fazer esteira* (to walk/jog on the treadmill), *fazer bicicleta* (to ride the bike), *fazer natação* (to swim). And here we have: *fazer musculação* (to lift weights). Once more: use *fazer* to describe some of your physical activities and you’ll sound Brazilian.

12. Então eu intercalo...

This is an interesting verb in Portuguese: *intercalar* (alternate), which means to insert something at intervals among other things. It can sound a little fancy, but actually in Portuguese it is not ... Here it means something like “So I change things up.”

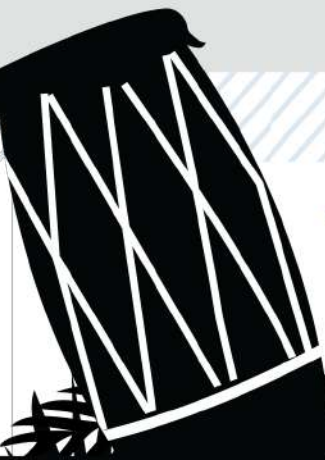
13. ... essa que é a minha coisa também.

The word *coisa* literally means “thing”, but very often Brazilians also use it to convey the idea of “issue, problem,” etc. That is why we translated it as “this is exactly my problem.”



## Wedding I: A coisa tava chique!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=13>





Sílvia calls the wedding that Andréia went to a *casamento de grã-fino*, which is a perfect way of saying that it was a big, fancy wedding. There's no denying it, wedding traditions differ from one country to another. Just imagine what might happen when an American marries a Brazilian! So, bring Silvia and Andréia together and watch them talk about weddings. No doubt, we have the makings of a pretty amazing *Conversa Brasileira*.

ANDRÉIA: E aí, Sílvia? Tá fazendo algum *paper* pra essa semana? Que que tá rolando aí?  
What's up, Sílvia! Do you have any papers due this week? Tell me, what's goin' on?

SÍLVIA: Uai, menina, tô aqui atolada ❶ de trabalho esse, essa semana. Tenho que terminar esse paper. Não fiz, não fiz nada nesse final de semana. Nada!  
Well, girl, I have a lot of work this week. I have to finish this paper. I haven't done anything this weekend, nothing!

ANDRÉIA: Ai, relaxa! Que que rolou? Me conta, aí, qual é a novidade?  
Relax! What's up? Tell me, what's new?

SÍLVIA: Não, em vez de ficar estudando, sabe o que que eu fiz? Fui pra uma festa.  
Well, instead of studying, do you know what I did? I went to a party.

ANDRÉIA: Opa, pera aí. ❷ Uma festa?  
Wait, wait. A party?

SÍLVIA: É, uma festa...  
Yeah, a party...

ANDRÉIA: Me conta! Me conta tudo!  
Tell me! Tell me everything!

SÍLVIA: Então, fui pra um casamento. Aí, óbvio que eu não ia perder a oportunidade de ir num casamento. Tinha esse paper pra fazer mas óbvio que eu não ia perder... of course!  
Well, I went to a wedding. So, of course I wouldn't miss the chance of going to a wedding. I had this paper to write, but of course I wasn't about to miss it ... of course!

ANDRÉIA: Of course!  
Of course!

SÍLVIA: E aí, o que que aconteceu? Eu tive muito trabalho pra preparar as coisas pro casamento... E aí não deu. ③  
So, what happened? I had a lot to do in order to get ready for the wedding... So it didn't work out.

ANDRÉIA: Ah, que horror, ④ que que passou?  
Oh, bummer, what happened?

SÍLVIA: Então, sabe que eles têm um sistema, os noivos têm um sistema diferente aqui de dar presente, né? De, de receber presentes.  
Well, do you know that here they have a way, the bride and groom have a different way to give gifts, right? ... to, to receive gifts.

ANDRÉIA: Ah, sim!  
Oh, yeah!

SÍLVIA: Então, eles colocam os nomes lá em três, em três, colocam num site, três, nome de três lojas... ah ... os presentes que eles querem e os preços. Você compra online e eles... a loja mesmo manda pra casa deles e enfim... Só que ⑤ quando eu entrei no site já não tinha mais nenhum presente disponível. Aí eu fiquei que nem ⑥ uma louca procurando o presente...  
So, they put their names on three, three, they put on a website, three, the names of three stores ... uh ... the gifts they want and the prices. You go online and buy it and they ... the store sends it to their house and so ... But when I visited the website, there were no gifts left. Then I was looking for a gift like crazy...

ANDRÉIA: O que que você fez? Me diga!  
What did you do? Tell me!

SÍLVIA: Ai, fui procurar numa loja brasileira um presente mais específico. Obviamente. Mas aí depois deu tudo certo. Fui pra festa, fiquei lá, dancei, bebi, comi, conversei com as pessoas. Foi ótimo!  
Well, I looked at a Brazilian store for a more personalized gift. Of course. And in the end everything turned out OK. I went to the party, I danced, drank, ate, and talked to people... It was great!

ANDRÉIA: Ai, Sílvia, mas esse tá parecendo casamento de grã-fino! ⑦ Porque casamento de povão não tem nada de lista em internet, nada. Você vai em qualquer armazenzinho ali, no “Xodó” da vida, ⑧ compra alguma coisa, leva, e todo mundo fica feliz e ainda agradece pelo presente, minha filha.

Well, Sílvia, it seems like this was a fancy wedding! Because an ordinary wedding does not have any lists on the internet, not one. You go to some very simple store, like “Xodó”, you buy something, you take it, and everyone is happy and thankful for the gift, my friend.

**SÍLVIA:** Ai, é... Eu, eu, ó, eu sei que dos casamentos que eu já fui, isso é verdade. Porque ah... pros meus amigos, eu vou lá, compro um presente, mando pra eles, lá, pra casa... Às vezes nem manda nada, manda depois. Enfim... Mas esse, esse foi uma casamento que tinha, que tinha três ambientes... A coisa tava, tava chique.  
Well, it's... I, I, look, I know that of the weddings I've been to, that's been true. Because uh..., for my friends, I buy a gift, I send it to them, to their house... Sometimes I don't even send anything, I send something later. Anyway... But this one, this one was a wedding with, with three different decorated rooms... It was very fancy!

**ANDRÉIA:** Uau!  
Wow!

**SÍLVIA:** Era chiquerésimo, 9 assim...  
Very, very fancy, like...

**ANDRÉIA:** Ah, não! Lá no Brasil é assim: se você vai 10 num casamento de grã-fino, você vai falar da comida, se foi gostosa, se teve canapé ou se não teve, do vinho, se foi do bom... Que tipo de buffet, que tipo de música, se teve banda, se não teve... Casamento do povão você sabe, né? É tudo mecânico mesmo, você coloca a música, o povo dança... E eu já fui em um que até acabou a comida e o povo saiu falando... 11  
Oh, no! In Brazil, it's like this: if you go to a fancy wedding you're going to talk about the food, if it was good, if there were hors d'oeuvres or not, talk about the wine, if it was a good one... What kind of catering, what kind of music, if there was a band or not... At an ordinary wedding, you know how it is, right? Everything is very simple, you play some music, people dance... I've been to one where there wasn't even enough food and everyone left talking about it...

**SÍLVIA:** Ahn, ahn...  
Ahn, ahn...

**ANDRÉIA:** E aí, o que que você faz?  
And then, what do you do?

**SÍLVIA:** É, não nesse caso...  
Yeah, but not in this case...

**ANDRÉIA:** Ah, não! Esse foi dos bons!  
Oh, no! This one was a good one!

SÍLVIA:	Nesse caso tava tudo perfeito. Tinha, a comida era comida nigeriana, tinha uma banda ao vivo... In this case everything was perfect. There was, the food was Nigerian, there was live music...
ANDRÉIA:	Esse foi dos bons! It was a good one!
SÍLVIA:	É, ó, banda ao vivo! Yeah, live music!
ANDRÉIA:	Ó, tô falando! É casamento de grã-fino! A grã-finada é tudo frescurite! <sup>12</sup> Look, that's what I'm talking about! It's a fancy wedding! Fancy people are all about fanciness!
SÍLVIA:	O negócio tava bom lá! <sup>13</sup> It was really good over there!
ANDRÉIA:	Frescurite total! Total fanciness!
SÍLVIA:	Mas aí tava legal. No mais, é só que agora que eu fiquei apertada <sup>14</sup> aí com esses <i>papers</i> e agora tenho que... tenho que correr! But it was cool. The only thing is that now I'm in a rush with these papers and I need to hurry up!
ANDRÉIA:	Ah, deixa eu te falar! Oh, let me say something!
SÍLVIA:	Tenho que correr atrás do prejuízo! <sup>15</sup> Now I just have to hurry up and catch up.
ANDRÉIA:	Menina, preciso te contar! Escuta! Escuta!
	Girl, I need to tell you something! Listen, listen!
SÍLVIA:	O quê? What?
ANDRÉIA:	Porque o mês que vem eu estou indo num casamento americano, lá em Boston! Because next month I'm going to an American wedding, in Boston!
SÍLVIA:	Hum! Ai, nós vamos comparar! Hum! Then, we can compare the two!

**ANDRÉIA:** Preciso pensar numa roupa, num modelito, 16 assim... Preciso pensar nos presentes e tudo isso... Essa tradição...  
I need to think about the outfit I'm going to wear... I need to think about the gifts and everything... This tradition...

**SÍLVIA:** Olha, tá frio. Vai com cuidado. Compra uma roupa que serve, que sirva pro inverno.  
Look, the weather is cold. Be careful. Buy something that you can wear in the winter.

**ANDRÉIA:** Ai, beleza! Olha, eu vou pra casa tirar um soneca que eu tô com muito sono agora!  
Oh, sweet! Look, I'm going home to take a nap because now I'm very sleepy!

**SÍLVIA:** E eu vô terminar isso. Que já acabou a morcegagem, 17 então, vamos trabalhar!  
And I'm going to finish this. Enough of this laziness, so, let's do it!

**ANDRÉIA:** Beleza, amiga. Beleza!  
Sweet, my friend. Sweet!

**SÍLVIA:** Ok, então. Bye-bye.  
Ok, then. Bye-bye.





## Usage Notes

### 1. ... *menina*, tô aqui atolada de trabalho...

This is an interesting use of the word *atolada* (literally “bogged”). *Sílvia* says *tô atolada de trabalho* (I have a lot of work) a way to emphasize she has a lot of work to do.

### 2. Opa, pera aí! Uma festa?

*Pera aí!* (Wait a minute!). This is a great expression to be used in Portuguese in spoken language, and it has some different effects. One of them is when you think of something important during the conversation and want to interrupt your interlocutor to say something—and this is the case here. Another one is when you disagree with your interlocutor and use the expression to make it clear. In this case, it is usually pronounced with a rising intonation.

### 3. E aí não deu.

*Sílvia* had a paper to write during that weekend, but she went to the wedding party instead e *aí não deu* (and so she could not make it; she just wasn’t going to make it). When Brazilians express the idea of something working out or not working out, they often use the verb dar. *Dar para fazer*: “to be possible / able to do or make something.”

### 4. ... que horror!

This is a good expression to be used as a response to a situation in which something undesirable occurs or when you listen to the misfortune of something or someone.

5. Só que quando eu entrei no site...

A non-native speaker can have a hard time with this one: *só que*, in the case here, means “but”. In English we often use the phrase “it’s just that” and this is similar to *só que*.

6. Aí eu fiquei que nem uma louca procurando o presente...

What a great expression this one is! Sílvia says she was looking for a gift que nem uma louca (like crazy)... Notice that *que nem* means “like not even,” and here you could also use the word *como*.

7. ... casamento de grã-fino X casamento de povão

*Grã-fino* is a relatively recent expression in Portuguese, probably from the '60s, and it means “someone or something fancy, luxurious.” It is an informal expression and can be used either as a noun (*o grã-fino chegou* [arrived]) or an adjective (*casamento grã-fino*). The expression *de grã-fino* works as an adjective phrase.

*Povão*, also an informal word, means the opposite: “populace, rabble.” It is a noun, and the correspondent adjective phrase is *de povão* (ordinary). It is as if you were to say, the common or everyday people.

8 ... qualquer armazenzinho ali, no “Xodó” da vida...

Talking about *casamento de povão*, Andréia says she used to buy the gift at a very simple store, *armazenzinho*, the diminutive of *armazém* (general store). “*Xodó*” is the name of a chain store in Brazil just like that. The word *xodó* itself means “love, passion, affection.”

Notice also the use of the expression *da vida* by Sílvia after the name of the store: *Xodó da vida*. It is an interesting (informal) way to say that something is really ordinary. It can also mean “very”: *danado da vida* (very angry); *feliz da vida* (very happy).

9. A coisa tava chique; chiquerésimo...

The wedding was elegant, chic... Well, more than that: chiquerésimo! Here we have a great informal and funny way to express – and also emphasize – the superlative of the word *chique*. Regarding this superlative, you can also listen to Brazilians saying: *chiquíssimo(a)*, *chiquêrrimo(a)* or *chiquéximo(a)* – the first one being the most formal.

10. ... se você vai num casamento de grã-fino, você vai falar da comida...

Notice here the use of the indicative (*vai*) instead of the future subjunctive (*for*), even with the use of se. This sentence could easily be *se você for num casamento*, but maybe because it is a habitual action, repetitive, it is in the present tense.

11. ... acabou a comida e o povo saiu falando...

Andréia talks about one wedding she has been to where there wasn't even enough food and everyone left talking (badly) about it. O povo saiu falando... So, *falar*, here, is much more than simply “to speak.”

12. A grã-finada é tudo frescurite!

What an awesome sentence! Actually, *grã-finada* is a kind of neologism (very informal) for “fancy people,” as well as *frescurite* is another one for *frescura* (which is proper of someone or something fussy, picky, choosy; and also fanciness). Well, fancy people are all about fanciness!

13. O negócio tava bom lá!

It (o *negócio*, a *coisa*) was really good over there! *Negócio* has nothing to do with business here... Brazilians tend to use the word *negócio* in phrases where North Americans just use the generic word “thing.”

14. ... eu fiquei apertada aí com esses papers...

Sílvia went to the wedding party and now she is really in a rush with her paper, she has an urgent need to finish it, she is *apertada*. The expression *estar, ficar apertado(a)* is also commonly used to describe someone in financial difficulties or even with an urgent need to go to the restroom. Literally the word *apertada* means “tight.”

15. Tenho que correr atrás do prejuízo!

Yeah, it was a very good wedding party... But now, poor thing, Sílvia is paying for putting her paper off and needs to hurry up to catch up. So, *Correr atrás do prejuízo* means “to catch up”, but in a very special way. Probably the expression comes from the reduction of something like *Correr atrás de recuperar o que se perdeu devido ao prejuízo* (To do your best to catch up on something you’ve lost because of damages).

16. ... pensar num modelito...

What a fancy way to refer to a “fashionable outfit!” Andréia needs to decide about her outfit for the wedding party she was invited to...

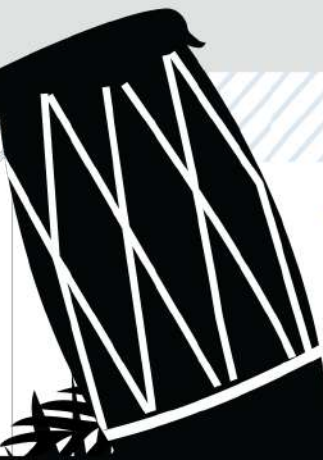
17... já acabou a morcegagem...

Enough of this laziness! Probably, it is a reference to the way bats (*morcegos*) spend hours (or months, when they hibernate...) grooming, sleeping and resting.



## Wedding: Mixing it up. When Brazilians marry Americans.

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=14>





So what's more nerve-wracking than preparing for a wedding? How about preparing for a wedding between an American and a Brazilian! You never really realize how many things are traditional about weddings until you start planning for one that involves people from different cultures. From the proposal to the ring bearers, Denise and Fernanda get to compare notes on how the preparation is going. Opps, Denise has forgotten all about the invitations, but until that point we were part of a very interesting *Conversa Brasileira*.

DENISE: Olha esse, Fer! Olha!  
Look at this one, Fer! Look!

FERNANDA: Tá lindo, tá lindo!  
It's gorgeous! It's gorgeous!

DENISE: Olha, ela não vai ficar linda, aqui? Imagina<sup>1</sup>?!  
Look, isn't she going to look gorgeous in this one? Can you imagine it?!

FERNANDA: Realmente, tá lindo! Tomara que caia<sup>2</sup>...  
It's really truly gorgeous! Strapless...

DENISE: Ai, meu Deus, meu bebê...  
Oh, my God, my baby...

FERNANDA: Agora todo mundo tá usando<sup>3</sup>!  
Everybody is wearing this kind of dress these days!

DENISE: Ai, eu acho que ela tava falando que quer mesmo!  
Well, I think she was saying that this is what she wants!

FERNANDA: E eu gosto assim também.  
I like dresses like this one too!

DENISE: Ela não gosta muito de bordado, não, mas...  
She is not much into embroidered dresses, but...

FERNANDA: E aí, como é que vão os preparativos?  
So, how is the prep going?

DENISE: Ai, o maior frio na barriga<sup>4</sup>! Casar filho você sabe como é que é<sup>5</sup>...  
Quer dizer, você não sabe como é que é! E eu também não sabia!  
Mas, enfim<sup>6</sup>...  
Oh, I have butterflies in my stomach! You know how it is to marry off

one of your children... I mean, you don't know! Neither did I! But, anyway...

**FERNANDA:** Você parece que tá mais nervosa que a noiva<sup>7</sup>!  
It looks like you are more nervous than the bride is!

**DENISE:** Ah, eu tô. Eu tô! Só de falar, minha mão fica fria<sup>8</sup>... Mas eu acho que no fim vai dar tudo certo, né?  
Yeah, I am. I am! Just talking about it, gives me chills... But I think everything will end up OK, right?

**FERNANDA:** Como é que vai ser a cerimônia?  
What is the ceremony going to be like?

**DENISE:** Olha, eles tão querendo fazer uma coisa misturada... Assim, do jeito brasileiro... Porque ele é americano e ela é brasileira. Então eles tão querendo misturar um pouco as tradições daqui com as de lá. E, você sabe que, nesse aspecto, a gente que é brasileiro acaba gostando mais de um casamento no estilo tradicional, né?  
Well, they want to have a combination of the two... In typical Brazilian style... Because he is American and she is Brazilian. So, they want to mix some of the traditions from here with some of them from there. . And, you know, in this respect, we Brazilians prefer a more traditional ceremony you know?

**FERNANDA:** Tradicional!  
Traditional!

**DENISE:** Diferente daqui, né?  
Different from here, you know?

**FERNANDA:** Como é que ele pediu ela em casamento<sup>9</sup>?  
How did he propose to her?

**DENISE:** Menina<sup>10</sup>, foi tão lindo! Num restaurante, o garçom trouxe a champanhe, tava lá o anel!  
Girl, it was so cute! In a restaurant, the waiter brought the champagne, and there the ring was!

**FERNANDA:** Nossa, que lindo!  
Wow! That's so cute!

**DENISE:** Isso é uma coisa diferente aqui também, né?  
This is something else that's different here, you know?

**FERNANDA:** É diferente. Aqui, essa pergunta tem que ser feita de uma maneira criativa, tem que ser uma surpresa, uma coisa especial...  
It is. Here, the proposal needs to be done in a very creatively, it has to be a surprise, a very special thing...



- DENISE: Uma coisa! É, tem que ser diferente mesmo.  
It's something else! Yeah, it has to be something really different!
- FERNANDA: E no Brasil a gente não tem a tradição disso. A gente mais combina...  
In Brazil, we don't have this tradition. We just arrange things...
- DENISE: É...  
Yeah...
- FERNANDA: Quer dizer então que a cerimônia vai ser ... ele sendo americano...  
So, you were saying that the ceremony will be... he being an American...
- DENISE: Eles vão tentar misturar. Então, por exemplo, a entrada<sup>11</sup>... Eles vão querer casar numa igreja, bem tradicional, e a entrada vai ser: a noiva com o pai da noiva...  
They'll try to mix the traditions. So, for instance, the way the bride will go down the aisle... They want to be married in a church, in a very traditional way, and the bride will go down the aisle with her father...
- FERNANDA: Isso.  
Right.
- DENISE: ... e o noivo com a mãe dele.  
...and the groom will go down the aisle with his mom.
- FERNANDA: Com a mãe dele.  
With his mom.
- DENISE: E aí os que sobram vão juntos...  
And the rest will walk with each other...
- FERNANDA: É, ficam no cortejo.  
Right, they walk together...
- DENISE: ... que são: o pai do noivo com a mãe da noiva. Aí os dois vão juntos, né?  
... that is: the groom's father with the bride's mother. Then, they both go down the aisle together, right?
- FERNANDA: E tem as daminhas<sup>12</sup> também que vão entrar?  
And are there going to be ring bearers?
- DENISE: É, essa parte de daminha aí eles ainda tão decidindo...  
Well, regarding the ring bearers, they are still deciding ...
- FERNANDA: Decidindo...  
Deciding...
- DENISE: ... como é que eles vão fazer. Mas acho que vai ter a daminha de aliança, que no meio vem trazendo<sup>13</sup> a aliança, né?



... how they are going to do it. But I think they'll have a ring bearer girl, who brings the ring in the middle [of the ceremony], you know?

**FERNANDA:** Que legal! E os convites? Porque...  
Cool! And the invitations? Because...

**DENISE:** Menina, os con... Os convites!! Nossa, Fer, eu tenho que ir pegar os convites. Tô atrasada!  
Girl, the invi... The invitations! Oh my, Fer, I gotta go pick the invitations up! I'm late!

**FERNANDA:** Esqueceu?!  
Did you forget?!

**DENISE:** Tchau.  
Bye.

**FERNANDA:** Tchau.  
Bye.



1. Olha, ela não vai ficar linda, aqui? Imagina?!

Here we see Denise saying Imagina?! , meaning “*Can you imagine it?!* ” or even “*Imagine that!* ” – something very close to the English form. But it is interesting to point that in Portuguese there is another very common use to this expression but with a very peculiar meaning, something like “*no way, no problem* ”.

2. Tomara que caia...

Denise and Fernanda are talking about a gorgeous strapless bridal dress: a ‘*tomara que caia*’ one. Literally, the expression means ‘*I hope/wish it falls*’... What a gorgeous name for a gorgeous dress!

3. Agora todo mundo tá usando!

A non-native speaker can have a hard time with the verb “*usar*” in Portuguese: it can mean *to use*, but it can also mean *to wear* or *to dress* – and that is the case here. Everybody is wearing (a strapless dress) these days...

4. Ai, o maior frio na barriga!

When Denise thinks about her daughter’s wedding, she has – literally - a “chilly stomach”... Well, this is the Brazilian way to say you have butterflies in your stomach.

5. ... você sabe como é que é...

You know how it is... This is a beautiful example of the syntax in Portuguese. One could say only “sabe como é...”, but the “que é” at the end really adds emphasis and it is very used in the oral and informal speech.

6. Mas, enfim...

The word “enfim” in Portuguese is very commonly used as an adverb meaning ‘last, finally, after all, ultimately’. But here it has a different use: it works as a discursive marker, used to continue or resume the thread of a story or account. It is something like “anyway”.

7. Você parece que tá mais nervosa que a noiva!

Use “mais... (do) que” or “menos ... (do) que” to express comparisons of inequality in Portuguese. Notice that either “do que” or “que” may be used to express “than”. When talking about numbers, use only “de” instead of “do que”: “Havia mais de vinte pessoas naquela sala.” (There were more than 20 people in that room).

8. ... minha mão fica fria...

Just talking about her daughter’s wedding, gives Denise the chills... But notice the way she says this in Portuguese: “minha mão fica fria” – literally, “my hand gets cold”. But if you hear that someone is a “pé frio”, be careful: it means he/she is a bad luck bringer...

9. Como é que ele *pediu ela em casamento*?

How did he *propose to her*? Notice that “to propose”, in Portuguese, is “*pedir em casamento*” – literally “to ask in marriage”. One can also say “*pedir a mão em casamento*”, ‘to ask the hand of’. Often “*pedir*” is followed by the indirect object “*para ele*” or “*para ela*.” In this case, however, “*ela*” is the direct object.

It’s interesting to notice that there is a big difference between the Brazilian and the American way to make a marriage proposal. In US this is really a big deal, something that requires a lot of creativity and cleverness from the groom in order to make it very memorable, unique and special. In Brazil, this is not such a big deal; usually the couple just talks about their desire to get married and decide together how to set things up.

10. *Menina*, foi tão lindo!

Oh, the vocative in Portuguese... Vocative is a specific noun form (it can be a proper name/noun) that is used in addressing the interlocutor during the dialog. Brazilians just love using it! So, if you want to sound like a Brazilian, use it, *my friend*!

11. Então, por exemplo, *a entrada*...

In this dialog, Denise and Fernanda are talking about the differences between a wedding in Brazil and one in US. In Brazil, traditionally, the bride goes down the aisle in a church with her father – the bride’s “*entrada*” (entrance). But before that, the groom goes down the aisle with his mom, followed by the groom’s father with the bride’s mother. After them, the “*padrinhos*” (bestman+groomsmen) and “*madrinhas*” (maid of honor+bridesmaids) walk with each other, as partners (it is usual to invite couples for this role/position). Half of them are from the bride’s side and the other half from the groom’s side. Then a child comes, usually a girl (“*daminha*”), although it is not unusual to have boys (“*pajem*”) as well, and it can be more than one child. And finally, the bride!

12. E tem as daminhas também...

In Brazil, it is not usual to have the flower girl, but usually there is one (or more) child that goes down the aisle before the bride, called “*daminha de honra*” (if a girl) and “*pajem*” (if a boy). Typically in the middle of the ceremony, another child (usually a girl) walks down the aisle bringing the rings, called “*daminha de aliança*” (ring bearer girl).

13. ...que no meio vem trazendo a aliança.

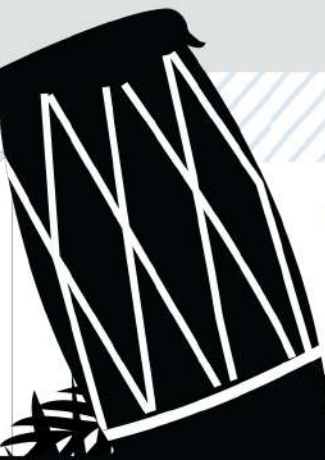
What a nice example of Brazilian syntax! The gerund here (“trazendo”) is used with a verb of motion (*vir*) as a way to emphasize the continuous aspect of the action, what would not be accomplished if Denise had just said “*traz*” (*brings*).





## Grandparents I: Hopscotch and Marbles or Polly Pocket?

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=15>





Some of our greatest childhood memories are often those of interactions with grandparents: playing cards, fishing, hanging out in the tool shed, hearing stories, etc. Talk about different worlds! This dialog compares grandpa's games with tops, kites, and marbles to Alice's Polly Pocket computer games. "You just google it, grandpa." The games and topics may be different, but what stays the same is the great feeling that comes when grandparents chat away with grandchildren. In this case, Ivo and Alice's chat is a perfect example of another *Conversa Brasileira*.

IVO: Alice, onde você está?  
Alice, where are you?

ALICE: Ah, vô, tô aqui na cozinha.  
I'm in the kitchen, grandpa.

IVO: Fazendo o quê?  
What are you doing?

ALICE: Tô brincando no computador.  
I'm playing on the computer

IVO: Brincando no computador?! Você tá jogando ❶ no computador? Que é isso, filha?  
Playing on the computer?! You're playing on the computer? What's this, sweetie?

ALICE: É, você pode... ir no Google e pôr um jogo e aí depois você pode brincar.  
Yeah, you can... go to Google and type in a game then you can play it.

IVO: Poxa, no meu tempo não tinha nada disso... ❷ Prá começar, ❸ não tinha nem computador!  
Wow, in my time we didn't have anything like this... First of all, we didn't even have a computer!

ALICE: É...  
Yeah...

IVO: Então a gente brincava de outras coisas, tá certo?  
So we played other things, you know?

ALICE: É.  
Yeah.



- IVO: Então os meninos gostavam de rodar pião, ④ soltar papagaio, ⑤ jogar bolinha de gude... ⑥  
So the boys liked to spin tops, fly kites, play with marbles...
- ALICE: Como você joga “rodar pião”, de novo?  
How do you spin a top, again?
- IVO: Rodar pião? Pião era uma pecinha de madeira, assim, que a gente enrolava uma cordinha nele, jogava com força, puxava a cordinha e ele ficava rodando...  
Spin a top? It was a piece of wood, like this, and we would roll a cord around it, throw it really hard, rip the cord off, and it would keep on spinning...
- ALICE: E como era a bolinha de gude?  
And what about marbles?
- IVO: Bolinha de gude? Eram bolinhas de vidro, coloridas, bonitinhas, que a gente brincava com elas. Fazia um buraquinho lá e tentava encostar lá no buraquinho e o outro tentava tirar a bolinha da gente. Mas era legal!  
Marbles? They were little glass balls, colorful, cute, and we would play with them. We would make a target and try to knock the ball onto the target while the other guy tried to take our balls away. But it was cool!
- ALICE: Ah.  
Oh.
- IVO: Agora, as meninas tinham outro tipo de brinquedo, certo?  
Now, the girls had different types of toys, you know?
- ALICE: É.  
Yeah.
- IVO: As meninas brincavam de casinha... ⑦ Você sabe o que é, né?  
The girls would play house ... you know what that is, right?
- ALICE: É.  
Yeah.
- IVO: De jogar amarelinha... ⑧  
Play hopscotch...
- ALICE: Como que joga amarelinha?  
How do you play hopscotch?
- IVO: Amarelinha? Você não lembra?  
Hopscotch? Don't you remember?

ALICE: Eu não sei.  
I don't know...

IVO: Você não sabe?  
You don't know?

ALICE: Não.  
No...

IVO: Então, é um risco que a gente fazia na calçada, assim, fazendo as 'casas', e lá em frente você fazia uma casa redonda, assim, e escrevia 'céu'. Então jogava um pedrinha assim e ia pulando as casas, e tal, 9 até chegar na casinha, lá no 'céu'.  
So, we would draw a line on the sidewalk, like this, making 'houses', and way at the top there would be a round house, like this, with the word 'heaven' written on it. So you would throw a pebble like this and would jump from house to house, and so on, until you reached the final house, in 'heaven.'

ALICE: Que legal!  
Cool!

IVO: Legal, né?  
Cool, huh?

ALICE: Ah, ah.  
Uh, huh.

IVO: Mas isso já passou, 10 né? Isso é coisa do passado. Então vamos ver o que que nós temos pra aprender hoje aqui. Você pode ensinar pro vovô alguma coisa aí?  
But that's all gone now, right? Those are things from the past. So let's see what we have to learn today? Can you teach your grandpa something?

ALICE: É, aqui eu tô brincando de Poly Pocket e não é tanto de menina, menino.  
Yeah, I'm playing Polly Pocket and it's not so much as a girl's..., I mean not a boy's game.

IVO: Mas é jogo de menina?  
So it's a girl's game?

ALICE: É.  
Yeah.

IVO: Tá, bom. Mas eu vou aprender assim mesmo, 11 tá?  
Ok. But I will still learn it anyway, ok?

ALICE: Ah, aqui eu tô brincando que você pode clicar nesses, e olha, aqui você pode escolher... e fica lá.

Uh, here I'm playing where you can click here, and look, here you can choose it... and it stays there.

IVO: Ah, e aí você vai completando o que falta do quadro?  
Oh, and then you finish what's missing in the picture?

ALICE: Hum, hum.  
Uh, huh.

IVO: Ah, legal!  
Oh, cool!



### 1. *Brincando* no computador?! Você tá *jogando* no computador?

English speakers can struggle with these two different verbs in Portuguese, *brincar* and *jogar*, since they both correspond to one verb in English, “to play:”

a) *Brincar*: usually means “to play around, entertain, amuse, divert.” It also can be used to express “to mock, joke, fun, fool.”

b) *Jogar*, on the other hand, means to take part in a game or to make a move in a game (notice that the idea of a “game” is usually involved). *Jogar* can also mean “to gamble.”

When talking about “to play an instrument,” use the Portuguese verb *tocar*: *tocar piano*, *tocar violão*, *tocar flauta*, etc (with no article before the noun).

### 2. Poxa, no meu tempo não tinha *nada disso*...

This is a great expression in Portuguese: *nada disso*... Grandpa is saying that in his time they didn’t have anything “like that” or “of the kind...” You can also use this expression by itself and, in this case, the meaning will be something like “no such matter!” or “no way!”, usually when you are disagreeing with somebody or something: *Nada disso! Você está errado*... (*No way! You’re wrong*...)

### 3. *Prá começar*, não tinha nem computador!

Talk about different worlds! “First of all”, in grandpa’s time, they didn’t even have a computer... Notice how different the structure of this expression is in Portuguese: *Prá começar*, the equivalent to “to begin **with**” or “first of all.”

4. rodar pião

Grandpa brings back memory of boys' favorite games and toys in his time... Spinning tops was one of them... When grandpa was a kid, they use to have mainly tops made of wood, with a pulling string to make them move. We still have tops in Brazil, but plastic and metal have largely supplanted the use of wood, and there are several kinds that can be easily spun using only the movement of the hand. Do not mistake pião for peão—this last one meaning “peon.”

5. soltar papagaio

Flying kites was another great boys' favorite game in grandpa's time, and it still remains up-to-date in Brazil, meanly in small cities and suburbs. In his time, they had to make their own kites from scratch, of bamboo and paper. Not an easy endeavor! It was common a kind of competition among the boys to see which kite could fly higher and faster. They use to use a “cutting line,” made of crushed glass and glue in order to cut the line of the other kites and remain the last to fly (what sometimes could result in injuries). There is a lot of geographic variation regarding this word in Brazil: papagaio, pipa, quadrado, cafifa, pandorga (at Rio Grande do Sul state), arraia ou pepeta (at Acre and Amazonas states). You can use either the verb “soltar” or “empinar” with it.

6. jogar bolinha de gude

Grandpa also tells Alice about playing with marbles, another boys' favorite game in his time, and still played mainly in the Northeast of Brazil. The marbles (bolinhas de gude) are usually made from colored glass, and there are several different games and modalities played with them.

7. brincar de casinha

Talking about girls' favorite games and toys in grandpa's time, he remembers how the girls loved to *play house*. Notice the use of the diminutive here (you know, Brazilians love it!): brincar de casinha – as well as in bolinha de gude, amarelinha, etc. The use of diminutive in Portuguese is a very common way to express affection, tenderness, cuteness – so proper to the child's world of games and toys ...

8. jogar amarelinha

Playing hopscotch was another hit among the girls during grandpa's childhood, and it is still very common in Brazil nowadays.

9. Então jogava um pedrinha assim e ia pulando as casas, e tal, até chegar na casinha

What a great example of Brazilian use of verb tenses! Notice the imperfect jogava followed by the gerund (pulando) along with a verb of motion in the imperfect (-ia) instead of simply pulava. This is a way to emphasize the continuous aspect of the action, what would not be accomplished if grandpa had just said pulava (jumped).

Notice as well the expression e tal. This is the short version for et cetera e tal, informally used to mean “and other things,” usually at the end of a list of things.

10. Mas isso já passou, né?

Grandpa brings back memory of the favorite games and toys in his time, but he knows that it is all gone now, he knows that it já passou... What a great verb in Portuguese, passar, with several different meanings! Literally “to pass,” it is not the case here; here it means “to be gone, to be over.” Another example could be: Já passou a chuva (The rain is over).

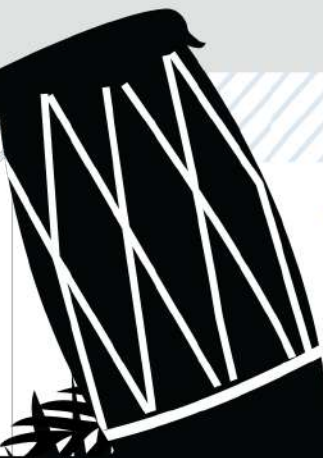
11. Mas eu vou aprender assim mesmo, tá?

Ok, Polly Pocket is not so much as a boy's game, but grandpa wants to play it anyway... He could also have said mesmo assim (with the same order of the equivalent expression in English “even so”).



Grandparents 2: Well grandma, there is  
an easier way to do it

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=16>







Ruth's recipe has to be in one of the cookbooks somewhere, right? Well, maybe so, but wouldn't it just be easier to search for it online? At least that's what Débora thinks. And, chances are that most any teenager will find things faster online than their grandma possibly could in the book anyway. Bingo, Débora found the recipe on line and grandma knows how to make it. A perfect combination, and not a bad *Conversa Brasileira* either.

RUTH: Bolo, torta, frango, sorvete...  
Cake, pie, chicken, ice cream...

DÉBORA: O que que você tá procurando, ❶ vó?  
What are you looking for, grandma?

RUTH: Ah, eu tô procurando uma receita super legal que eu vi ontem um grande chefe de cozinha dando na televisão e eu tô com muita vontade de fazer pra vocês. Mas não tô achando!  
Oh, I'm looking for a super cool recipe that I saw a great chef showing yesterday on TV, and I want to make it for you guys. But I can't find it!

DÉBORA: Ué, ❷ olha em outro livro...  
Well, look in another book...

RUTH: Ah, mas esse aqui ❸ que é bom! Gastei um dinheirão ❹ nele pra comprar... Um livro tão bom, tão grosso e não tem nada... Ih! Não gostei disso! Boa idéia, vou procurar no outro. Quem sabe eu acho? Ih, Débora, pelo visto, ❺ vai acontecer o mesmo. Não tem!  
Oh, but this one is really good! I spend a lot of money on it... Such a good, thick book and there is nothing... Oh! I didn't like this one! Good idea, I'll look in another one. Maybe I'll find it. Oh, Debora, looks like the same thing is going to happen here. They just don't have it.

DÉBORA: Ué, tem um jeito muito mais fácil de fazer...  
Well, there is an easier way to do it...

RUTH: Como?  
How?

DÉBORA: No computador!  
On the computer!



RUTH:	Computador? Computer?
DÉBORA:	É. Yeah.
RUTH:	E dá receita? And it gives you the recipe?
DÉBORA:	Hum, hum. É só me dar o nome, eu vou no site, ⑥ acho a receita e faço um <i>download</i> . Uh, huh. All you do is to give me the name of it, I'll go to the website, find the recipe and download it.
RUTH:	Bom, o nome da receita é... Esqueci! Mas acho que eu lembro. Ah! Camarão na moranga. ⑦ Duvido que você vai ⑧ achar... Well, the name of the recipe is... I forgot it! But I think I can remember it. Oh! <b>Shrimp</b> stuffed <b>pumpkin</b> . I bet you won't find it...
DÉBORA:	Mas, vó, quando você era pequena você não fazia pesquisas na escola? But, grandma, when you were young didn't you do research at school?
RUTH:	Não, porque a minha biblioteca era muito longe, fechava às 5 horas da tarde, e era complicado pra ir até lá. No, because the library was too far away, it closed at 5, and it was too hard to go there.
DÉBORA:	Ué, o seu pai não podia levar você no seu carro? So your dad couldn't take you in your car?
RUTH:	Não, meu pai trabalhava até às 6, e não dava tempo de chegar na biblioteca. No, dad worked until 6, and there was no time to go to the library.
DÉBORA:	Nossa, aqui é tão fácil! Tem biblioteca na escola, vai o tempo inteiro, quando você quiser. Wow, here it's really easy! There is a library at the school, we can go all the time, whenever you want.
RUTH:	É, hoje o tempo é outro, ⑨ bem! Yeah, nowadays everything is so different, sweetie!
DÉBORA:	Então, vó. Anyway, grandma.
RUTH:	Hum? Hum?
DÉBORA:	Essa receita de camarão... Você viu na TV? This shrimp recipe... You saw it on TV?

RUTH: Vi na TV. Tenho certeza! Camarão na moranga.  
I saw it on TV. I'm sure! **Shrimp** stuffed **pumpkin**.

DÉBORA: É essa aqui?  
This one?

RUTH: E não é que <sup>10</sup> você achou? Não acredito! Ah... Como que um negócio  
desse pode dar uma receita que eu vi ontem na televisão?  
You found it! I don't believe it! Oh... How can something like that find  
the recipe I saw on the television yesterday?

DÉBORA: Ué, tecnologia de hoje...  
Well, today's technology...

RUTH: É... Nada como viver nos tempos de hoje, né? Obrigada, querida. É  
essa mesma. Gostei. Camarão na moranga. Vou fazer hoje pra você!  
Você quer experimentar?  
Yeah, there's nothing like living in modern times, huh? Thanks,  
sweetie. This is the one. Nice. I'll make it for you today! You want to  
try it?

DÉBORA: Hum!  
Yeah!

RUTH: Ah, vai ser hoje. Prepare-se!  
Yes, we'll do it today. Get ready!



## Usage Notes

### 1. O que que você tá procurando, vó?

In this example, Debora asks Grandma what she is looking for, and she uses the Portuguese verb procurar. For a non-native speaker, sometimes it is difficult to see the difference between procurar and buscar, since both can mean “to look for, search, seek.” Actually, there are several situations where both can be used as synonymous, but we could point an important difference between them:

- a) Procurar: usually means to look for something that you don’t know where it is, trying to find it—and that is the case in Debora’s question. Another example: *Estou procurando as chaves que eu perdi* (I’m looking for the keys I’ve lost).
- b) Buscar: besides “to look for,” it can also mean “to pick up, transport.” Ex: *Vou buscar meu marido no aeroporto*. (I’m going to pick up my husband at the airport).

### 2. Ué, olha em outro livro...

“Ué (well), look in another book” says Debora to Grandma. Ué is a good interjection to use in Portuguese to express several different emotions: amazement, astonishment, admiration, surprise, irony or even irritation. How can it express such different things? It is all about intonation!

### 3. Ah, mas esse aqui que é bom!

Although the grammar books and dictionaries can say that the demonstrative este means “this, very close to me” and esse means “this, nearby,” este and esse are essentially interchangeable in common Brazilian Portuguese. And here we have a great example of it: esse aqui. The same thing is valid for the feminine and plural version of these pronouns. The difference between them is only well defined when they are used as a reference to something previously written or said in a text.

4. Gastei um dinheirão nele pra comprar...

We already had talked a lot about how Brazilians love the diminutive. Well, they do love the augmentative too – and, like the diminutive, it can be used to express much more than only aspects related to the size of things... Here we see Grandma saying that she spent um dinheirão on that book, that is, she spent a lot of money on it.

5. Ih, Débora, pelo visto, vai acontecer o mesmo.

“Oh, Debora, looks like the same thing is going to happen here” says Grandma when she realizes that the recipe she wants is not in the other book as well. Notice the expression pelo visto: it is a short version of something like “from what can be seen,” or “by the look of things” and it can be used to talk about something that, based on a previous situation, supposedly will happen

6. ... eu vou no site (...) e faço um download.

It is interesting to notice that, when talking about a website, Brazilians say “saj.tj” but maintain the written form as it is in English. Notice also the use of the English word “download” as a noun in Portuguese, with the article (um) before it.

7. Camarão na moranga.

“Winter squash with shrimp” or “Shrimp stuffed pumpkin”... Got the idea? It is a delicious Brazilian meal made with baked winter squash stuffed with shrimp stew, decorated with jumbo shrimp and served with white rice. The recipe calls for requeijão or catupiry, creamy cheese unfortunately not available in the United States. Cream cheese can be a reasonable substitute, but definitely not the same...

8. Duvido que você vai achar...

“The present subjunctive tense is used in clauses introduced with que”... Well, at least this is what the textbooks say... But here we have a good example showing that, in common spoken Brazilian Portuguese, this is not always the case.

9. É, hoje o tempo é outro, bem!

Hoje o tempo é outro - what a great expression from Grandma! Her point is that nowadays everything is so different from her time... In the case here, it is easier and faster to search for any new subject...

10. E não é que você achou?

“Isn’t it that you found it?” says Grandma, surprised, after Debora found in the internet the recipe she could not find in the books. Very similar to the structure in English, this is a good way to express surprise in Portuguese, when facing unexpected results: (e) não é que...





## Moms in the Park I: Don't cry. You're OK!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=17>







We've all seen this scene hundreds of times. Moms take their children to play in the park. While doing so, the moms sit and chat on the park bench. With one eye on the children and the other on their friends, moms swap stories, examples, and keep each other up on the latest of what's going on. Today we find out that Gabriel wants to be Spider-Man and Dandara has been going to the corner store to buy chocolate on credit, a delightful *Conversa Brasileira*.

ANDRÉIA: Menina do céu, ❶ mas eu tô muito contente...  
Girl, I'm so happy...

SÍLVIA: Ah, eles são engraçadinhos... ❷  
Oh, they are so cute...

ANDRÉIA: ... muito contente!  
.... so happy!

SÍLVIA: Agora, ah, eles são uma gracinha... Olha!  
Now, ah, they're so cute... Look!

ANDRÉIA: Ah, olha lá!  
Oh, look over there!

SÍLVIA: Eles são... Eles são... Gabriel e Dandara juntos! Vamos ver o que que  
essa dupla apronta, né?  
They are... they are... Gabriel and Dandara together! Let's see what  
these two will come up with next.

ANDRÉIA: Olha, minha filha, Dandara a cada dia me surpreende...  
Listen, girl, Dandara surprises me more everyday...

SÍLVIA: Bi, a mamãe tá aqui, tá?  
Bi (Gabriel), mommy is over here, ok?

ANDRÉIA: Danda?  
Danda?

SÍLVIA: Aqui, ó, sentadinha. Não vai pra lá! Fica aí, tá? ❸  
Here, look, I'm sitting over here. Don't go over there! Stay where you  
are, ok?



ANDRÉIA: Dandinha? Meu amorzinho, fofura! ④  
Dandinha? My love, darling!

SÍLVIA: Você chama ela de *Dandinha* ou *Dandarinha*? ⑤  
You call her *Dandinha* or *Dandarinha*?

ANDRÉIA: Cuidado!  
Careful!

SÍLVIA: Eu chamo de *Dandarinha*... ⑥  
I call (her) *Dandarinha*...

ANDRÉIA: A gente cha...  
We call...

SÍLVIA: Nao é *Dandarinha*?  
Isn't it *Dandarinha*?

ANDRÉIA: Menina, eu, é que acontece que o pai chama de *Dandarinha*, eu chamo *Dandinha*... Mas a gente acordou agora, ⑦ então vamos chamar dos dois jeitos...  
Girl, I, well what happened is that her dad calls (her) *Dandarinha*, and I call (her) *Dandinha*... But we've just realized that, so we'll call her by both....

SÍLVIA: Ela tem mais uma carinha... Ela tem uma carinha de *Dandarinha* pra mim... Tem uma carinha de *Dandarinha*... ⑧  
She looks like... She looks more like a *Dandarinha* to me... She looks more like a *Dandarinha*...

ANDRÉIA: Filhi... filhinha! Cuidado, meu amorzinho...  
Darl... Darling! Careful, my love...

SÍLVIA: Agora, olha, olha, olha o que vai começar... o que vai começar...  
Now look, look, look at what they're starting... what they're starting...

ANDRÉIA: Ok, ok... Tá bom, meu bem... Tá bom...  
Ok, ok... That's enough, darling... That's enough...

SÍLVIA: Vai começar a subir na árvore, e achando, achando que é o Super ... Super-Homem! Tá um...  
He is going to start climbing the trees thinking he's, thinking he's Super... Superman! He's so...

ANDRÉIA: Mas é assim agora?  
But it's like that now?

SÍLVIA: Não; Homem-Aranha! É o Homem-Aranha! ⑨  
No; Spider-Man! He's Spider-man!

ANDRÉIA: Homem-Aranha!  
Spider- Man!

SÍLVIA: Homem-Aranha! Homem-Aranha! Ele tá achando que é o Homem-Aranha! Ele gosta de subir nas coisas... não sei o que lá... ⑩ Cuidado, Gabriel! Gabriel, cuidado, Gabriel!!  
Spider-Man! Spider-Man! He keeps thinking he is Spider-Man!! He likes to climb on things... I don't know what else... Careful, Gabriel! Careful Gabriel, Careful!

ANDRÉIA: Ai, meu Deus, que que aconteceu? Ah, não, tá tudo bem...  
Oh, my goodness, what happened?? Oh no, it's all right...

SÍLVIA: Quase, quase, quase caiu!  
Almost, he almost fell!

ANDRÉIA: Tá tudo bem, tudo bem!  
It's ok, it's all right!

SÍLVIA: Levanta! Isso! Isso, isso, isso, isso...  
Get up! That's it! That's it, that's it, that's it, that's it...

ANDRÉIA: Ah, quantas vezes você não caiu, vai! ⑪  
Oh, you probably fell lots of times too, come on!

SÍLVIA: Criança cai, né? Criança cai!  
Kids fall down, right? Kids fall down!

ANDRÉIA: Fala a verdade! É "balança mas não cai", ⑫ meu bem!  
That's true! It's that "slip but don't fall", my dear!

SÍLVIA: Isso!  
Yup!

ANDRÉIA: Balança, balanço mas não cai!  
Swinging, swinging but not falling!

SÍLVIA: Não, não, não chora não! Não chora não. Isso! Não tem nada! Não aconteceu nada! Tá aqui! Tá tudo bem! Tá bom? Ah, se a gente... Tem hora que, se cair e não olhar, aí ele nem sente. Mas se olhar, aí pronto, ⑬ né?  
Don't, don't, don't cry! Don't cry, there you go! It was nothing! Nothing happened! It's all right! It's all right, ok? Well, if we... There are times when he falls, if we don't look at him, he won't care about it. But if we look, the next thing you know he's making a big deal out of it, right?

- ANDRÉIA: Menina, a Dandara aprontou! Sílvia do céu...  
Girl, you won't believe what Dandara has been up to! My dear little Sílvia...
- SÍLVIA: Que que aconteceu dessa vez?  
What happened this time?
- ANDRÉIA: Você é minha amiga, eu vou, vou falar a verdade, vou abrir o jogo, 14  
né, minha amiga? Mas, assim, ela me aprontou 15 uma que ela...  
You are my friend, So I'll, I'll tell you the truth, lets put all the cards on the table, right? But, well, she was up to something so unbelievable that she...
- SÍLVIA: Mas a Dandarinha, com aquela carinha de santinha? De anjinho?  
Dandarinha? With that saintly face of angel?
- ANDRÉIA: Meu bem, olha, essa vai ser uma mulher guerreira! De  
personalidade! 16  
Darling, this girl is going to be a fighter! With personality!
- SÍLVIA: Ela é linda demais, ela é muito bonita!  
She is so pretty, very beautiful!
- ANDRÉIA: Ela tava saindo com o pai, passeando. Eu não sei bem a história,  
porque esses pais são babão 17 mesmo, né? Não presta atenção em  
tudo. Foi no bar ao lado de casa, comprou um chocolate fiado! 18 Sem  
eu saber, sem o pai saber!  
She was out with her dad. I don't really understand the whole story,  
you know how silly dads are, right? They don't pay attention. She went  
to the general store by our house and she bought chocolate on credit!
- SÍLVIA: Nós estamos falando da mesma pessoa? Dandarinha?! Aquela, aquela  
que eu tô vendo, aquela carinha ali, pequenininha?  
Are we talking about the same person? Dandarinha?! The one I'm  
looking at, the one with the pretty little face?
- ANDRÉIA: Ok, fofucha! Já vou aí, já vou aí! 19 Aí, menina do céu, quando eu vou  
no bar... na vendinha do Seu...  
Ok, cutie! I'm coming, I'll be right there! Then, girl, when I went to the  
corner store...
- SÍLVIA: Dá, dá pra ela! Dá pra... Deixa com ela! Deixa com ela!  
Give it, give it to her! Give... Let her play with it! Let her play with it!
- ANDRÉIA: ... na vendinha do Seu João...  
... to Mr. João's corner store...

SÍLVIA: Isso... isso... Isso, filhinho, muito bem! Gracinha!  
That's it... That's it... That's it, darling, very good! Cutie!

ANDRÉIA: ...ela pega... eu fico sabendo que ela comprou esse chocolate... Fiquei surpresa! Agora, veja como a gente...  
...she gets... I was told that she bought this chocolate... I was surprised! Now, see how we...

SÍLVIA: Fiado? Fiado?  
On credit? On credit?

ANDRÉIA: ... tem que saber colocar limite nessas crianças!  
... we have to know how to give these kids limits!

SÍLVIA: Nossa, isso é muito perigoso!  
Wow, that's really dangerous!

ANDRÉIA: Sílvia!

SÍLVIA: Imagina<sup>20</sup> se eu deixo o Gabriel um pouquinho... Você tem que ter cuidado com isso! Por que ela é...  
There is no way I'd leave Gabriel by himself for a little bit... You have to be careful with that! Because she can...

ANDRÉIA: Mas ela tá muito crítica! É uma fase...  
She at a very critical stage! It's a phase...

SÍLVIA: ... muito ativa!  
... very active!

ANDRÉIA: ... do "porquê"... Ontem, cheguei cansada, falei: "Filhinha, pega o meu chinelo lá<sup>21</sup> embaixo da cama, pra mamãe?" Ela falou: "Só vou se você me der um troco, me der um real!" Vê se pode<sup>22</sup> Sílvia?!  
... of asking "why"... Yesterday I got home all tired and I said "Darling, can you get my slippers from under the bed for mommy?" and she said: "I'll only go if you give me some money, like a dollar!" Can you believe that, Silvia?

SÍLVIA: Não, não, não! Isso, isso... do lado de lá<sup>23</sup>! Isso, isso, filhinho...  
No, no, no! That's it, that's it, on that side! That's it, darling...

ANDRÉIA: Mas é assim! Essas crianças hoje em dia você não sabe...  
But that's the way it is! You never know with these kids today...



### 1. *Menina do céu*, mas eu tô muito contente...

You already know that Brazilians are very much into using vocatives - a specific noun form or a proper name that is used in addressing the interlocutor to keep him engaged in the conversation.

In this dialog, the vocative is used several times. Note that in this case Andréia says *menina do céu* and later on she also says *Sílvia do céu*. As a result of a very strong catholic heritage, it is common that Brazilians add the expression *do céu* (from heaven) to the end of the vocative to express amazement, admiration or surprise. It might come from expressions like *Mãe do céu* and *Pai do céu*, referring to Mary and God, respectively.

### 2. Ah, eles são *engraçadinhos*... / eles são uma *gracinha*...

According to Sílvia, the kids are *uma graça*! That's the Brazilian way to say that someone/something is cute, lovely, adorable or gracious, graceful. The word *engraçadinho(a)* can also be used to express the same meaning.

Note the similarity here: *grace/grça*. The structure in Portuguese is: X + *ser/estar/ficar* + *engraçadinho(a)* or X + *ser/estar/ficar* + *uma graça*. Note that, in the first case, the diminutive is required (if you do not use it, the meaning will be "X is funny"). In the second case, the diminutive is optional and can be used to add emphasis: *uma gracinha*! and also *que gracinha*! (so lovely!).

### 3. Não vai pra lá! Fica aí, tá?

English speakers can have a hard time with the Portuguese adverbs *lá* and *aí*, since both correspond to “there” in English. Use *aqui* (here) when referring to the place that is close to you; *aí* when referring to places close to the person you are addressing and use *lá* when referring to places that are more distant.

- *aqui*: this place here (close to the speaker);
- *aí*: that place where you are (close to the person you are addressing);
- *lá*: over there (a place away from both the speaker and the person being spoken to).

### 4. Dandinha? Meu amorzinho, fofura!

In this dialog we have several examples of words Brazilians use as a term of endearment, affection or love when addressing their kids: *amorzinho*, *fofura*, *fofucho/a*, *filhinho/a*.

### 5. Você chama ela de Dandinha ou Dandarinha?

Brazilians are known by their informal way to establish interpersonal relationships. They express such characteristic, among other ways, by calling each other for the first name rather than the last one (even in more formal contexts) and by using a lot of nicknames (*apelidos* in Brazilian Portuguese). Among the processes of creating nicknames in Brazil, the most common ones are:

- a) the use of the diminutive (*Dandinha*, *Paulinha*, *Jorginho*, *Ronaldino*, etc);
- b) the reduction of proper names, with the stressed syllable as the base (*Biel* - for *Gabriel*; *Beto* - for *Roberto*; *Zé* - for *José*);
- c) the reduction of proper names, with the first syllable as the base (*Pri* - for *Priscila*; *De* - for *Denise*; *Lu* - for *Luíza* or *Luciano(a)*; *Bi* - for *Biel/Gabriel*). Notice that at some point in this dialog *Sílvia* uses “*Bi*” to refer to her son *Gabriel*.
- d) the repetition of the syllables containing the stressed vowel (*Lili* - for *Alice*; *Dedé* - for *Débora* or *André*; *Cacá* - for *Ricardo*).

6. Eu chamo de Dandarinha...

In Brazilian Portuguese direct object pronouns (**o, a, os, as**) are often omitted in colloquial speech: *Eu chamo de Dandarinha*: “I call (her) Dandarinha.” Note also that direct object pronouns are usually replaced by **ele, ela, eles, elas**: *Você chama ela de Dandinha ou Dandarinha?*

7. Mas a gente acordou agora...

It may be difficult for a non-native speaker to understand the meaning of the verb *acordar* in this sentence. You know that *acordar* can mean “to wake up”, but note that it is not the case here. In this sentence it means “to realize, take into consideration.”

8. Ela tem uma carinha de Dandarinha.

*Ter cara de* is the expression you can use to talk about similarities: *Ele tem cara de brasileiro* (He looks like a Brazilian guy); *Ela tem cara de Dandarinha* (She looks more like a Dandarinha to me). *Estar com cara de* is another similar expression very common in Brazil: *Você está com (uma) cara de cansado/bravo*, etc. (It looks like you're tired/hungry, etc.). Note that the use of the article *uma* (along with the intonation) before the noun *cara* adds emphasis.

9. Super-Homem X Homem-Aranha

Note the difference in the order here: Super-Homem X Homem-Aranha. Both are compound nouns (made up of two words). In the first case, *super* is a prefix (meaning *over, above, superior*) and, as a prefix, it must always be used before the noun: *supermercado*; *superestrutura*, *super-resistente*, *supermãe*. On the other hand, Homem-Aranha is a noun formed by NOUN + NOUN and the second one, *aranha*, acts almost as an adjective, so it is placed after the noun.

10. Ele gosta de subir nas coisas... não sei o que lá...

What a great expression here: *não sei o que lá!* Actually, it means *não sei o que mais* (I don't know what else) and usually it comes after a list of things: X, Y, *não sei o que*, *não sei o que lá*... expressing uncertainty about what else could be added to the list. Here, Sílvia uses it to wrap up what she was saying before, making it clear that there are other things that could be added to the list of “things Gabriel likes to do.”

11. Ah, quantas vezes você não caiu, vai!

This is a very interesting use of *não*. This is not a negative sentence - actually, Andréia is making the point that Sílvia has probably fallen a lot of times! Note that the intonation here is very important - this is a *não* without a stressed accent. If you ask for something and the answer is: *Pois não!*, know that this “no” actually means “yes”!

12. É “balança mas não cai”, meu bem!

Another great expression here... Talking about how often kids put themselves in risky situations without - fortunately - really falling or being hurt, Andréia uses the expression: *balança mas não cai*. It recaptures an old Brazilian Humor Radio Program from the 50's, which later on was on TV for more than 15 years.

13. Mas se olhar, ai pronto, né?

Don't take this expression literally... Note that Sílvia was talking about the times when her son falls. She says that if we don't look at him, he won't care about it. But if we look, then he'll make a big deal of it! - *ai pronto!*

14. ...vou abrir o jogo, né, minha amiga?

Abrir o jogo - what a great expression in Portuguese! Its equivalent in English should be “to lay all the cards on the table.”



15. ... ela me aprontou uma que ela...

Observe some different meanings of the verb *aprontar*: to prepare, get ready, finish. But in this case it has a very colloquial meaning: “to be up to something of no good.” Note the use of *me* before the verb and *uma* after it - along with the intonation: they add emphasis to the story Andréia is about to tell.

16. De personalidade!

Intonation in Portuguese - what a challenge for a non-native speaker! Notice the way that Andréia pronounces “**PER**so**NA**li**DA**de”: while talking slowly, she adds emphasis to every other syllable, based on the location of the primary stress (which in this case is the syllable **DA**).

17. ... esses pais são babão mesmo, né? Não presta atenção em tudo.

“The adjective must match the noun in number” and “The verb must match the subject in number”... Well, at least this is what the Portuguese textbooks say ... But here we have a good example showing that, in common spoken Brazilian Portuguese, this is not always the case.

18. ...comprou um chocolate fiado.

*Dandinha* *aprontou*! She bought some chocolate *fiado(a)* - which means she bought it on credit. The problem is that she has no money at all!

19. Já vou aí! Já vou aí!

Be careful not to use the verbs of motion *ir* and *vir* based on a literal translation. Use *ir* (to go) to indicate a movement away from you or from the place where you are at the moment of speaking. Use *vir* (to come) to indicate a movement toward you or toward the place where you are at the moment of speaking. Notice, for example, that in English a mother shouts, “Johnny, come home!” to which Johnny responds, “I’m coming.” In Brazil a mother would shout, “Joãozinho, vem cá” to which he would respond, “Já vou.”

20. Imagina se eu deixo o Gabriel um pouquinho...

Note this special meaning of the verb *imaginar*: Sílvia points out that there is no way she would leave Gabriel by himself... *Imagina se eu deixo* (lit. “Imagine if I leave”), in this case corresponds to something like, “there is no way that I could ever imagine leaving.”

21. Filhinha, pega o meu chinelo lá embaixo da cama

Brazilians love to use the word *lá* in places that a non-native speaker would never use it. Here we have a perfect example of it: *lá embaixo da cama* (under the bed). Notice these other examples: *A festa vai ser lá em casa / lá na universidade / lá na praia* (The party is going to happen at my home / at the university / at the beach.) In some cases, there is not even any reference to places: *Sei lá!* (I have no idea!); *Sabe-se lá por quê!* (We have no idea why!).

Notice also that Brazilians use the collective *o meu chinelo* (my slipper) in the singular, where in English we tend to use the plural “get my slippers for me.”

22. Vê se pode, Sílvia?!

This is an interesting way Brazilians have to say “can you believe that?” It is probably a short version of *Veja se algo assim pode(ria) acontecer*, meaning the opposite: “something like that should not be happening.”

23. *Do lado de lá!*

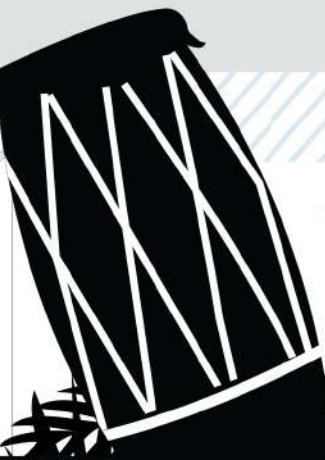
*Do lado de lá!* (on that side!) is what Sílvia says to Gabriel, trying to avoid an accident... Notice the totally different structures in both languages for this expression. The Brazilian equivalent for “on this side” is *do lado de cá* and the Brazilian equivalent for “on that side” is *do lado de lá*. Be aware, however, that you can also say: *daquele lado* for “on that side.”





## Moms in the Park 2: They are getting along really well

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=18>





Even when little kids don't know each other well, they seem to do just fine playing at the playscape in the park. As Isabela observes, *Estão se dando super bem* "They are getting along really well." Now it is true that sometimes they fall and need stitches and other times they catch colds from others around them, but today's a nice day, the kids are having fun, and the beautiful weather gives the moms a perfect excuse to sit on the park bench and have a nice *Conversa Brasileira*.

ISABELA: Olha que bonitinho eles brincando agora! ❶  
Look, how cute the way they are playing now!

MARIANA: Ah, você viu como eles estão? Agora estão juntos, mais...  
Oh, did you see how they are doing? Now they're together, a little more...

ISABELA: Estão se dando super bem, né? ❷  
They are getting along really well, right?

MARIANA: Estão se acostumando um com o outro. ❸ No começo, todo envergonhados...  
They are getting used to each other. In the beginning, they were very shy...

ISABELA: Que bom! É... Estão perdendo a vergonha um pouquinho, né? ❹  
That's nice. They are not so shy any more, right?

MARIANA: Que bom que fez um dia lindo hoje, né? Pra eles brincarem aqui no parquinho. ❺/❻  
It's so good that it's such a nice day, right? So they can play here in the park.

ISABELA: Ah, sim! Depois de tanta chuva, né?  
Yes, it is! After all that rain, right?

MARIANA: Pois é, ficar só trancado em casa não dá! ❼  
Yeah, it's awful to be stuck at home!

ISABELA: O que que aconteceu com a Pietra que ela tá machucadinha?  
What happened to Pietra? Did she hurt herself?

MARIANA: Então, na semana passada tava aqui no parquinho, acabou caindo ali da

	casinha e abriu o queixo. Well, last week she was here in the park, and she ended by falling down from that little house and she cut her chin open.
ISABELA:	Ah, tadinha... Oh, poor thing...
MARIANA:	Não, na hora ela ficou desesperada! ⑧ Chorou muito, saiu muito sangue. ⑨ Yeah, the moment it happened she freaked out! She cried a lot, and bled quite a bit.
ISABELA:	E ela teve que tomar ponto? ⑩ Did she need stitches?
MARIANA:	Não, ponto não. Só precisou passar uma cola, mas agora ela já tá melhor. No, she didn't. She just needed to have it taped shut, but she is already better now.
ISABELA:	Ah, que bom... Oh, that's good...
MARIANA:	Só que tá com medo ainda. But she is still afraid.
ISABELA:	Ah, imagino! Oh, I can imagine!
MARIANA:	Você tá vendo que ela tá toda cuidadosa, com medo de cair.... Pietra, cuidado, filha, não sobe aí não que você pode cair! ⑪ Você já se machucou uma vez, hein? Do you see how careful she is, afraid of falling down... Pietra, be careful, baby, don't go up there because you could fall down! You've already hurt yourself once, right?
ISABELA:	E ela tá obediente, hein? She seems obedient, right?
MARIANA:	Tá, tá obediente! She is, she is obedient!
ISABELA:	Tô vendo... I can see that...
MARIANA:	E o Ricardo, tá bonzinho? And Ricardo, is he ok?
ISABELA:	Ele tá bonzinho, assim... Ele pegou uma virose na escola, aí essa semana não foi pra escola. Mas agora você vê que ele já tá ótimo, brincando numa boa... ⑫



He is ok, you know... He caught a virus at school, so he didn't go to school this week. But now you can see he feels fine already; playing with no problem...

**MARIANA:** Ah, mas não adianta! 13 Começa a ir pra escola, começam essas doenças. É virose daqui, virose de lá... 14  
Oh, but there is no way around it! Once they start going to school, they start getting sick. A lot of viruses all over the place...

**ISABELA:** Ah, mas é ótimo porque ele tá se soltando um pouco mais, sabe? 15  
Brincando com os amiguinhos...  
Yeah, but it's good because he's coming out of his shell a bit more, you know? He's playing with his friends...

**MARIANA:** Ah, não, mas precisa. Se ficar em casa o dia inteiro, a gente não aguenta inventar atividade pra essas crianças.  
Oh, yeah, but they need it. If you stay at home all day long, you can't keep coming up with new activities for the kids.

**ISABELA:** Olha que gracinha eles agora brincando no balanço.  
Look how cute the way they're playing on the swing now.

**MARIANA:** Oh, um empurrando o outro!  
Oh, one pushing the other!

**ISABELA:** Oh... Que gracinha!  
Oh... How cute...

**MARIANA:** Acho que vão ficar amigo até grande, hein? 16  
I think they'll be friends till they get older, right?

**ISABELA:** É!  
Yeah!





### 1. Olha que bonitinho eles brincando agora!

Notice that, when Isabela talks about the nice way the kids are playing, she omits the verb estar (to be) in the sentence in Portuguese and she uses only the main verb in the gerund: eles brincando (something like: “the way they are playing”). This is a common use of the gerund in Portuguese, with the auxiliary verb omitted. Both Mariana and Isabela do this a number of times in this video. At the same time, notice that Isabela continues to use the subject pronoun eles even though in English it would be unlikely to hear “they playing.”

### 2. Estão se dando super bem, né?

You already know that the verb dar (to give) is used a lot in Portuguese, with several different and interesting meanings. Here we have a good example: se dar bem, which means “to get along well.” Notice the use of the slang super to express intensity, replacing  muito (very). The two kids are getting along very well...

### 3. Estão se acostumando um com o outro

English speakers can have a hard time with the expression um(a)(s) + PREP + o(a)(s) outro(a)(s). Here, the preposition is com (with). In some cases, um com o outro can be translated as “one with the other,” but this is not what we see here. In this sentence, its corresponding expression in English is: “to each other” and in many cases it also can be “with each other.” Notice that in Portuguese you need to watch for the gender (masculine/feminine) and also the number (singular/plural) of the nouns you are using in this context.

4. Estão perdendo a vergonha.

The Portuguese word vergonha can be translated either as “shame” or “shy,” depending on the context. In the case here, the mom is happy because the two kids are now playing well together, after a period of some embarrassment or shyness at first.

Notice:

- com vergonha, envergonhado: embarrassed, shy or ashamed, feeling shame (depending on the context);

But:

- sem vergonha: shameless, impudent, insolent.

5. Pra eles brincarem aqui no parquinho.

Here we see a great example of Personal Infinitive (when the infinitive agrees with a subject): para eles brincarem. Portuguese is the only Romance language that has this kind of infinite (along with the Impersonal one). Grammatically the rule is that after a preposition, the verb will be in the infinitive, e.g, para brincar. However, by doing so, we lose a sense of who is doing the action. Brazilians reinsert the subject pronoun to clear up this ambiguity. The Personal Infinitive is also commonly used as a replacement for the Subjunctive (Pra que eles brincassem / brinquem aqui no parquinho).

6. Pra eles brincarem aqui no parquinho.

The Portuguese word for “playground” or “playscape” is parquinho, always in the diminutive, maybe in opposition to parque de diversões (amusement park). The word parque means “park” or “public garden.”

7. ...ficar só trancado em casa não dá!

Another interesting use of verb dar: não dar, which means “it’s not possible; it’s not good.”

8. Não, na hora ela ficou desesperada!

Talking about her daughter's accident, this mom says that “in the moment that the accident happened” (na hora) the girl was very afraid, desperate.

9. Chorou muito, saiu muito sangue.

When describing the little girl's accident, the mom points out that she bled a lot. Notice the ways you can say “to bleed” in Portuguese: sair sangue (most common); perder sangue (lit. “to loose blood”; when there is a good amount of it) or sangrar (a little bit more formal).

10. E ela teve que tomar ponto?

Poor thing... The little girl needed some *stitches* (pontos) after her accident. Notice the verbs used in Portuguese to express “to stitch up:” dar ponto (from the agent point of view) or levar/tomar ponto (from the recipient point of view).

11. Pietra, cuidado, filha, não sobe aí não que você pode cair! Você já se machucou uma vez, hein?

Technically the Negative Imperative in Portuguese is formed from the Present Subjunctive + não (don't). But in common spoken Brazilian Portuguese, it is usual to use the Present Indicative to express commands. Here we have a good example: instead of não suba, Mariana says não sobe.

12. Mas agora você vê que ele já tá ótimo, brincando numa boa...

Do you want to sound like a Brazilian? Well, a good way to do it is using some slang... Here we have a good one: numa boa, that would be something like “looking fine” (*Ele agora tá numa boa*, “He’s looking fine now”).

13. Ah, mas não adianta!

These two moms agree that once the child starts going to school, he will catch some sort of bug. Here the negative form of the verb, *não adianta*, means something similar to “it’s not use.” Notice there is also a special meaning of the verb *adiantar* (lit. to anticipate, to set the clock ahead): *Isto não adianta* (That is no good); *De que adianta isso?* (What’s the use of that?).

14. É virose daqui, virose de lá...

What a great expression in Portuguese! *É X daqui, X de lá*... It’s a wonderful way to emphasize things. In this case, the mom is making the point that viruses are something very commonly seen at schools, since you have a lot of kids gathering together everyday in the same space. Don’t mistake it by the English expression “here and there” - the meaning is exactly the opposite in Portuguese (all the time, very often, in a big amount).

15. ...ele tá se soltando um pouco mais, sabe?

*Soltar* (lit. “to unfasten, untie, let loose”) has an interesting meaning here: the little boy is changing the way he relates to other kids. Shy at first, he is now more social and he’s interacting better with his friends at school. We could say that the meaning here is something close to “to be released from social confinement.” Notice that, with this particular meaning, the verb is reflexive: *soltar-se*.

16. Acho que vão ficar amigo até grande, hein?

“The adjective must match the noun in number in Portuguese”. Well, at least this is what the textbooks say... But here we have a good example showing that, in common spoken Brazilian Portuguese, this is not always the case. The “gramatically correct” form here would be: *Acho que vão ficar amigos até [quando forem] grandes, hein?*



## School 1: I have my very own locker!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=19>





Put yourself in the situation of a high school study abroad student. First of all, chances are that this is your first experience living abroad. And everything is new: teachers, homework, computers, lunchrooms, clothes, and schedules. Wow, what a transition! In this dialog Andréia is about to pick up her niece, Kauane, who is currently in the U.S., attending an American high school. Life has been different for her, and it makes for a cool *Conversa Brasileira*.

FERNANDA: Andréia?!  
Andréia?!

ANDRÉIA: Oi, Fer!  
Hi, Fer!

FERNANDA: Tudo bem?  
How are you doing?

ANDRÉIA: Quanto tempo!  
It's been forever!

FERNANDA: Quanto tempo! Que que você tá fazendo aqui?  
It's been forever! What are you doing here?

ANDRÉIA: Ai, menina, crianças, né? Tô aqui, vim pegar minha sobrinha que tá estudando aqui agora.  
Well, girl, kids, right? I'm here, I came to pick my niece up, she is studying here now.

FERNANDA: Você tá com uma sobrinha aqui?  
Do you have a niece here?

ANDRÉIA: É, a Kauane.  
Yeah, Kauane.

FERNANDA: Fazendo intercâmbio? ❶  
Is she an exchange student?

ANDRÉIA: Chegou, chegou esse ano, chegou esse ano.  
She arrived, she got here this year, she arrived this year.

FERNANDA: Vai passar quanto tempo? ❷  
How long will she stay?

ANDRÉIA: Ela vai ficar aqui uns três anos pro Ensino Médio, né?



	She'll be here during her three years of High School, right?
FERNANDA:	Ah, o Segundo Grau. Oh, High School.
ANDRÉIA:	Isso, o famoso "Segundo Grau" que a gente usa... Yeah, the famous "Segundo Grau" as we call it...
FERNANDA:	É, no Rio a gente chama de "Segundo Grau". ❸ Já foi várias coisas diferentes. Mas ela tá aqui então, na escola? Yeah, in Rio we call it "Segundo Grau". It has had a lot of different names. So, she is here, in school?
ANDRÉIA:	Tá! A primeira novidade foi, no primeiro dia de aula: "Ah, eu tenho um armário só pra mim"! ❹ She is! The first new thing was, on the very first day of school: "Hey, I have my very own locker!"
FERNANDA:	Ah, isso é uma coisa que a gente não tem no Brasil, na escola. Yeah, that is something we don't have at schools in Brazil.
ANDRÉIA:	Então, assim... So, you know....
FERNANDA:	A gente leva ❺ os livros todo dia e aqui eles deixam... We take our books home everyday and here they leave them at school...
ANDRÉIA:	E ela já colocou a foto dela no armário, entendeu? And she has already put her picture in her locker, you know?
FERNANDA:	Que coisa engraçada! That's so funny!
ANDRÉIA:	Deixou todo no estilo! Porque ela é toda estilosa, né? Toda estilosa! ❻ She's made it all stylish! Because she's all stylish, right? She's all stylish!
FERNANDA:	É, é bem diferente aqui, né? Ela deve estar achando ❼ muitas diferenças na escola aqui. Yeah, it's so different here, right? She is probably seeing a lot of different things here at school.
ANDRÉIA:	Sim, sim. Você sabe, por exemplo, depois das aulas regulares, ela tem aula de piano. ❽ Depois vai pra o time de voleibol, né? Yeah, yeah. You know, for example, after her regular classes, she has piano lessons. After that, she goes to volleyball practice, right?
FERNANDA:	Nossa! Deve estar ocupada! ❹ Wow! She must be busy!

ANDRÉIA: Então, assim, ela passa o dia inteiro ocupada, né?  
So, you know, she is busy all day long.

FERNANDA: Enquanto lá no Brasil essa garotada<sup>9</sup> fica mais concentrada no social, né? Na vida social...  
When in Brazil these young kids are more focused on a social life, you know? On a social life...

ANDRÉIA: Como que é lá no Rio? Como que é lá no Rio?  
What's it like in Rio? What's it in Rio?

FERNANDA: Não, lá no Rio é praia de manhã, Shopping de tarde, cinema, festa... É agenda cheia. E celular...  
Well, in Rio you go to the beach in the morning, the mall in the afternoon, then movies, parties... It's a busy schedule. And cell phones...

ANDRÉIA: É tudo maneiro... É tudo maneiro no Rio...<sup>10</sup>  
It's way cool. Things in Rio are way cool...

FERNANDA: Com certeza!  
For sure!

ANDRÉIA: É, aqui a única coisa que ela tem sentido falta é das amizades, né? Porque no Brasil os colegas iam lá pra casa dela, passavam o fim de semana, né?  
Yeah, here the only thing she has been missing is her friends, you know? Because in Brazil her friends used to come over to her house, spend the whole weekend, you know?

FERNANDA: Mas aqui ela vai fazer amigos também, né?  
But here she is going to make friends too, right?

ANDRÉIA: Come, bebe, dorme... Aqui o processo é um pouco mais lento, eu diria, né? É cultural mesmo; é diferença cultural...  
Eat, drink, sleep... Here I'd say that things go a little slower, you know? It's a cultural thing; it's a cultural difference...

FERNANDA: Ah, mas esse pessoal vai muito rápido. Num instante<sup>11</sup> ela vai ter um grupo de amigos... fazendo um monte de coisas juntos...  
Yeah, but these young kids are quick to adapt. Soon she'll have a group of friends... all doing a bunch of things together...

ANDRÉIA: Tomara! Tomara! Porque ela se sente um pouco só, eu acho, ainda.  
I hope so! I hope so! Because I think she is still feeling a bit lonely.

FERNANDA: Ah, mas num instante ela vai se enturmar,<sup>12</sup> você vai ver. Com certeza!  
Well, but soon she'll get integrated in, you'll see. That's for sure!

ANDRÉIA: Eu acho até que é ela que tá me ligando. É ela mesmo que tá me




ligando. Alô, Kau? Pera aí.  
I even think it's her calling. Yeah, it's her calling. Hello, Kau? Wait a minute.

FERNANDA: Deixa eu ir... Beijinho, a gente se encontra.  
I gotta go... Kisses, we'll get together soon.

ANDRÉIA: Tchau, Fer.  
Bye, Fer.

FERNANDA: Tchau!  
Bye.

ANDRÉIA: Oi, minha linda! Sim! Ah, você vai estar um pouquinho atrasada? Tá bom. Eu tô aqui na entrada, naquele portão, perto daquela grande árvore, onde eu sempre te  pego. Beijo, tchau.  
Hi, sweetie! Oh, are you going to be a bit late? That's fine. I'm here at the entrance, by the front doors, close to the big tree, where I usually pick you up. Kisses, bye.



## Usage Notes

### 1. *Fazendo intercâmbio?*

Notice the interesting use of the verb fazer: when talking about someone studying abroad or participating in a student exchange program, Brazilians use the verb fazer (to do) + intercâmbio (exchange). So, to study abroad is fazer intercâmbio.

### 2. *Vai passar quanto tempo?*

*Passar* - what a great verb in Portuguese, with several different meanings... In this case, it means "to stay" or "to spend time" and "quanto tempo" is the way to express "how long." Notice that in Portuguese the order can be either *Vai passar quanto tempo?* or *Quanto tempo vai passar?* (How long will she [stay here]?). You can use either one. Note: *Passei três anos no Brasil* (I spent three years in Brazil) and also *O tempo passa* (Time goes by).

### 3. *É, no Rio a gente chama de "Segundo Grau". Já foi várias coisas diferentes.*

Did you notice that, referring to High School, Andréia uses the expression *Ensino Médio* while Fernanda says *Segundo Grau*? This reflects the several changes Brazil has had in its educational system in the last few decades, including changes in the names of the schools, depending on the grades that they have. So, for High School, you can hear things like *Ensino Médio* (the current name), *Segundo Grau* or even *Colegial* (former names). Be careful not to mistake this last one (*Colegial*) as a cognate for College, which is *Faculdade* in Brazil.

### 4. *Ah, eu tenho um armário só pra mim!*

Well, it's all about the locker when American kids enter Middle School... It reflects the way the classes are organized in US during Middle and High School: each teacher has his own classroom and the students change classes along the day. That's why the kids need their own locker to put their things in. In Brazil, usually the teacher is the one who moves around and the kids remain in the same classroom, keeping their things in their individual desks. That's why Kauane is so excited about having her own locker: it is her very first one!

5. A gente leva os livros todo dia e aqui eles deixam...

The verbs levar and trazer can sometimes be a little confusing for an English speaker, since we can translate levar as both "to take" or "to bring." Use levar to indicate a movement away from you or from the place where you are at the moment of speaking. Use trazer (to bring) to indicate a movement toward you or toward the place where you are at the moment of speaking. So in Portuguese you take something there and you bring it here.

To make it easier, think about it this way:

- levar (to take) lá/aí (over there or where the listener is): Vou levar as crianças lá/aí. (I'll take the kids over there/where the listener is).
- trazer (to bring) aqui (here): Vou trazer as crianças aqui. (I'll bring the kids here/where I am).

6. Deixou todo no estilo! Porque ela é toda estilosa, né?

Deixar no estilo (to make something stylish) - that's what Sílvia's niece did to her locker. You can either say no estilo or estiloso(a) (both meaning "stylish"). It's a good slang to use.

7. a) Ela deve estar achando muitas diferenças na escola aqui.  
b) Nossa! Deve estar ocupada!

Notice here the use of verb dever: Ela deve estar achando muitas diferenças (She is probably seeing a lot of different things). In these examples, dever doesn't just mean "should," but it is more accurately translated as "probably" and "must."

8. ... depois das aulas regulares, ela tem aula de piano.

Notice that Andréia says aulas regulares and aula de piano when talking about her niece's *classes* and *lessons*. Although the Portuguese word classe could be used to express *lesson* or *class*, usually it is not the one Brazilians prefer, but aula is the most commonly used word in this case. Classe, on the other hand, usually is used to express: a) classroom or b) group of students who are in the same class.

9. Enquanto lá no Brasil essa garotada fica mais concentrada no social, né?

When referring to young people considered as a group, Brazilian have several particular words: garotada, meninada, rapazeada, molecada. Notice the recurrent suffix **-ada**, typical of a collective noun in Portuguese. It is not the case here, but sometimes this suffix also can be used in a pejorative or depreciative way.

10. É tudo maneiro no Rio...

Talking about slangs, here we have another one: maneiro (cool, stylish), very common in Rio de Janeiro and other parts of Brazil. Do you want to sound like a real *carioca* using slang? Try this: *É isso aí, me'rmão; ficou maneiro!* (That's it, bro; it's way cool!).

11. Num instante ela vai ter um grupo de amigos...

Still making the point that Andréia's niece will be well adapted very soon, Fernanda uses the expression: num instante, something like "really soon, in a second, in a jiffy." This expression is also commonly used in the diminutive: num instantinho.

12. Ah, mas num instante ela vai se enturmar.

When talking about Andréia's niece, Fernanda points out that soon she'd get integrated in. Note the verb she uses here: "**enturmar-se**" - a great verb to mean "to become part of the turma (group, gang)."

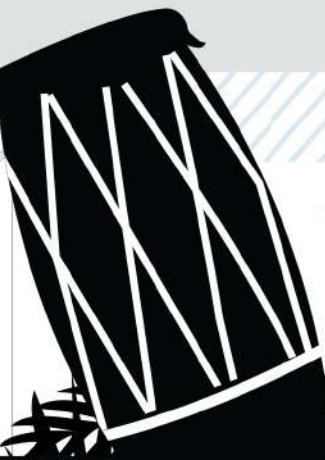
13. Ah, você vai estar um pouquinho atrasada? (...) Eu tô aqui na entrada, (...) onde eu sempre te pego.

In spoken Portuguese, it is usual the placement of direct pronoun before the verb: eu te pego (I pick you up). Notice also that, in order to refer to the subject pronoun você (you), Sílvia uses the direct pronoun te (you) instead of a (eu a pego), which would be the "correct" form according to the grammar books. This use of te is very common and acceptable in the colloquial form.



## School 2: What are you doing about the whole lunch thing?

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=20>





Think of all of the American movies and TV shows that Brazilians might have seen about life in American high schools. How weird is it for them to imagine what it is really like to go to school in the United States? Sílvia and Antônio pick up on some of the big items: changing classrooms, metal detectors, individual lockers, and lunchrooms. You have got to admit, their observations make for an interesting *Conversa Brasileira*.

SÍLVIA: É, mas agora eles vão demorar<sup>①</sup> um pouquinho pra sair.  
Yeah, but they will be delayed just a bit in leaving.

ANTÔNIO: Pois é, <sup>②</sup> mas...  
Yeah, but...

SÍLVIA: A gente espera um pouquinho aqui.  
Let's wait here a bit.

ANTÔNIO: Vamos sentar um pouco aqui então, né?  
So let's sit here for a sec, ok?

SÍLVIA: Sim, vamos...  
Yeah, let's...

ANTÔNIO: Pra gente...  
So we...

SÍLVIA: ...bater um papinho aqui. <sup>③</sup> Muito, muito tempo que a gente não se vê.  
...chat a bit here. It's been forever since we've seen each other!

ANTÔNIO: Pois é.  
Yeah.

SÍLVIA: Bom encontrar você! E bom saber que os dois estão na mesma escola, né? Interessante.  
So good to see you! And so good to know that both of them are in the same school, right? Interesting.

ANTÔNIO: Pois é.  
Yeah.

SÍLVIA: Como é que tá o Marco? O Marco tá gostando da escola? Da experiência nova?  
How is Marco doing? Does he like the school? The new experience?



ANTÔNIO: Tá. Tá, tá gostando bastante. Assim, ④ ele tava contando a história que no outro dia ele quase se perdeu por causa da coisa ⑤ de mudar de sala, né? Que você tem que mudar de sala aqui, então... Todo mundo sai...

Yeah, yeah, he is really enjoying it. Well, he was telling me that the other day he almost got himself lost because of changing rooms, you know? You have to change classrooms here, so... Everybody leaves...

SÍLVIA: Que não é tão, que não é tão semelhante no Brasil. Exato.  
This is not; it's not so similar to Brazil. Exactly.

ANTÔNIO: Pois é, eu acho.  
Yeah, I guess.

SÍLVIA: Não, você já imaginou que... Eles têm o quê? Duas mil, três mil pessoas... Todo mundo cruzando...  
No, can you imagine that... They have... what? Two, three thousand people... everybody criss-crossing through...

ANTÔNIO: Provavelmente!  
Probably!

SÍLVIA: ...e mudando de sala no mesmo momento!  
...and changing classrooms at the same time!

ANTÔNIO: Ele falou, justamente que aí tinha..  
He said that there was...

SÍLVIA: Ele já se perdeu alguma vez?  
Has he ever got himself lost?

ANTÔNIO: Ele já quase se perdeu, ele disse, na verdade. Que tava procurando a sala lá, que saiu um monte de gente, aquela coisa de ficar mudando, não sei o quê... Quase se atrasou. Que é outra coisa que eles são muito rígidos aqui, com o negócio<sup>5</sup> de horário, né?

Actually, he said that he almost got himself lost. He was looking for his classroom, and then a bunch of people got up, everyone moving around, etc. He was almost late. That's another thing here they are very strict about this thing about being on time.

SÍLVIA: Isso é verdade.  
That's true.

ANTÔNIO: Que eles te olham com uma cara horrível! ⑥  
They look at you with that grumpy face!

SÍLVIA: É, mas com o tempo ele vai, ele se ajeita, né? ⑦ Tudo, tudo se ajeita. Daqui a pouco ⑧ ele tá acostumado já. Agora Gabriel, sabe uma coisa

interessante que ele chegou pra... E foi não só novidade pra ele, mas pra mim também. Ele chegou falando do... primeiro dia... do detector de metal que tem na escola!

Yeah, but give him some time and he'll get used to it, you know? Everything will be all right. Before you know it, he'll be use to it. Now Gabriel, it's interesting that he came... And it wasn't just something new for him, but for me too. He came home talking... on the first day... about the metal detectors that they have at school!

ANTÔNIO: Sim, que coisa estranha...  
Yeah, that's so weird!

SÍLVIA: Imagina que interessante, né? Não, mas, interessante. Com essas histórias que a gente às vezes vê nos filmes aí. Essas, né, essas, essa violência...  
It's interesting, you know? No, but, interesting. With all those stories that we've seen in the movies. Those, you know, this violence...

ANTÔNIO: Sai atirando... 9  
Shooting everywhere...

SÍLVIA: ... esses tiroteios e tudo. Então, pelo menos aqui a gente sabe que ele tem... Entra lá e passa pelo detector de metal... Mas, pelo menos tá, tá seguro. Essa foi uma coisa que pra mim foi muito: "Uau! Detector de metal?" Interessante.  
... all those stories about shooting and everything. Well, at least here we know he has... He enters and goes through the metal detector... But at least he's, he's safe. To me, this was something very: "Wow! Metal detector!" Interesting.

ANTÔNIO: Pois é, pelo menos, não sei... Você sabe que não entra com arma, não fica guardando as coisas... Porque você pode guardar 10 as coisas também. Tem essa coisa do armário só pra você, né?  
That's right, at least, I don't know... You know that they can't enter with a gun, they can't hide things... Because people can hide things too. Here you've got individual lockers, right?

SÍLVIA: Ai, igualzinho a gente vê nos filmes!  
Yeah, it's so like what we see in the movies!

ANTÔNIO: Justamente!  
Exactly!

SÍLVIA: Isso é engraçado!  
That's funny!

ANTÔNIO: Aí você tem essa coisa de "só pra você"... Ah, eu gosto de guardar as minhas coisas... Fica legal também. Pra não ficar zanzando, 11 já que



você tem que... né, guardar as coisas aí.  
So, they have this "just for you" kind of thing... And, I like putting up my own things... It's kind of cool too. You don't have to keep walking around, since you can... you know, store your things in there.

SÍLVIA: Aqui, 12 como é que você tá fazendo com a história 5 do lanche, da comida? Como é que ele tá se alimentando? Eles tão, tão... Na sala dele... Como é? Porque o Gabriel, até agora, a gente tá tentando descobrir, não sei... Vô dar dinheiro pro Gabriel pra ele trazer pra, pra escola, porque não sei como é que... Até agora não, não sei.  
Look, what are you doing about the whole lunch and meal thing? What is he doing for food? Are they, are they..., in his class, how is he doing it? Because in Gabriel's case, so far, we are trying to figure it out, I don't know... I'm going to give Gabriel money to take to, to school, because I don't know, so far, I just don't know what to do...

ANTÔNIO: Parece que eles têm alguma coisa parecida com uma cantina, não sei, alguma coisa assim, né? Pra eles...  
It looks like they have something like a "cantina", I don't know, something like this, you know? So they...

SÍLVIA: Cantina... 13 Não a italiana, mas é como... cafeteria...  
"Cantina"... Not the Italian one, but it's like a... cafeteria...

ANTÔNIO: Eu acho, é, mais ou menos alguma coisa assim, né? Porque no Brasil você tinha... Não sei, pelo menos na escola que eu estudava, tinha a coisa da merenda, né? Que você...  
I guess, yeah, something like that, right? Because in Brazil we used to have... I don't know, at least at the school I used to go to, we used to have a "merenda" (school lunch), you know? So you...

SÍLVIA: A merenda! 14  
"Merenda"!

ANTÔNIO: Pelos menos quando eu fazia...  
At least when I used to go to...

SÍLVIA: A cantina... Tinha algumas pessoas, algumas pessoas ficavam com vergonha de merendar, mas eu merendava sempre na escola!  
The "cantina"... There were some people, some people were embarrassed to get the "merenda", but I used to always get it at school!

ANTÔNIO: Pois é, aí tinha isso. E, e... Mas aí agora acho que ele tá comprando aqui na cantina. Alguma coisa assim. Ele não...  
Yeah, so we used to have that. And, and... But I think now he is buying

food here in the cafeteria. Something like that. He doesn't...

**SÍLVIA:** Não gosta de trazer, tem vergonha de trazer lanche. Trazer nessas pla... nessas sacolinha plástica, tem vergonha. Aí não quer trazer lanche. Esses menino nessas idade é assim...  
He doesn't like to bring a sack lunch, he's embarrassed about bringing a sack lunch, he's just embarrassed about bringing the little plastic bags. So, he doesn't want to bring sack lunch. Boys this age are like that...

**ANTÔNIO:** Pois é, na High School, já acha que...  
Yeah; in High School they think that...



1. É, mas agora eles vão demorar um pouquinho pra sair.

Notice the verb demorar in this sentence. It is the Portuguese version for the English expression of something like "to take time". The translation here could be something like: "Yeah, but now it'll take a bit for them to leave". Another usual meaning for the verb demorar is "to be delayed": O jantar não vai demorar as in, dinner will be ready in a bit.

2. Pois é, mas...

Did you notice how many times Antônio says Pois é in this dialog? This is a very common oral expression that could be translated as "Yeah...". It indicates agreement with what was just said and is usually followed by some sort of explanation or addition to the topic. It also takes on the meaning of "oh well," expressing the idea that there is not much you can do about it.

3. ...bater um papinho aqui. Muito, muito tempo que a gente não se vê.

Do you want to chat in Portuguese? Then you're going to bater (um) papo. Literally the papo refers to the area around your throat or Adam's apple. So if someone is going to bater their papo they are hitting or knocking their Adam's apple around. What a cool way to say chat!

4. Assim, ele tava contando a história que no outro dia ele quase se perdeu...

Assim is usually an adverb that means "like this," "on this way" and also "thus, therefore." But notice that in this example it is used in a very different way, as a discourse marker (something like "well" or "like"). It has a somewhat empty meaning and acts more like a "filler" to signal a change in the direction of the conversation.

5. a) ...ele quase se perdeu por causa da coisa de mudar de sala  
b) ...eles são muito rígidos aqui, com o negócio de horário, né?  
c) ...como é que você tá fazendo com a história do lanche?

When you don't want to be specific, Brazilians often use filler words like "coisa" (thing), negócio (business), or história (story). These are great examples of the way oral language works.

6. Que eles te olham com uma cara horrível!

Literally this sentence says, "they look at you with a horrible face." This refers to a scowl, or as we put in the translation, "a grumpy face."

7. É, mas com o tempo ele vai, ele se ajeita, né? Tudo, tudo se ajeita.

Ajeitar-se is an interesting verb in Portuguese that means "to accommodate or adapt oneself or something easily." Hopefully it will happen to Antônio's nephew! Note that ajeitar (without se) means "to arrange, dispose" - *dar (um) jeito* in Portuguese.

8. Daqui a pouco ele tá acostumado já.

This expression can be a hard one for a non-native speaker: daqui a pouco (in a little while, shortly). Note that daqui (from here) is the contraction of the preposition de + the adverb aqui. Our translation ended up as, "before you know it."

9. Sai atirando...

The verb sair (to leave) is a very interesting one in Portuguese. Some Portuguese dictionaries list more than 20 different meanings for it! It can also be used as an auxiliary verb, and this is the case in this example: sai atirando, something like "They are shooting (everywhere)." Antônio could also say atira, but when he says sai atirando he captures more the process involved in the act of shooting, and not only the act itself.

10. Porque você pode guardar as coisas também.

Guardar is a verb that can be translated into English in some different ways: to guard, defend, set apart, store (away), to treasure, etc. It is very commonly used in a situation when you "put things inside something" like a locker, a box, a drawer, a wardrobe, etc. We can always watch moms saying: *Guarde seus brinquedos!* (Put your toys away!)

11. Pra não ficar zanzando...

Zanzar: talk about an interesting verb! It probably has African origins and means something like, "to wander, to loiter, roam, walk up and down."

12. Aqui, como é que você tá fazendo com a história do lanche?

Aqui is usually an adverb that means "here." In this dialog it is used in a very different way, as a discourse marker (something like "look" or "listen") and is probably a short version of olhe/escute aqui (look/listen here). Just like assim (see Note 5, above) it has a somewhat empty meaning and acts more as a "filler" to signal a change in the direction or subject of the conversation.

13. Cantina... Não a italiana, mas é como... cafeteria...

Here we see Sílvia explaining the meanings of the word cantina: it can be a "cafeteria" but also a "restaurant specialized in Italian food and wines." It can also be a way to refer to a "rustic restaurant."

14. A merenda!

In public schools in Brazil, the students go to school for 4 or 5 hours a day, either in the morning or in the afternoon. Because of that, they usually have lunch at home and they have a snack or a light meal at school in the middle of the morning or afternoon. They can bring their snack from home, buy it at the cantina (cafeteria) or have the merenda (school lunch). The merenda is free and made from scratch in the school kitchen, but some students have a prejudice against it, as if it would only be for "the poor kids" who don't have any money to buy their snack in the cantina.



## Shopping I: They'll love this with a passion!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=21>







Here in Austin, Texas, Ana's boutique is so well known that everyone just calls her "Ana Brasil." Imagine, she is so much a part of the community that even her name represents a whole country. Now we know that in this clip Denise is pretending to be in Brazil and she hopes to bring some creative items back for her friends. Ana Brasil has tons of cool items and there is no doubt that she'll take some pretty unique pieces home. So, let's see what Denise ends up buying as part of this *Conversa Brasileira*.

**DENISE:** Hum... E aqui... Deixa eu ver... Ah! Esse aqui! Ô, Ana, me ajuda aqui!  
Hum... And here... Let me see... Ah! This one! Hey, Ana, help me out here!

**ANA:** Oi, eu nem <sup>1</sup>vi que você tava aqui!  
Hi, I hadn't even noticed that you were here!

**DENISE:** Ah...  
Ah...

**ANA:** Tudo bom?  
How are you?

**DENISE:** Eu tô aqui tentando achar alguma coisa...  
I'm over here trying to find something...

**ANA:** Bom te ver...  
So good to see you...

**DENISE:** Cê tá boa, querida?  
How are you, sweetie?

**ANA:** Tudo bom.  
I'm fine.

**DENISE:** Então, olha. É o seguinte: eu tô indo pros Estados Unidos, tenho algumas amigas pra presentear. Então eu tenho que levar vários presentinhos, lembrancinha e tal... <sup>2</sup>Mas eu queria levar coisa que... não tem lá. Que é... ou típica do Brasil ou feita aqui com...  
Principalmente mostrando a criatividade do Brasil... <sup>3</sup>  
So, look. Here's the thing: I'm going to US, I have some friends to give some gifts to. So I have to take some gifts with me, souvenirs, etc...  
But I'd like to take something that... they don't have over there.  
Something... typical from Brazil or made here with... Basically showing the Brazilian creativity...



ANA:	Deixa eu te falar. Isso que você pegou... Let me tell you. This one that you grabbed...
DENISE:	O que que é isso aqui, ó? What is this one here, look?
ANA:	... é uma das coisas melhores pra você levar, que as pessoas amam. Cê não vai acreditar! Isso aqui, na verdade, é escama de peixe. Ele é feito... ... it is one of the best things for you to take, people love it. You won't believe it! This thing here, actually, is fish scales.
DENISE:	Ah, cê tá brincando! Ah, you're kidding me!
ANA:	... feito na Paraíba... ④ ... it's made in Paraíba...
DENISE:	Olha, não dá pra dizer ⑤ que é, hein? Que legal! Look, you can't even tell, right? That is so cool!
ANA:	... por uma, é, um grupo de mulheres que desenvolveram isso... ⑥ ... by a, ahn..., a group of women who developed this...
DENISE:	Super diferente! So unusual!
ANA:	E é legal porque é... faz parte da comunidade. A comunidade... o pescador... é... <i>provides</i> ... dá esse, a, a escama, e elas desenvolveram, através de fogo, de calor, o... And it's cool because... it comes from the local community. The local community... the fisherman... ahn... provides... gives this, the, the scale, and they develop, using fire, and heat, the...
DENISE:	Ah, pra dar a forma, eles vão moldando... Ah, to shape it, they give it some shape...
ANA:	...a forma, de dar a forma na flor. E é uma coisa maravilhosa. Esse é pro cabelo. ...the shape, giving it the shape of the flower. And it is a wonderful thing. This one is for you to use in your hair.
DENISE:	Tá, então cê tem... O que que cê tem disso? Ok, so you have... What do you have (that is) made from it?
ANA:	E a gente tem o broche também. And we have brooch also.
DENISE:	Presilha... o broche... Hair pin... the brooch...

ANA:	É, são três itens. Yeah, that's three items.
DENISE:	... e anel. Três itens. ... and the ring. Three items.
ANA:	E o anel. Isso aqui não tem erro. ⑦ Cê vai dar de presente e a pessoa vai amar! ⑧ And the ring. With this one you can't go wrong. You'll offer it as a gift and the person will love it!
DENISE:	Legal. Então, eu tenho... eu tenho nove pessoas pra... pra eu dar presente. Então, acho que eu vou levar... uns cinco desse aqui... ⑨ Cool. So, I have... I have nine people to give presents to. So, I think I'll take... five of this one.
ANA:	Pode levar... You can have it...
DENISE:	Que mais que você teria? E isso aqui, ó? Que que é isso aqui? ⑨ What else would you have? And this one? What is this one?
ANA:	Isso aqui... This one...
DENISE:	Tava olhando... I was looking...
ANA:	Pode pegar! You can pick it up!
DENISE:	Não tô entendendo o que que é... I don't understand what it is...
ANA:	Pode pegar. You can pick it up.
DENISE:	O que que é esse aí? What is this one?
ANA:	Isso aqui é de couro... ele é última moda ⑩ no Rio. E é da época... This one is (made) from leather... It's the latest fashion in Rio.
DENISE:	É um colar? O que que é? Cê põe.. Is it a necklace? What is it? You use...
ANA:	É um colar. Ele é feito... Pra você ver a cria... ⑪ It's a necklace. It's made from... Just like I said about the crea...
DENISE:	Olha que graça! Cheio de florzinha... How cute! Full of little flowers...
ANA:	... falando outra vez da criatividade brasileira, né? ...talking again about Brazilian creativity, you know?

DENISE:	Pois é! É isso que eu quero! Uma coisa que mostre bem... é... Yeah! That's exactly what I want! Something that clearly shows... ah...
ANA:	Pode usar das duas formas, o colar... e você pode usar na cabeça, que é o que tá usando, 10 como hippie. You can wear it both ways, a necklace... and you can wear it on your head, that's what everyone is wearing, like a hippie.
DENISE:	Ah, que jóia... Ah, how cool...
ANA:	Então, esse aqui... dos jovens... eles adoram de paixão! 12 Então cê pode levar uns desses também. So, this one... the younger people ... they just love it! So you can take some of these too.
DENISE:	Pois é! Acho que eu vou levar... mais uns cinco desse aqui também. Yeah! I think I'm going to take... around five more of this one too.
ANA:	Eu vou te deixar à vontade aqui... 13 Take you time here...
DENISE:	Tá. Faz assim: eu vou dando uma espiada... 14 Ok. Let's do it like this: I'm going to keep on looking...
ANA:	Isso é o melhor. This is the best.
DENISE:	...se eu tiver alguma dúvida, eu te chamo de novo. ...if I have any question, I'll call you again.
ANA:	Tá. Ok.
DENISE:	Tá jóia! Ok.
ANA:	Cê quer um cafezinho? 15 Do you want some coffee?
DENISE:	Ah, lógico, né? Ah, of course!
ANA:	Vou buscar pra você. Tá bom, então. I'll bring some to you. Alrighty then.
DENISE:	Imagina! Quero sim. Of course! I would love some.
ANA:	Fica à vontade. Take you time...

DENISE: Tá bom. Já vô indo lá tomar...  
Ok. I'll be there in a sec to drink it...



1. Oi, eu nem vi que você tava aqui!

Notice nem adds more of emphasis to the fact that she hadn't even noticed that Denise was there. She could have simply said, eu não vi, but wouldn't have shown the unexpected surprise at seeing Denise.

2. Então eu tenho que levar vários presentinhos, lembrancinha e tal...

Gift giving in Brazil is usual a big deal and it can be a bit different from what happens in US. Although there are differences among families, in general Brazilians love to give and receive gifts to/from friends and family, especially when visiting ones who they haven't seen for a while. When you go on a trip, it's common to bring gifts or souvenirs for family and friends. Usually it is expected that, when you receive a gift, you open it right away, showing appreciation for it. Gift giving in business sector has particular rules, as it can be conceived as a bribe. Gifts should not be given on the first meeting and it's better to present them at a social setting rather than a business meeting.

3. Principalmente mostrando a criatividade do Brasil...

Brazilians are well known by their creativity, especially in art, music, fashion, architecture, etc. Many times driven by scarce budgets, Brazilian artists make use of unexpected materials and resources creating amazing and unique pieces and techniques.

4. Ele é feito, feito na Paraíba...

Paraíba is a state located in the Northeast of Brazil, named after the Paraíba River. Tourism is an important part of the state's economy, which especially includes its beautiful beaches, ecotourism and *Carnaval*. The shoe industry and other leather products are also a very important part of the local economy. Paraíba is known for its amenable climate, cultural heritage and geographical features. The capital city, located along the coast, is *João Pessoa*.

5. Olha, não dá pra dizer que é, hein?

That's a great expression in Portuguese. One more time, the verb dar shows us another interesting meaning: Denise is amazed with the hair pin made from fish scales, especially because no one can tell (não dá pra dizer...) that it is actually made from scales! So, in the example here, não dar could be translated as "to be not possible."

6. ... um grupo de mulheres que desenvolveram isso..

Here we have a good example of the relative pronoun que in Portuguese, used to connect two elements in a sentence and to replace/refer to an antecedent noun - in this case, mulheres (note the verb in the plural form). An English-speaker can have a hard time with this pronoun, since que has several meanings: it means "who, whom, which" and "that," and can be used to refer to both people and things.

**Examples:**

- a) Um grupo de mulheres que desenvolveram... (Um group of women who developed...)
- b) A mulher que encontramos é a Ana. (The woman whom we met is Ana)
- c) O colar que está aqui. (The necklace that is here.)

7. Isso aqui não tem erro.

According to Ana, this product "has no error" meaning that there is no way that you could go wrong in buying it. It is guaranteed to be a successful gift! This is the meaning of the expression não ter erro: there is no way to go wrong; it is guaranteed that you'll get what you want.

8. Cê vai dar de presente e a pessoa vai amar!

Remember that in Portuguese, unlike English, you don't need to use the direct object pronoun - its place can be left empty. Notice that Ana says: "Cê vai dar \_\_\_ de presente e a pessoa vai amar \_\_\_" (You'll offer it as a gift and the person will love it).

9. a) Então, acho que eu vou levar... uns cinco (d)esse aqui...  
b) Que que é isso aqui?

Isso X esse: what a challenge for a non-native speaker, since both demonstrative mean "this." Usually, esse(a) [as well este(a)] is used along with the noun (like an adjective) to refer to people or things that are close to the speaker in space or time (Ex: esse brinco; essa presilha). Isso (and/or isto), on the other hand, is a demonstrative pronoun used replacing the noun, also to refer to something close to the speaker in space or time. (Ex: esse brinco = isso). Notice that in this dialog we have esse aqui and isso aqui. In the first case, even though the noun is omitted, we know that she is referring to the brinco. In fact, she is pointing to it. In the case of isso aqui the word isso actually replaces the noun.

Obs.: Isso and isto are interchangeable in common Brazilian Portuguese; the same occurring to esse and este.

10. a) ... ele é última moda no Rio.  
b) ... que é o que tá usando...

In general, Brazilians pride themselves on dressing well, are very fashion-conscious and stylish, following European styles. Wearing clothes and accessories that are in style is usually a big deal for Brazilians, although there are differences among cities, regions and distinct social groups.

11. Pra você ver a cria(tividade)...

That's an interesting expression in Portuguese, and don't take it literally. Notice that, after addressing the Brazilian creativity in arts, Ana has just an example to show to Denise and make her point: "Just like I said" (Pra você ver), "talking about Brazilian creativity..."

12. ... os jovens... eles adoram de paixão!

Talking about Brazilian creativity... check this unexpected way they have to emphasize de verb adorar: adorar de paixão! In other words, when Brazilians really love something, they adoram de paixão. Notice that in English the same idea is expressed with the preposition “with,” people “love it with a passion.”

13. Eu vou te deixar à vontade aqui...

You probably already know the Brazilian expression: Fica/fique à vontade, that means “feel comfortable, make yourself at home.” Notice that here Ana says to Denise you te deixar à vontade, meaning that she will give her enough time so Denise can feel comfortable to make the right choices regarding the gifts she needs to buy for her friends. Note the way we translated this expression in the dialog: “Take your time,” which would be the most usual thing to say in English in such a context.

14. ... eu vou dando uma espiada...

And here comes the verb dar again! Dar uma espiada is an informal way to say to look, to take a gander at something. It's usually combined with the diminutive: dar uma espiadinha or dar uma olhadinha... Notice that it does not necessarily mean “to take a quick look;” it's more a way to point to the fact that it won't be something hard to do.

15. Cê quer um cafezinho?

In Brazil, it is very common that, wherever you go, someone will offer you: Você aceita/toma/quer um cafezinho? And Brazilians love their bitter strong coffee! But this is not the only difference between Brazilian coffee and the American one: in English, the word “coffee” is a mass noun (notice the translation here: Do you want some coffee?), but in Portuguese it is a count noun: um cafezinho.





## Shopping 2: It looks like spun gold, doesn't it?

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=22>





Handmade handicrafts, fancy necklaces, pretty earrings, and the famous “*capim dourado*.” (What in the world is Golden Grass?). It looks like Cris’ expenses at *Ana Brazil* are proportional to how much she is enjoying the unique items that are for sale at the boutique. We can listen in to learn more about the latest fashion items and while we are at it, here’s a chance to study the details of two *Paulistas* having a *Conversa Brasileira*.

CRIS: Hum... Bonito esse colar, gostei dele! Ana?  
Hum... How pretty this necklace, I liked it! Ana?

ANA: Oi, tudo bom?  
Hi, how are you!

CRIS: Tudo bom.  
I'm fine.

ANA: Ah, você pegou o colar que eu mais adoro ❶.  
Ah, you got the necklace I love the most.

CRIS: Eu gostei muito desse colar!  
I really liked this necklace!

ANA: Dá uma olhada, ó... Tô usando ele!  
Give a look, see... I'm wearing it!

CRIS: Ah!  
Ah!

ANA: Esse colar, ele é fei... ele é feito por uma artesã ❷ em São Paulo.  
This necklace, it is do... it is done by a craftswoman in São Paulo.

CRIS: Ah, sério? É a minha cidade!  
Ah, are you serious? It's my city!

ANA: Ah, é? Eu sou de lá também. De São Paulo. ❸ Mas, olha, eu quero te falar ❹ que o detalhe desse colar é que ele é feito todo em cro(chê)... em tricô... só que é feito com o dedo. ❺  
Really? I'm from there too. From São Paulo. But, look, I want to tell you that an important thing about this necklace is that it's all hand made cro(chet)... knitting... but it's made by hand.

CRIS: Caramba! ❻  
Whew!

- ANA: Não é legal? E olha que bonito que fica... ⑦  
Isn't that cool? And look how pretty it ended up...
- CRIS: Quanto tempo demora pra fazer um colar desse?  
How long does it take to make a necklace like this one?
- ANA: Ah, ela faz muito rápido. Que ela tem muita prática! ⑧ É, ela é espetacular!  
Ah, she makes it very fast. Because she has a lot of experience! Yeah, she is amazing!
- CRIS: Se fosse eu, acho que ia demorar algum tempo! ⑨  
If it were me, I think it'd take some time!
- ANA: É, eu não consigo fazer isso. Eu, eu quero te mostrar esse aqui. Esse aqui é o... o famoso capim dourado! ⑩  
Yeah, I can't do that. And I want to show you this one here. This one is the... the famous "golden grass"!
- CRIS: Ah!  
Ah!
- ANA: Você já ouviu falar? ⑪  
Have you heard about it?
- CRIS: Já, já ouvi falar... De que região que é?  
Yeah, yeah, I've heard about it... What region is it from?
- ANA: Ele é da região do Tocantins. ⑫ É bem perto de Brasília, ⑬ bem no centro do Brasil.  
It's from the Tocantins region. It's very close to Brasília, in the very center of Brazil.
- CRIS: Nossa, muito lindo!  
Wow, it's very pretty!
- ANA: Ele é lindo, lindo! Ele dá um efeito ⑭ maravilhoso...  
It is very pretty! It ends up looking great...
- CRIS: Parece fio de ouro, não?  
It looks like a spun gold, doesn't it?
- ANA: E ele seca dessa cor. Nunca foi pintado, nada. O brilho é natural. Olha aqui!  
And it dries like this, in this color. It has never been painted, or anything like that. This is its natural shine. Look!
- CRIS: Nossa! Eu ouvi dizer que esse capim tá em extinção, né?  
Wow! I've heard that this grass is at risk of becoming extinct, right?

ANA: Tá! Porque as pessoas roubavam. Começaram, começou a ficar na moda e as pessoas roubavam o capim. Agora, é... eles estão controlando. Só as pessoas nativas podem colher, porque nasce só uma vez por ano, no mês de novembro. Então, todo o artesão que é... tem que ser registrado quando ele compra esse capim dos nativos pra poder fazer isso.

It is! Because people were stealing it. They began, it began to be stylish and people were stealing the grass. Now, it is... they are controlling it. Only native people can cut it, because it grows only once a year, in November. So, every artisan who is... he needs to be registered when he buys this grass from the natives to be able to make this.

CRIS: Nossa, eu gostei muito desse capim dourado. É muito lindo!  
Wow, I liked this golden grass very much. It's so pretty!

ANA: É muito bonito, né? Ah, então tá. Eu vou te deixar à vontade aqui... Pra olhar ahn... as nossas coisas e... e eu posso embrulhar pra presente...<sup>15</sup> É presente que cê tá comprando?

Its is very pretty, isn't it? Ah, ok then. You can take your time here... To look ah... at our things... and... and I can wrap it up as a gift. Are you buying it as a gift?

CRIS: Sim, sim. Eu gostei muito desse brinco aqui, eu vou levar.  
Yes, yes. I liked this earring very much, I'll take it.

ANA: Então tá. Eu já vou guardar esse pra você. E fica à vontade então, tá?  
Ok. I'm going to save this one for you. Take your time, ok?

CRIS: Tá, muito obrigada.  
Ok, thank you very much.

ANA: Tá bom.  
Ok.



1. Ah, você pegou o *colar* que eu mais adoro.

"Ah, you got the necklace I love the most" says Ana. Notice that in Portuguese you must use the relative pronoun que (that) to refer to an antecedent noun (in this case, colar), connecting two elements in a sentence. Also note the distinct word order in both languages: que eu mais adoro X "I love most". In English there is a tendency to eliminate "that" and simply say, "the necklace I love the most."

2. ... ele é feito por uma *artesã* em São Paulo.

Here we have a good example of the feminine form of a word where you just drop the o at the end: artesão (masc.) / artesã (fem.) - for "craftsman" and "craftswoman," respectively. Other examples are: irmão/irmã (brother/sister); tecelão/tecelã (cloth-weaver); órfão/órfã (orphan); etc.

3. De *São Paulo*.

*São Paulo* city is the capital of the state of *São Paulo*, in the southwest region of Brazil. It is the largest city in Brazil and the world's 6th largest city. The city population is around 11 million and almost 20 million in its metropolitan region. It is one of the richest cities in Latin America, with significant influence in terms of culture, economy and politics. The city offers an intense cultural experience with world-class restaurants for all tastes, a jovial nightlife, lots of theaters and movies, etc. It is often called Sampa (check Caetano Veloso's song called *Sampa*) and people from the city are known as paulistanos, while paulistas is the word used to refer to a person from *São Paulo* state.

4. Mas, olha, eu quero te falar que o detalhe desse colar é que...

The verb falar is a hard one for a non-native speaker, since it means “to speak,” but also “say, tell” and “talk.” On the other hand, in Portuguese you have verbs like dizer (to say), contar (to tell), conversar (to talk). Notice that, in this example from the dialog, Ana could also have said: ... eu quero te dizer que o detalhe desse colar é que...

It is not so simple to define the difference among these verbs, but here are some hints:

- conversar: to talk, to chat - Elas estão conversando (They are chatting, talking to each other)
- contar: to tell - Ele contou esta história (He told this story)
- falar: usually refers to the act of oral expression of words. - A criança aprende a falar muito cedo (The child learn how to talk very early); Eu não falo francês (I don't speak French).
- dizer: also refers to the act of oral expression of words, but usually adds to it the reference to the fact that some kind of information is being communicated.

Here is an example that can be helpful: Ele fala muito, mas não diz nada. (He talks a lot, but doesn't say much - of substance).

5. ... só que é feito com o dedo.

Ana makes sure to tell Cristina that an important thing about that necklace is that it's all hand made knitting, but it's more than just hand made - it's made using no knitting needle or crochet hook, but using the fingers (dedos) as needles.

6. Caramba!

This is a great Brazilian interjection, used in exclamations to express admiration or surprise. Something like “don't tell me! my! blimey! whew!” Caramba!

7. E olha que bonito que fica...

Talk about a great verb in Portuguese! The verb ficar has more than 30 different meanings and can be used in a lot of distinct ways. In the case here, Ana is pointing out the beautiful result of the artisan's handwork in making the referred necklace. Something close to “to get/acquire certain characteristic,” “to become” or “to end up.”



8. *Que* ela *tem* muita *prática*!

Notice that the initial *que*, here, corresponds to *porque* (because). Ana is saying that the craftswoman is very quick to make a necklace like that one because she has a lot of experience - *porque ela tem prática*! *Ter prática* (and *ter experiência* as well) are expressions you can use to say that someone has experience in doing/making something.

9. Se *fosse* eu, acho que *ia* demorar algum tempo!

"If it were me, I think it *would* take some time" - that's what Cristina is saying... But notice that she uses the form *ia* (Imperfect Indicative of verb *ir*) and not *iria* (Conditional), which would be expected in this kind of structure. Well, at least, this is what the grammar books teach: "you have to use the Conditional (*iria*) in sentences where the other verb is in the Imperfect Subjunctive (*fosse*, in our example here)." But this replacement (*ia* instead of *iria*) is very common in colloquial spoken Portuguese.

10. Esse aqui é o... o famoso *capim dourado*!

*Capim dourado* (golden grass) is a plant that apparently doesn't grow anywhere else in the world besides *Jalapão*, a remote region in the Brazilian north-central state of *Tocantins*. The people in *Jalapão* have the talent and the patience to work with the golden grass using a technique that has been learned from the Indians, making all sorts of products, like handbags, baskets, jewelry, etc. The strings that hold the grass together are made from the heart of the Buriti palm. Another great way Brazilians express all their creativity.

11. Você já *ouviu falar*?

*Ouvir falar* is the Portuguese expression used to say "to hear about something" or literally "to hear it said". In this second case, notice the difference in the verb tense: the second verb in the Portuguese expression (*falar*) is always used in its infinitive form, differently from English.

12. Ele é da região do Tocantins.

Tocantins is the newest state in Brazil, formed in 1988 out of the northern part of the state of Goiás, in the north-central zone of the country. It has characteristics of the Amazon, but also has open pastures. It is situated within a vast area known as cerrado - with a climate that is hot, semi-humid with a dry winter, with big savanna formations. Because it is still a young state, it is developing slowly: according to the Census of 2007, there were less than 2 million people residing in the state.

13. É bem perto de Brasília.

Brasília is the capital of Brazil located in the central-west region of the country. It is the fourth largest city in Brazil (with a population around 3 million). The city was planned and developed in the late 50's and in 1960 it formally became Brazil's national capital (previously, Rio de Janeiro was the capital). It is a world reference for urban planning and Oscar Niemeyer was its principal architect. Viewed from above, the central portion of the city resembles an airplane and it has notable buildings as well as landmark modernist gardens designed by the Brazilian landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx.

14. Ele dá um efeito maravilhoso...

Don't mistake the Portuguese expression dar um efeito by the English one "to give effect to" (this one, by the way, could be translated into Portuguese as dar resultado). Dar um efeito is used to talk about the visual appearance that is a result of some kind of artistic or esthetics expression.

15. ... eu posso embrulhar pra presente

Differently from what happens in stores in US, in many stores in Brazil it is still very common to buy something and have it wrapped as a gift by the vendors in the store, as a free service offered to the clients.





## Shopping 3: Capricha lá!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=23>





Our hats go off to Alexandre. It's a brave man who walks into a jewelry store to buy something special for his wife for Valentine's Day. You've got the choice of necklaces, earrings, or bracelets on one end and leather, silver, gold, or precious stones on the other end. Fortunately for Alexandre, and for all of the rest of us too, Ana knows what the ladies like. She'll even wrap it up to make the gift box look nice. So with a simple, "Capricha lá" Alexandre and Ana finish up the jewelry purchase *Conversa Brasileira*.

- ANA: Oi, Alexandre, tudo bem?  
Hi, Alexandre, how are you?
- ALEXANDRE: Olá, Ana. Tudo bem? Como vai?  
Hi, Ana. How are you? How are you doing?
- ANA: Quer um cafezinho? ❶  
Do you want some coffee?
- ALEXANDRE: Ahn... Não, obrigado.  
Ahn... no, thanks.
- ANA: Não? Hum... Eu tomo o dia inteiro...  
No? I drink (it) all day long...
- ALEXANDRE: Ah! Café é bom pra deixar a gente acordado.  
Ah! Coffee is good to keep us awake.
- ANA: Posso te ajudar? O que é que cê tá procurando?  
Can I help you? What are you looking for?
- ALEXANDRE: Claro, claro! Eu tô precisando comprar alguma coisa pro Dia dos Namorados, ❷ pra minha esposa...  
Sure, sure! I need to buy something for my wife for Valentine's Day...
- ANA: Ah-ha! Então você veio no lugar certo!  
Ah-ha! So you came to the right place!
- ALEXANDRE: Acho que sim.  
I think so.
- ANA: Eu selecionei algumas coisas dessa área... A gente tem outras também, mas eu vou te mostrar aqui, porque nós selecionamos isso aqui exatamente pra esse motivo. Olha, pra começar, a gente tem... ahn... Como que ela é? Ela gosta de coisas mais pesadas, mais leves? ❸

I've chosen some products in this area... We also have other things, but I'll show you here, because we've chosen these ones exactly for this reason. Look, to begin with, we have... ahn... What is she like? Does she like heavier pieces or the smaller ones?

ALEXANDRE: Ahn... Eu acho que ela... preferi, preferiria alguma coisa, assim, pra festa, pra noite...  
Ahn... I think she... prefers, she would prefer something, like, dinner jewelry, night out jewelry...

ANA: Ah, então tá. Entendi. 4  
Ah, ok. I got it.

ALEXANDRE: Olha, eu gostei desse aqui. O que você acha?  
Look, I liked this one. What do you think?

ANA: Tá. Esse aqui é muito bonitinho, 5 tá na moda, é mais simples... Ele é prata e a pedra é zircônia. Chama "ponto de luz".  
Ok. This one is very cute, it's fashion, it's more simple... It is made of silver and zirconium. It's called "point of light".

ALEXANDRE: Ah, ok.  
Ah, ok.

ANA: E ele fica muito delicado, olha.  
It's very delicate, look.

ALEXANDRE: É, bem delicado!  
Yeah, it's very delicate!

ANA: É. É muito bonitinho. Mas...  
Yeah. It's very cute. But...

ALEXANDRE: Eu acho que ela gostaria...  
I think she'd like...

ANA: ... eu vou te falar. Pra uma brasileira - sua esposa é brasileira, tá certo?  
... I'll tell you. For a Brazilian woman - your wife is Brazilian, right?

ALEXANDRE: Certo.  
Right.

ANA: E... então eu vou te falar: pra brasileira, pontinho<sup>5</sup> de luz não funciona!  
And... so I'll tell you: for a Brazilian woman, a simple "point of light" doesn't work!

ALEXANDRE: Não funciona...  
It doesn't work...

ANA: Não.  
Nope.

ALEXANDRE: Precisa ser alguma coisa, assim, mais...  
It has to be something, like, more...

ANA: A gente tem que ter... Eu tenho essa coleção que é de uma artista de, de Vitória, ⑥ e... ela trabalha com prata... Essa prata, ela é 950, é puríssima. É a mais pura que tem. E o interessante é que ela trabalha com pedras brasileiras. ⑦ Nós temos aqui a... a ametista.  
We have to have... I have this collection that is (made) by a craftswoman from, from Vitória and... she works with silver... This silver, it's 950, it's pure silver. It's the purest one that exists. And the interesting (thing) is that she works with Brazilian stones. Here we have the... the amethyst.

ALEXANDRE: Ah, ametista!  
Ah, the amethyst!

ANA: Agora, o que ela usa é pele de arraia.  
Now, what she uses is stingray skin.

ALEXANDRE: Ah, pele de arraia?!  
Wow, stingray skin?

ANA: É! Olha que interessante.  
Yeah! Look how interesting.

ALEXANDRE: Mas mas...  
But, but...

ANA: Você já tinha visto? Põe a mão aqui...  
Have you ever seen it? Touch it...

ALEXANDRE: Não, nunca tinha visto...  
No, I've never seen...

ANA: Ela é bem assim, e ela também pode ser lixada pra dar um outro efeito, olha.  
It's just like that, and it can also be polished to give it a different effect, look.

ALEXANDRE: Ah, que bonito, não?  
Ah, it's pretty, isn't it?

ANA: Então, isso é jóia, ela é toda banhada a ouro, ⑧ esta...  
So, this is a fine piece of jewelry, it's gold plated, this one...

ALEXANDRE: E... E esse material pode ser...  
And... and can this material be...

ANA: Fica maravilhoso!  
It's marvelous!

ALEXANDRE: ... ahn, usado assim? É... existe algum controle sobre isso?  
... ahn, used like that? Ahn... is there any control of it?

ANA:	Não, não... Existe o controle do IBAMA... <sup>9</sup> No, no... IBAMA controls it...
ALEXANDRE:	Ah, ok... Ah, ok...
ANA:	É, todos os nossos materiais têm o controle... ou é registrado. E ela compra diretamente de pescador. Então é... Yeah, all of our materials are controlled... or are registered. And she buys them directly from the fisherman. So it's...
ALEXANDRE:	Interessante. Interesting.
ANA:	... reciclado. É um material reciclado, essa pele. Tá? ... recycled. It's a recycled material, this skin. Right?
ALEXANDRE:	Ah, ok. Ah, ok.
ANA:	E, e é lindo! Dá uma olhada. And, and it's pretty! Give it a look.
ALEXANDRE:	Muito bonito! Muito bonito... Very pretty! Very pretty...
ANA:	E tem o brinco <sup>10</sup> que vem junto. Quer dizer, <sup>11</sup> não vem junto... And there are earrings that match with it. I mean, they don't come with it...
ALEXANDRE:	Mas você vende separado? But do you sell them separately?
ANA:	... não vem junto! É separado! ... they don't come with it... They are sold separately.
ALEXANDRE:	Ah, ok. Ah, ok.
ANA:	Mas que faz um conjunto <sup>12</sup> maravilhoso! But they make a wonderful pair!
ALEXANDRE:	Muito bonito. Very pretty.
ANA:	E a gente tem o ouro branco, o... nosso colar de... do Espírito Santo. Esse ouro é ouro 18... <sup>13</sup> And we have the one in white gold, the... our Holy Ghost necklace. This gold is 18K gold.
ALEXANDRE:	Isso é uma águia? Ou é um... Is this an eagle? Or it's a...

ANA: Não, esse é o, chama *Holy Spirit*, é o Espírito Santo.  
No, this is, it's called *Holy Ghost*, it's the Holy Ghost.

ALEXANDRE: Ah, ok.  
Ah, ok.

ANA: Que é o símbolo do Espírito Santo. É um pombo.  
It's the symbol of the Holy Ghost. It's a dove.

ALEXANDRE: Ah, muito bonito.  
Ah, so pretty.

ANA: E fica super delicado.  
And it's very delicate.

ALEXANDRE: E também delicado.  
And also very delicate.

ANA: Hum-hum! Que que você acha, hein?  
Hum-hum! What do you think, ahn?

ALEXANDRE: Ok.  
Ok.

ANA: Eu acho que...  
I THINK...

ALEXANDRE: Ah, eu acho que eu...  
Ah, I think I'll...

ANA: O que que ela vai gostar?  
Which one is she going to like?

ALEXANDRE: ... eu vou levar esse daqui, ó. O que que você sugere?  
... I'll take this one, look. What do you suggest?

ANA: Eu acho que você devia levar com o brinco.  
I think you should buy the earrings with it.

ALEXANDRE: Esse conjunto, né?  
Both of them, right?

ANA: Ela vai te amar pro resto da vida!  
She'll love you for the rest of your life!

ALEXANDRE: Ah, ok. Acho que ela vai gostar.  
Ah, ok. I think she'll like it.

ANA: Então tá bom. Então eu vou fazer...  
So, that's it. So I'll...

ALEXANDRE: Perfeito!  
Perfect!

ANA: ... um embrulho bem legal pra você! Tá bom?  
... I'll wrap it in a cool way for you! Right?

ALEXANDRE: Ah, ok. Capricha lá! 14  
Ah, ok. Do your best!

ANA: Dá mais uma olhadinha e eu vou te esperar no caixa.  
Give another look and I'll wait for you at the cashier.

ALEXANDRE: Isso! Eu vou ficar por aqui dando uma olhada.  
Ok. I'll be here and I'll give a look.

ANA: Tá bom? Vou embrulhando.  
Ok? I'm going to wrap it.

ALEXANDRE: Ok. Ok.  
Ok. Ok.

ANA: Tchau.  
Bye.

ALEXANDRE: Tchau.  
Bye.



### 1. *Quer um cafezinho?*

You already know it: Brazilians love cafezinho—the strong flavorful coffee, usually served black in tiny ceramic cups. But cafezinho is more than just coffee: it is synonymous with hospitality and conversation that goes with it. Cafezinho is served at any time, especially at business meetings, after lunch or dinner in a restaurant and in homes. Don't be surprised if a Brazilian hostess immediately offer you and begin to prepare a cafezinho when you step through her front door, just like Ana does in this dialog.

### 2. Eu tô precisando comprar alguma coisa pro Dia dos Namorados, pra minha esposa..

Valentine's Day in Brazil (literally, "Day of the Enamored") is celebrated only by couples (not by friends, family, etc) to express their romantic love for each other by exchanging gifts, cards, flowers, etc. It is held on 12th June, the eve of the day of Santo Antônio, who is known as the marriage saint.

### 3. Ela gosta de coisas mais pesadas, mais leves?

Notice the way you can talk about different styles of jewelry in Portuguese: something mais pesado (lit. "heavier") means bigger things or also dinner jewelry or night out jewelry; the expression mais leve (lit. "lighter") is used to describe smaller things or a piece of jewelry that has a more day casual look. Both expressions can also be used to talk about makeup, clothes, accessories and objects of decoration.



4. Ah, então tá. Entendi.

Notice the way Alexandre reacts after Ana's explanation about his wife's jewelry preferences: Entendi ("I got it"-or lit. "I understood"). In English, if you use the verb "to understand" in this context, you need to use it in the present form: "I understand." But in Portuguese, after an explanation that leads you to a better understanding of something, the past form is the most usual: entendi. The present form entendo or even estou entendendo is more used when you sympathize with what someone says.

5. Esse aqui é muito bonitinho, tá na moda, é mais simples...

(...) E... então eu vou te falar: pra brasileira, pontinho de luz não funciona!

We've already talked before about the intensive usage of the diminutive in Brazilian Portuguese, but notice that here Ana is using it in a special way: to express some contempt or disdain... Since Alexandre told her that her wife would prefer a night out kind of jewelry, Ana knows that a simple "Point of Light" - a small and casual necklace - will definitely not make her happy on Valentine's Day!

6. Eu tenho essa coleção que é de uma artista de Vitória...

Vitória (Victory) is the capital of the state of *Espírito Santo*, in the Southeastern region, the most developed region of Brazil. It is a pretty city located on a small island within a bay where a few rivers meet the Atlantic Sea, with pretty colonial buildings, ports and beaches. Vitória was founded by Portuguese colonists in 1551 and nowadays has a population of more than 320,000.

7. E o interessante é que ela trabalha com pedras brasileiras.

Brazil is well known for the huge amount and the variety of precious and semiprecious stones it has. The country is the second largest producer of emeralds and it is the only one to extract **topázio imperial** (imperial topaz) and *turmalina paraíba* (Paraíba tourmaline). It has big mines of agate, amethyst, tourmaline, topaz, aquamarine, quartz and gold.

8. Então, isso é jóia, ela é toda banhada a ouro, esta...

In Portuguese there are two different words for jewelry: *bijuteria* (bijouterie, jewels made of worthless material) and *jóia* (a fine piece of jewelry, made of valuable material, like gold, gems, etc.). In this example, Ana is making sure to tell Alexandre that the piece is not a *bijuteria* but a real *jóia*, it is gold plated (*banhada a ouro*).

9. Existe o controle do IBAMA..

IBAMA is the acronym for **Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis** (Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources). It is the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment's enforcement agency, which manages and controls all country's natural resources, such as fauna, flora, etc.

10. E tem o brinco que vem junto.

Ana is trying to convince Alexandre to buy earrings that match the necklace... Notice that here we have an example of a word that is usually used on its plural form in English (earrings), but on its singular form in Portuguese (o brinco), although the plural meaning is still implied. Notice that some words in English, though singular in nature, are made of paired items and generally treated as plural: **scissors, pants, trousers, glasses, pliers, tongs, tweezers**, and the like. Many are often used with the word **pair** as in **pair of pants** or **pair of scissors**. The opposite occurs in Portuguese, those words are generally treated as singular: **Meu óculos está** [sing.] *riscado* (My glasses are scratched); **Minha calça está** [sing.] *suja* (My pants are dirty). So, if you hear a Brazilian saying: "Eu comprei um brinco lindo" (I bought a pretty earring), it doesn't mean he/she bought just one and not the pair...

11. Quer dizer, não vem junto...

"I mean, they don't come with it" - Ana makes sure to clarify that Alexandre needs to pay for the earrings too! Note the expression she uses for "I mean": quer dizer...

12. Mas que faz um conjunto maravilhoso!

The necklace and the earrings make a wonderful pair... But this is not what you say in Portuguese: *Eles fazem um conjunto (set, ensemble) maravilhoso*... The same word can be used in others contexts as well, like: conjunto esporte (trouser suit); em conjunto or no conjunto (as a whole); trabalho em conjunto (team work); etc.

13. Esse ouro é ouro 18...

Notice that Ana makes sure to explain that the jewel is made of 18K gold. That's because, differently from the US, where 14K gold is the most popular, Brazilians prefer jewelry made of 18K gold. This kind of gold has more yellow in the color tint and it is a much purer gold (75% gold, whereas 14k is 58.3% gold). For this reason, 18K gold has a higher value and it is more expensive, although softer. A curious fact to mention is that a wedding ring in Brazil is usually made only of 18K gold, and wife and husband must use it on their left hands (but on the right ones before marriage). The name of the groom should be engraved on the wedding ring of his bride. Similarly, the name of the bride should be carved on the groom's ring.

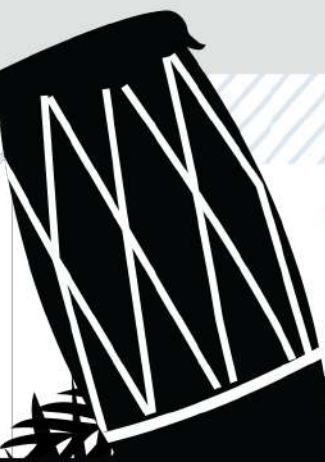
14. Capricha lá!

"Do your best!" - says Alexandre to Ana, making sure his wife will receive a pretty gift, carefully wrapped ... The verb caprichar means to try to excel; to elaborate carefully. Do your best, Ana!



## Directions I: Tô perdido – I'm lost

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=24>





We've all been in the same situation as Alexandre, '*Acabei de chegar. Tô perdido.*' (I just arrived. I am lost). Fortunately for Alexandre, Lucas is not only willing to help him out, Lucas will even take him to the place he needs to go. And why not? We all sympathize with others because we know what it feels like to be in a new place and to be a bit disoriented too. No doubt Alexandre made it to his orientation meeting, and along the way he had a great *Conversa Brasileira*.

ALEXANDRE: E aí, cara? Tudo bem?  
What's up, man? How are you doing?

LUCAS: Opa, fala! ❶  
Hey, what's up?

ALEXANDRE: Tudo jóia?  
How you doing?

LUCAS: Tudo bem?  
How are you?

ALEXANDRE: Rapaz, eu tô procurando esse lugar aqui, International Office.  
Man, I'm looking for this place here, International Office.

LUCAS: International Office.  
International Office.

ALEXANDRE: Cê sabe onde fica? ❷  
Do you know where it is?

LUCAS: É... Wooldridge Building?  
Ahn... Wooldridge Building?

ALEXANDRE: Ahn... Não sei, cara.  
Ahn... I don't know, man.

LUCAS: Hum... cê não sabe? É pra... é pro ③ quê?  
Hum... You don't? It's for... what is it for?

ALEXANDRE: É uma orientação. Eu tô chegando agora ④ nos Estados Unidos...  
It's an orientation. I've just arrived in the US...

LUCAS: Cê acabou de chegar?<sup>4</sup>  
Have you just arrived?

ALEXANDRE: Acabei de chegar. Tô perdido.  
I've just arrived. I'm lost.

LUCAS: Tem a, a Drag there. E você pega ⑤ a Drag e continua na 24, ⑥ vai, cê sai...<sup>5</sup>  
There is... Drag there. And you take Drag and continue on 24th, you'll end up at...

ALEXANDRE: Ah, o que que é isso? É uma loja?  
Ah, what is it? Is it a store?

LUCAS: Não. A Drag, na verdade, é ... eu devia falar é a Guadalupe, na verdade, né? Eles chamam de 'Drag', mas é a Guadalupe. Cê já sabe qual é?  
No. the Drag, the truth is, is... I should have said, it is, in fact, Guadalupe, you know? They call it 'the Drag', but it's Guadalupe. Do you already know which one it is?

ALEXANDRE: Não, não sei. Onde a gente tá ⑦, exatamente? Cê sabe?  
No, I don't. Where are we, exactly? Do you know?

LUCAS: A gente, a gente tá aqui perto da, da Business School, aqui, né? No Mezes Hall. Cê tá no Sul. A... a Drag, cê tem que seguir pra frente, aqui assim. ⑧ Vai ao Norte, ⑨ né? Depois, Oeste.  
We, we're here close to, to the Business School, right? At Mezes Hall. You're on the South side. For the Drag, you gotta go straight, this way. Go North, ok? Then West.

ALEXANDRE: Certo. Mas...  
Ok, but...

LUCAS: E é uma rua, assim, tem lojas, restaurantes...  
It's a street, like, with stores, restaurants...

ALEXANDRE: Mas é muito longe? Vou ter que pegar ônibus?  
But is it far? Do I need to take the bus?

LUCAS: Não, não, não. Cê vai a pé, só. É...  
No, no, no. You can walk there, that's it. It's...

ALEXANDRE: Ah, ok.  
Ah, ok.

LUCAS: ... é muito perto. Você, cê tá atrasado?  
... it's very close. Are you, are you late?

ALEXANDRE: Cara, eu tô totalmente atrasado e não sei se eu consigo chegar até lá.  
Man, I'm very late and I don't know if I can get there.

LUCAS: Ah, se você quiser eu te levo até lá. 10  
Ah, if you want I'll take you there.

ALEXANDRE: Pô, cê vai pra lá?  
Hey, are you going that way?

LUCAS: Eu tô indo pra lá, mas eu posso te levar. 11 Tô tranquilo, tô com tempo 12 aqui.  
I'm going this way, but I can take you there. I'm good, I have enough time.

ALEXANDRE: Pô, se você pudesse me levar até lá... Eu ficaria agradecido.  
Hey, if you could take me there... I'd be very thankful.

LUCAS: Vamo lá então. Vamo lá.  
Let's go then. Let's go.

ALEXANDRE: Bom, então vamo nessa. 13  
Well, let's go then.

LUCAS: Vamo lá. 13  
Let's go.





### 1. Opa, fala!

Notice the way Lucas answers Alexandre's greetings: Opa, fala! (something like *Hey, what's up?*). Opa! itself is an interjection that means *oh!* or *wow!* - but it can also be used as a slang to greet, in a very informal way. Fala (*talk*) is another slang used to greet, a short version for fala aí.

### 2. Cê sabe onde fica?

The verb ficar is used a lot by Brazilians, in several different ways. Here we have an example of ficar meaning "*to be situated or located*". Do you know where it is? Lucas could just as easily use ser in this instance as well.

### 3. É pra... é pro quê?

Brazilian contractions... They can give a non-native speaker a hard time... You already know pra, the contraction of the preposition and the article (para + a; *to/for* + *the*). Here we have pro, that is the contraction of para + o, usually used before masculine nouns. But notice that in this example we have: É para + o quê? = É pro quê? (*What is it for?*), which can be even more confusing for an English speaker since the word order in this structure is very different in both languages and there is no explicit object (*it*) in the Portuguese sentence.

4. a) Eu tô chegando agora nos Estados Unidos...  
b) Cê acabou de chegar?

Let's explore these two sentences together since they both have a similar verbal structure/tense in English, but not in Portuguese: a) I've just arrived in the US; b) Have you just arrived? Note that in Portuguese you can express this verbal tense either using Present Continuous + the adverb agora (*estou/tô chegando agora*) or the Past Tense of acabar de: acabou de chegar.

5. E você pega a Drag e continua na 24, vai, cê sai...

There are some important Portuguese verbs for you to know in order to give directions. Here we have two of them: pegar (to take) and sair (to end up). Another verb very common in this last case is cair (lit. to fall, but not in this context). Lucas could easily have said: .. você pega a Drag.. e cê cai..

6. E você pega a Drag e continua na 24...

Another interesting difference between Portuguese and English regarding address and directions is the use of ordinal numbers in English (24<sup>th</sup> Street) and cardinal ones in Portuguese (Rua 24). We have the same situation regarding days of the month. Ex: Chego no dia 24 de maio. (I arrive on May 24<sup>th</sup>).

7. Onde a gente tá, exatamente?

"Where are we, exactly?" – asks Alexandre. But notice the different word order in an interrogative sentence in both languages: WH Noun Verb, and not Onde está a gente? (WH Verb Noun, as in the English structure: "Where are we?")

8. Cê tá no Sul. A... a Drag, cê tem que seguir pra frente, aqui assim...

Notice Lucas explanation: "...cê tem que seguir pra frente, aqui assim" (...you gotta go straight, this way). When you're giving directions in Portuguese, in order to express something like "this way", you can use either aqui assim or por aqui.

9. Vai ao Norte, né? Depois, Oeste.

The Portuguese 'go to the north' can be hard for a non-native speaker to understand. Note that in Portuguese the use of the masculine article (o) before the cardinal points (Norte, Sul, Leste, Oeste) when you're giving directions is optional; in English, it is never used ("Go North"). Lucas could also have said: Vai para o Norte.

10. Ah, se você quiser eu te levo até lá.

Did you notice the way Lucas offers himself to go with Alexandre to show him the way? He says: "eu te levo até lá." (lit. I'll take you up to there). Although this até is optional in Portuguese (he could have said: "te levo lá"), it adds emphasis to the sentence. Lucas is making sure to let Alexandre know that he'll take Alexandre all the way till the place he is supposed to reach.

## 11. Eu tô indo pra lá, mas eu posso te levar.

It's interesting to observe how kind Brazilians are when asked about directions. Even if they don't know the address or place you're looking for, they'll usually do everything they can to help. In our dialogue, Lucas will even go the opposite direction he was supposed to, just to help Alexandre. This, in fact, is not that strange for Brazilians. Sometimes 'eu te levo' is just easier to do than to describe all of the details.

12. Tô tranquilo, tô com tempo aqui.

"I'm good, I have enough time" - says Lucas. Notice the Portuguese expression used to express "to have enough time": estar com tempo. Of course there is also the expression ter tempo, but estar com tempo is also very commonly used in Portuguese.

13. a) Bom, então vamo nessa.  
b) Vamo lá.

In a previous dialogue in *Conversa Brasileira*, we've already seen the expression 'bora nessa' to express something like "let's go". Here we have two other ones for the same situation: vamo nessa and vamo lá – with vamo as a short version for vamos (in an informal speech). *Vamo nessa, gente!*



## Directions 2: Moço, dá licença – I'm lost

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=25>





In real life Simone and Thiago are married, so when we recorded this lesson we had a good time teasing Thiago about his willingness to offer to show Simone how to get to the library. “It’s not exactly on my way, but from there I can show you and then I’ll go to the Chemistry Department,” he said. Thiago’s a smart Guy. What better way is there to get to know the cute new arrival than to offer to accompany her to find the library! Not only that, the exchange shows us how Brazilians help others when they are lost and it’s a fine example of a *Conversa Brasileira*.

SIMONE: Moço, ❶ cê dá licença? ❷  
Excuse me?

THIAGO: Claro.  
Sure.

SIMONE: É... Eu tô perdida, eu tô procurando pela biblioteca. Cê sabe onde fica?  
Ah... I'm lost, I'm looking for the library. Do you know where it is?

THIAGO: Qual, qual biblioteca? ❸  
Which, which library?

SIMONE: Não sabia que tinha mais de uma... Não sei.  
I didn't know there was more than one... I don't know.

THIAGO: Tem várias ❹. Tem... tem a da PCL, que é a maior de todas. Tem aqui a da Administração. Tem a do Direito, Ciências da Saúde, Engenharia, Química... ❺ Qual delas ❹?  
There are several ones. There is... there is one at PCL, that is the biggest of all. There is one here at Business School. There is one at Law School, Health Science, Engineering, Chemistry... Which one?

SIMONE: Nossa!  
Wow!

- THIAGO: Qual delas? Qual livro? ③ Que tipo de área cê tá procurando?  
Which one? Which book? Which kind of area are you looking for?
- SIMONE: Eu tô procurando por ⑥ um livro que fala sobre medicamentos, da área da Farmácia.  
I'm looking for a book that talks about medicines, in the Pharmacy area.
- THIAGO: Então deve estar na... Ciências da Saúde, que é na *Life Science Library*. Ela fica na torre.  
So it might be at... Health Science, that is at Life Science Library. It's located in the tower.
- SIMONE: Ahn-ahn.  
Ahn-ahn.
- THIAGO: E... É a principal torre. ⑦ Sabe onde fica?  
It's... It's the main tower. Do you know where it is?
- SIMONE: Não, na verdade não. Eu tô... acabei de chegar...  
No, actually not. I'm... I've just arrived.
- THIAGO: Não? O principal prédio ⑦ da Universidade, aqui...  
No? The main building at the University, here...
- SIMONE: Não, não tenho ideia.  
No, I have no idea...
- THIAGO: Não? Ah tá. É... Então, se você subir aquela escada, cê vai dar de frente ⑧ pra um prédio.  
No? Ok. Well... So, if you go upstairs, you're going to face a building.
- SIMONE: Sim.  
Ok.
- THIAGO: Cê vira à esquerda, e logo em seguida à direita.  
You turn left, and then right.
- SIMONE: Sim.  
Ok.
- THIAGO: Dali cê já vai conseguir ver a torre. Aí cê vai em direção à torre, tem



várias portas. Qualquer uma que cê entrar cê vai chegar dentro de um centro da... vai chegar no Centro de Informações. Fica no segundo andar a partir dali. Se você estiver andando e você ver um lago cheio de tartaruga, cê já foi... já passou do lugar. Então é antes de lá.

From there you'll be able to see that tower. Then you walk toward the tower, there are several doors. Any one you get into you go to the center of... you go to the Information Desk. It's on the second floor from there. If you're walking and you see a lake with turtles, you will have gone too far. So it's before it.

**SIMONE:** Então, pera aí. Deixa eu ver se eu entendi. Eu vou seguir aqui, subir a escada, quando eu chegar na frente ⑨ daquele prédio eu vou virar à esquerda, e aí depois de um quarteirão...

So, wait a minute. Let me see if I understood. I'll go this way, I'll go upstairs, when I arrive in front of that building I'll turn left, then after a block...

**THIAGO:** Logo em seguida, à direita.  
Right after it, (turn) right.

**SIMONE:** À direita.  
Right.

**THIAGO:** Dali cê já vai ver a torre. Então, na hora que você virar à esquerda, cê olha à direita cê já vai ver a torre dali.  
From there you can see the tower. So, when you turn left, you look to your right and you'll see the tower (from there).

**SIMONE:** Tá. E aí eu entro na torre, no segundo andar.  
Ok. And then I get into the tower, on second floor.

**THIAGO:** Isso. No segundo andar da torre.  
That's it. On the second floor in the tower.

**SIMONE:** Tá. Nossa, espero que eu ache, ④/⑩ porque eu tô com muita pressa!  
Ok. Wow, I hope I find it, because I'm in a hurry!

**THIAGO:** Não, não é difícil. Cê vai... logo que você chegar ali, você vai conseguir ver a torre. Mas, eu tô, eu tô indo lá pra Faculdade de Química. E... Não fica muito no rumo ⑪ não, mas dali eu já te mostro. ⑫ e aí de lá eu vô pra Faculdade de Química e...  
It's not difficult. You go... right after you arrive there, you'll be able to



see the tower. But I'm, I'm going to the Chemistry Department. And... It's not exactly on my way, but from there I'll show you and then I'll go to the Chemistry Department and...

**SIMONE:** Ah, você faria isso?  
Ah, would you do this?

**THIAGO:** É, claro. Vamo lá.  
Yes, sure! Let's go.

**SIMONE:** Muito obrigada!  
Thank you very much!

**THIAGO:** Cê tá fazendo o que aqui? 13  
What are you doing here?

**SIMONE:** Eu acabei de chegar. Vou começar meu estudo agora no Doutorado.  
I've just arrived. I'll begin my Doctorate studies.

**THIAGO:** Legal...  
Cool...



### 1. Moço, cê dá licença?

Did you notice that in our translation of this sentence we have only: "Excuse me"? No translation for the word moço (young guy) in this case... That's because it's hard to find a corresponding term in English in this context of the vocative used to someone not familiar to the speaker. If one could make a parallel, it'd be something like:

- **sir, ma'am:** senhor(a) (more formal; used to talk to someone older than you)
- **young guy / friend:** moço(a) (not so formal, used to talk to someone you don't know and that is not much older than you)
- **man:** cara, rapaz (informal)
- **guys:** gente (informal, to talk to more than one person)
- **dude:** cara, rapaz (informal) or even mano, véio, rapá (very informal; slangs)

### 2. Moço, cê dá licença?

Still talking about the same sentence, here we see Simone starting the dialog in which she asks for directions with the expression: Dá licença? Sometimes it can be hard for a non-native speaker to tell the difference between this expression and Desculpa – since both can be translated into English as *Excuse me*. Note the difference:

- dá licença ou com licença: used before an act, such as asking for someone's attention or asking permission to pass by.
- desculpa ou desculpe: usually used after an act, meaning "I'm sorry", when you are regretting an inconvenience (like when you accidentally steps on someone's foot).

To interrupt a conversation, both expressions can be used.

3. a) Qual, qual biblioteca? (Which, which library?)  
b) Qual livro? (Which book?)

In both sentences above you have the option to use either the pronoun que or qual to say "which". But notice that in both cases you have the noun present in the sentence (biblioteca, livro). Notice that even in English there is little difference between "what book do you want?" and "which book do you want?" Portuguese is similar in this respect. If there is no noun, however, the only option you have is qual in this context. You could say, for example, qual é o livro que você quer? but you cannot say que é o livro que você quer?

4. a) *Tem várias.* (There are several ones.)  
b) ... *tem a da PCL* (... there is one at PCL)  
c) *Tem aqui a da Administração* (There is one here at Business School.)  
d) *Qual delas?* (Which one? – lit. Which [one] among them?)  
e) *Nossa, espero que eu ache.* (Wow, I hope I find it.)

In this dialogue we have several good examples of null object pronouns in Portuguese -situations in which you need to use words like "one" or "it" in English, but where you can just leave an open spot in Portuguese.

5. *Tem aqui a da Administração. Tem a do Direito, Ciências da Saúde, Engenharia, Química...*

It's interesting to point the differences between the way College works in the US and in Brazil. In Brazil, to be accepted into a University (at least the good ones, usually the public universities), you need to take an entrance exam called Vestibular, which can be very hard in some cases. You have to choose your area/course in advance, even before taking this exam, and your entire course and disciplines will be specific for the career you've chosen. Be careful as well, Graduação is what we call *Undergraduate Studies* and Pós-graduação is what corresponds to "Graduate Education".

6. Eu tô procurando por um livro que fala sobre medicamentos...

Simone is looking for a book about medicines... Notice that in Portuguese you can say either procurar or procurar por (to look for), with or without the preposition por: procurar (por) um livro...

7. a) E... É a principal torre...

b) O principal prédio da Universidade...

You already know that the adjectives usually go after nouns in Portuguese. But here we have two examples of the opposite order: ADJECTIVE + NOUN. Usually, this inversion correlates to an original restrictive or a non-restrictive clause. If the adjective follows the noun, it restricts or limits the noun. For example, montanhas altas does not refer to all of the mountains, only the tall ones. However, if the adjective precedes a noun, it doesn't restrict the noun, it simply adds parenthetical or additional information. For example, altas montanhas implies that all the mountains are tall. It is like saying "the mountain, which by the way are tall." In this instance we have a tower, which by the way, happens to be the main one, a principal torre.

In some cases, when the adjective goes first, you can even have a difference in the meaning - like in meu namorado velho (your boyfriend is an old guy) X meu velho namorado (a boyfriend with whom you've been for a while). A good rule of thumb is, "first figurative – last literal". A velho namorado is figuratively an old boyfriend, while a namorado velho is literally an old person. Generally when an adjective follows a noun, it delimits the noun.

8. Então, se você subir aquela escada, cê vai dar de frente pra um prédio.

Here comes the verb dar again... In this case we have the expression dar de frente – meaning "to face". What a great verb!

9. Eu vou seguir aqui, subir a escada, quando eu chegar na frente daquele prédio eu vou virar à esquerda...

**Na frente de** or **em frente de** (in front of)? Either one... In the first case, we have the article (em + a = na), which maybe makes the sentence slightly more specific or emphatic.

10. Tá. Nossa, espero que eu ache, porque eu tô com muita pressa!

Probably the English speaker would say something like *espero achar* (I hope I find it) in the case here... And he/she would not be wrong - it would also be a possibility here... But notice that *espero **que*** is a very common expression in Portuguese, and, in this case, the verb that follows it needs to be in the subjunctive.

11. Não fica muito no rumo não...

The library was not exactly on Thiago's way, but he decides to help Simone to find it anyway... Notice the expression he uses: *ficar no rumo*: to be on the way, in the same direction he was going to.

12. ... mas dali eu já te mostro...

"From there I'll show you", says Thiago... An English speaker would probably use the future tense here, but note the present tense in Portuguese, which is commonly used in contexts like this one.

13. a) Cê tá fazendo o que aqui? (What are you doing here?)

b) O que cê tá fazendo aqui? (What are you doing here?)

Thiago uses the sentence order as in a, above, to ask Simone about the course she was taking at the university. But he could also have used the order showed in b. The difference between both sentences is very subtle – it's all about the emphasis that happens to the first element of a sentence. The element which is being topicalized (that means, that is being talked about) is placed at the beginning of the sentence. In a, você (Simone) is the topic that the rest of the sentence is talking about; in b, what she is doing is the topic of the sentence.





## Traffic I: Don't be blaming me on this!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=26>





OK, so we all know how frustrating traffic can be. Alexandre and Denise were doing a good job of hanging in there, but then Alexandre made the mistake of saying that part of the problem was because Denise wasn't getting up early enough to get the kids ready, and to get herself ready too. Oh Alexandre, why did you have to say that it only takes five minutes for you to get dressed and get out the door? Oh well, we all say things that we regret when we're frustrated with traffic. In this case we just happen to hear all of this as part of a *Conversa Brasileira*.

**DENISE:** Ih, olha lá! Tá tudo parado! Quer saber? Eu vou mudar de pista, porque eu acho que a pista de lá tá andando! ❶  
 Hum, look at that! Everybody's stuck! Do you know what? I'm going to change lanes, because I think that other lane is moving!

**ALEXANDRE:** Denise, por que cê foi pegar a Marginal, ❷ Denise?  
 Denise, why did you have to take *Marginal*, Denise?

**DENISE:** Ué, cê não tem que estar no trabalho às nove? A Marginal é o caminho mais... Lógico, é o caminho mais rápido!  
 What, don't you have to be at work at nine? The *Marginal* is the... Of course, it's the shortest way!

**ALEXANDRE:** Não, cê deveria ter pego ❸ a Brigadeiro! ❹  
 No, you should have taken *Brigadeiro*!

**DENISE:** Mas se eu pegar a Brigadeiro, dá no mesmo! ❺ Lá tem trânsito do mesmo jeito!  
 But if I take *Brigadeiro*, it's the same! The traffic over there is just as bad!

**ALEXANDRE:** Não, Marginal é mais rápido quando não tem tráfico... ❻  
 No, *Marginal* is the fastest way when there is no traffic...

**DENISE:** Que que é? Ah, o outro... ❼ Ah lá! Não é minha culpa! Olha o trânsito! Olha o trânsito! Tá tudo parado. Tudo entupido! ❽  
 What? Look at that guy! Look! It's not my fault! Look at this traffic! Look at this traffic! Nothing is moving. Everything is stuck.



ALEXANDRE: É, aqui o pessoal buzina até quando a gente tá no sinal vermelho.  
Yeah, here people honk even when you stop at the red light.

DENISE: Ai, meu Deus do céu!  
Oh, my God in heaven!

ALEXANDRE: Calma, calma.  
Calm down, calm down.

DENISE: Paulistano é tudo estressado!  
All *Paulistanos* are stressed people!

ALEXANDRE: O que será que aconteceu? Por que...  
What in the world has happened? Why...

DENISE: Falei pra gente ficar em Americana! ❷ Lá é mais tranquilo... Não tem esse trânsito de manhã...  
I told you we should have stayed in Americana. There's less traffic over there... They don't have this morning traffic...

ALEXANDRE: O que que aconteceu? Será que é um acidente ou... Choveu essa noite?  
What is going on? There must have been an accident or... Did it rain last night?

DENISE: Choveu nada! ❸  
It's not the rain!

ALEXANDRE: Porque quando chove a Marginal fica impossível.  
Because when it rains, *Marginal* gets terrible.

DENISE: Eu acho que isso aqui deve ser todo dia desse jeito! Olha lá isso! Tudo parado, tem a maior fila! ❹ Tudo entupido...  
I think what you're seeing is what it's like here every day! Look at that! Everything is stopped and there is a huge line! Traffic's all clogged up!

ALEXANDRE: Denise, acho melhor você mudar de faixa. ❶  
Denise, I think it's better you change lanes.

DENISE: Mas se eu mudo de faixa, passa um motoboy aí e me chuta meu retrovisor... ❺ Quero ver só ❻ o que que vai acontecer...

But if I do, that kid on the motorcycle will come by and then he'll kick my mirrors. I don't wanna see what could happen...

ALEXANDRE: É, toma cuidado. Eles ficam costurando a... 12  
Yeah, be careful. They zigzag like crazy...

DENISE: Fica costurando! É! Ai, meu Deus. Olha, tudo parado!  
They do! Yeah! Oh, my gosh. Look, Traffic at a stand still!

ALEXANDRE: Eu acho que a gente tem que acordar mais cedo, Denise.  
I think we've gotta wake up earlier, Denise.

DENISE: Mas a questão não é essa. A gente acorda mais cedo, as crianças enrolam do mesmo jeito! 13  
But that's not the point. Even if we were to get up earlier, the kids would still mess around the same way!

ALEXANDRE: Principalmente você! Você leva muito tempo pra se arrumar.  
Especially you! You take way too much time to get ready.

DENISE: Não vem pôr a culpa 'ne mim de novo! 14  
Don't be blaming me again!

ALEXANDRE: Eu levo cinco minutos!  
It takes me five minutes!

DENISE: Da próxima vez, cê dirige! Não. Não.  
Next time, you drive! No, no.

ALEXANDRE: Eu só levanto, coloco minha calça e já estou pronto.  
I get up, put on my pants and I'm all ready.

DENISE: Não, não vem pôr a culpa 'ne mim de novo não! 14 O problema é o trânsito! O problema, sabe qual é o problema?  
No, don't be blaming me on this again! The problem is the traffic! The problem, do you know what the problem is?

ALEXANDRE: Denise, eu tenho uma reunião às nove horas.  
Denise, I have a meeting at nine o'clock.

DENISE: O problema foi ter mudado pra São Paulo! Eu falei pra gente ficar em Americana! Lá o trânsito é mais tranquilo.  
The problem is that we've moved to São Paulo! I told you we should

have stayed in Americana! The traffic there is way better.

ALEXANDRE: É, mas é aqui que tem trabalho!  
Yeah, but the jobs are here!

DENISE: Ah, meu Deus! Bom, 'guenta a mão aí, 15 que uma hora 16 a gente chega! Quer saber o que eu vou fazer? Eu vou é pelo acostamento...  
Oh, my gosh! Well, hang on here, we'll get there eventually! Do you wanna know what I'm going to do? I'm going to get on the shoulder...

ALEXANDRE: Cuidado, cuidado.  
Be careful, be careful.

DENISE: Eu vou pelo acostamento. Tem, tem guarda?  
I'm going to drive on the shoulder. Are there, are there any cops?

ALEXANDRE: É, vai pelo acostamento.  
Yeah, go ahead and take the shoulder.

DENISE: Não tem. Então vamo lá.  
There aren't. So, let's do it.

ALEXANDRE: Mas tem radar, hein? 17 Cuidado.  
But there is radar, right? Be careful.



1. a) Eu vou mudar de pista, porque eu acho que a pista de lá tá andando!  
 b) Denise, acho melhor você mudar de faixa.

Note here the use of pista (road, lane) and faixa (lane) - both Portuguese words can be used to talk about road lanes.

2. a) Denise, por que cê foi pegar a Marginal, Denise?  
 b) Não, cê deveria ter pego a Brigadeiro!  
 c) Paulistano é tudo estressado!  
 d) Falei pra gente ficar em Americana!

It's so interesting to watch the way Denise and Alexandre are panicking about the traffic in such a big city as São Paulo. In fact, traffic over there is way different from smaller Brazilian cities, like Americana – a town in the center-east region of the same state, about 80 miles from São Paulo city. Brigadeiro (lit. “brigadier”) is a reference to the name of an avenue (avenida) in the city of São Paulo (Brigadeiro Luís Antônio) and Marginal can refer to Marginal Pinheiros or Marginal Tietê (major roads in the city), where the traffic is really bad during the morning and the afternoon rush hour. Notice also that both use the feminine a Brigadeiro and a Marginal, because they refer to the word avenida.

Also notice: paulistano is the person who was born São Paulo city, while paulista refers to someone who was born in São Paulo state.

3) Não, cê deveria ter pego a Brigadeiro!

You may not have any problem in choosing the Portuguese verb in the context here – pegar, just like in English, “to take” – but the verb tense/form used here (irregular participle) can be challenging for a non-native speaker (Could it be ter pegado?). Some verbs in Portuguese have two participle forms (irregular/regular), such as: pego/pegado; ganho/ganhado; entregue/entregado, etc. It was usual, in the past, to use the regular participle along with the auxiliary verbs ter and haver; and the irregular one with the verbs ser and estar:

Verb	Regular participle	Irregular participle
<u>pegar</u>	ter / haver <u>pegado</u>	ser / estar <u>pego</u>
<u>ganhar</u>	ter / haver <u>ganhado</u>	ser / estar <u>ganho</u>
<u>entregar</u>	ter / haver <u>entregado</u>	ser / estar <u>entregue</u>

But nowadays this is something that has been changing in Brazilian Portuguese, as you can see in our example here: Alexandre says ter pego. But some verbs still follow the rule above, like morrer (ter/haver morrido – ser/estar morto). This is true especially for participles that describe a state that is a result of an action. On the other hand, some verbs have only the irregular participle: aberto (abrir); dito (dizer); feito (fazer); pôr (postar); visto (ver); etc.

4) Mas se eu pegar a Brigadeiro, dá no mesmo!

"But if I take Brigadeiro, it's all the same thing!" says Denise. Notice the use of the feminine article (a) before the masculine noun (a Brigadeiro). That's because the word avenida (a feminine noun in Portuguese) is implied here: "Mas se eu pegar a (avenida) Brigadeiro..."

Não, Marginal é mais rápido quando não tem tráfego...

Talking about the traffic (trânsito or tráfego) in São Paulo city, Alexandre accidentally used the word tráfego instead of trânsito/tráfego. Maybe an influence of English, since he's been living in US for a couple of years... Remember:

- trânsito or tráfego: traffic
- tráfego: illegal trade, business or commerce

6) Que que é? Ah, o outro... Ah lá!

It's so funny to watch the way Denise as well as the others drivers grow more and more impatient with the crazy traffic of *Marginal*... The guy behind them keeps on honking and Denise says: "Ah, o outro... Ah lá!" (Look at that guy! Look!). Notice that she uses o outro to express something like "that guy" – what is very common in oral speech. Ah lá or ó lá is the oral short version for olha lá (look).

7) Tá tudo parado. Tudo entupido!

Talking about the way the traffic is stuck, Denise uses the word entupido. Literally, this word means "obstructed, clogged" and it can be used in this same sense in Portuguese, but it is also commonly used to talk about a traffic jam. Similarly, when someone is sick, and has a plugged up nose, the same word is used: *Ele está com o nariz entupido* (He has a plugged or stuffed up nose).

8) Choveu nada!

Here we have a good example of a very interesting way (among others) Brazilians have to express the negative: *Choveu nada*! ("It didn't rain!" or also "It's not the rain!"). Notice the use of the word nada (nothing) to express não: *Choveu nada* = *Não choveu*. The use of nada instead of não adds more emphasis to the sentence, along with the appropriate intonation.

9) Tudo parado, tem a maior fila! Tudo entupido...

Talking about the huge line ahead them, Denise uses the expression *tem a maior fila*. In the case here, maior (lit. "bigger/biggest" or "greater/greatest") is a way to say that something is huge, very big – and not necessarily that it's bigger than something else.

10) a) Mas se eu mudo de faixa, passa um motoboy aí e me chuta meu retrovisor...

If you've never been to São Paulo, you probably have no clue what they're talking about here... As a consequence of the very bad traffic in big cities in Brazil, it is common to have motoboys - professionals who pick up / deliver objects (such as pizza, fast-foods, documents, etc) using a motorcycle. In São Paulo city, they are everywhere and usually they drive like crazy.... Unfortunately, some of them don't respect the car drivers, and if you are driving in a major avenue you need to be very careful while changing lanes in order to avoid hitting one of them. It's not uncommon that they'll kick your mirrors when they're coming by between lanes if there is not enough space for them... Interestingly, motoboy is not a word in English; it was created in Brazil, but from two English words: "moto" + "boy."

Notice also the interesting use of the object pronoun me in this sentence: *passa um motoboy aí e me chuta meu retrovisor*. A non-native speaker could be confused here, since it looks like Denise is saying "o motoboy me chuta" (the motoboy kicks me) referring to herself (me = Denise). But this is not the case: *o motoboy chuta o retrovisor* (the motoboy kicks the mirror) – that's what she is saying. The use of me here is simply a matter of adding emphasis to the sentence, typical of informal oral speech, and here it actually does not have its original meaning as an object pronoun. Notice that in English we can say something similar, "He's kicking the mirrors on me here."

11) Quero ver só o que que vai acontecer...

Here we have another example of a phrase used in order to add emphasis to the sentence in informal oral speech: Quero ver só. In fact, it means exactly the opposite of what it looks like: "I don't wanna see." The word "só" adds either more emphasis, and it could be either omitted or placed before the verb: Quero ver; Quero só ver.

12) É, toma cuidado. Eles ficam costurando...

Still talking about the way motoboys drive their motorcycles, Alexandre points out that they zigzag like crazy... That's the meaning of costurar (lit. "to sew") here: to zigzag or weave in traffic.

13) A gente acorda mais cedo, as crianças enrolam do mesmo jeito!

This is a really interesting sentence because we can sense a "even if" or "whenever" in the context, although it is not used in the dialog: "A gente acorda mais cedo" (Even if we were to get up earlier), "as crianças enrolam do mesmo jeito!" (the kids would still mess around the same way!).

14) a) Não vem pôr a culpa 'ne mim de novo!

Twice in this dialog we see Denise saying "'ne mim". This is the oral form for em mim, since the Portuguese expression pôr a culpa (or either culpar; to blame) requires the preposition em after it and before the indirect object: em mim (me). The oral form 'ne mim is very commonly used in oral speech by Brazilians, so don't be surprised if you hear it a lot when talking to a Brazilian. And if you really want to sound like one, go ahead and use it!

15) Bom, 'guenta a mão aí...

What a great expression in Portuguese, guenta a mão aí! It is the short version of the slang aguenta a mão aí, which means "hang on here."

16) ... que uma hora a gente chega!

Don't be confused here: Denise is not saying that they will be at Alexandre's office by 1 pm... She tries to calm him down promising that they'll get there eventually (uma hora or alguma hora - something like "at some time not known or specified").

17) Mas tem radar, hein? Cuidado.

If you ever go to Brazil and want to avoid getting several speeding tickets, be aware of lots of fixed speed cameras installed on the roads through all parts of the country. There are signs telling you the maximum speed permitted, but you don't always have the signs letting you know where the cameras are.





## Traffic 2: I hate this traffic!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=27>





Poor Simone, in 40 minutes she has an interview, but the traffic in *Belo Horizonte* has got her stuck going nowhere. In all of the complaining, it is kind of late for, “I told you we should have taken *Getulio Vargas Avenue*!” To make matters worst, some obnoxious guy behind them keeps honking his horn. We certainly feel sorry for Simon, but Thiago is doing his best to help her calm down. In the meantime, we get to hear a great exchange of their intense *Conversa Brasileira*.

**SIMONE:** Não acredito que a gente tá aqui parado nesse trânsito logo agora, ❶  
Thiago!  
I can't believe that we're stuck in traffic, and precisely right now,  
Thiago!

**THIAGO:** Calma, ainda falta quarenta minutos. ❷ Vai dar tempo! ❸  
Calm down, we still have forty minutes. We still have time!

**SIMONE:** Ai, meu Deus, vou chegar atrasada na minha entrevista! Como que faz? ❹  
Oh, my gosh, I'm going to be late for my interview! What am I going to do?

**THIAGO:** Não, vai dar tempo, vai dar tempo. Ainda tem quarenta minutos.  
No, you'll be there on time, you'll be there on time. We still have forty more minutes.

**SIMONE:** Ah, gente. ❺ Odeio esse trânsito! Que que tá acontecendo? Que, cê consegue ver lá na frente?  
Oh, man. I hate this traffic! What is going on? What, can you see anything up there?

**THIAGO:** Ah, não dá pra ver direito. Só vê que tem muitos carros na frente, não dá pra ver o que que aconteceu lá. Mas parece que tem um carro de polícia. Deve ter sido algum acidente, alguma coisa, não sei.  
Ah, I can't see things very well. You can see there are a lot of cars in front of us, you can't see what happened there. But it looks like there is a police car. It might be some accident or something, I don't know.

**SIMONE:** Tá vendo?  
Do you see?

**THIAGO:** Mas tá parado!  
But everybody's stuck!

**SIMONE:** Eu te falei, eu te falei pra você não pegar a Avenida Brasil! Era pra você ter saído, pela Contorno! ⑥  
I told you, I told you not to take *Avenida Brasil*! You should have taken the exit to *Contorno*!

**THIAGO:** O cara, o cara tá reclamando lá atrás! Passa por cima, uai! ⑦ Cê não tá vendo que tá parado?!  
That guy, that guy is complaining back there! Go ahead and pass on through, man! Can't you see that everybody is stuck?

**SIMONE:** Deixa o cara, Thiago! Deixa o cara! ⑧ Que que a gente pode fazer pra gente sair desse trânsito infernal? ⑨  
Let it be, Thiago! Let it be! What can we do to get out of this awful traffic?

**THIAGO:** Calma! Calma! Senão, cê não vai conseguir nem fazer a entrevista. Certo? A gente fica aqui mais um tempo, ⑩ se não tiver andando nada, aí cê desce do carro, pega a Avenida... Vai andando até na Getúlio Vargas, ⑥ e pega o primeiro táxi que estiver passando no sentido ⑪ da Contorno.  
Calm down! Calm down! Otherwise, you even won't be able to do your interview. Right? We'll stay here a bit more, if things don't move at all, then you get out of the car, take Avenue... You can walk to *Getúlio Vargas* and take the first cab that's passing by toward *Contorno*.

**SIMONE:** Será que eu consigo achar um moto-táxi? ⑫ Eu devia ter saído de casa de moto-táxi! Eu sabia que isso ia acontecer!  
Do you think I could find a *moto-táxi*? I should have taken one when I left home! I knew this was going to happen!

**THIAGO:** Mas não tem moto-táxi aqui! É só Montes Claros, ⑬ São Paulo... Pelo menos, ó, o fato de não ter... de não ter moto-táxi, pelo menos não tem ninguém chutando nosso retrovisor! Entendeu? Então calma!  
But there are no *moto-táxis* here... Only in *Montes Claros, São Paulo*... At least, look, the fact that there are no... there are no *moto-táxis* here, at least we don't have anyone kicking our rearview mirrors! Right? So, calm down!

**SIMONE:** Ah, é verdade, mas eu tenho é que chegar a tempo ⑭ na minha entrevista, Thiago! Meu Deus do céu...  
Ah, that's true, but what I need to do is be on time for my interview, Thiago! My goodness gracious...

**THIAGO:** Por que que você...  
Why don't you...

- SIMONE:** O que que eu vou fazer?  
What am I gonna do?
- THIAGO:** Liga lá! Liga e fala com o entrevistador.  
Call him. Call and talk to the interviewer.
- SIMONE:** Eu não posso ligar pro cara no dia da minha entrevista. Ele já vai me eliminar de cara! <sup>15</sup>  
I can't call the guy on the day of my interview. He'd just eliminate me right then and there!
- THIAGO:** Mas é melhor do que você não ligar.  
But it's better than not calling.
- SIMONE:** Por isso que meu pai odeia Belo Horizonte!<sup>6</sup> Meu pai odeia morar aqui! Por isso que ele foi embora pra Montes Claros. Eu também vou!  
That's why my dad hates *Belo Horizonte*! My dad hates living here!  
That's why he moved to *Montes Claros*. I'll do the same!
- THIAGO:** Ah, mas eu falei que a gente devia ter ido pra Uberlândia! <sup>16</sup> Cê não quis ir... Agora, vamos lá pra entrevista. Vamos ver o que vai dar!<sup>17</sup> De repente, <sup>18</sup> a gente ainda tem uma outra chance de ir pra Uberlândia.  
Ah, but I told you we should have moved to *Uberlândia*! You didn't want to go... So, let's do the interview. Let's see how this comes out. Maybe, we'll still have another chance to go to *Uberlândia*!
- SIMONE:** Vinte minutos parado! Esse carro não andou nem um milímetro ainda!  
We've been stuck for twenty minutes! This car hasn't even moved an inch!
- THIAGO:** Calma! Calma! A gente vai chegar lá.  
Calm down! Calm down! We'll get there.
- SIMONE:** Como que eu chego calma na entrevista? Como?! Como?! Não anda, nada anda nessa cidade! Nada anda!  
How can I be calm for the interview? How? How? Traffic's not moving, nothing in this city moves! Nothing moves!
- THIAGO:** Meu amigo, passa por cima! Passa por cima! Tá parado!  
Look buddy, go ahead and pass on by, pass on by! Everybody's stuck!
- SIMONE:** De novo, esse infeliz<sup>19</sup> aí atrás!  
Again, this annoying guy back there!
- THIAGO:** Não posso fazer nada!  
I can't do anything about it!
- SIMONE:** Que cara chato!  
What an annoying guy!

- THIAGO:** Parece que vai andar, parece que vai andar...  
It looks like it's going to get moving, looks like it's going to get moving...
- SIMONE:** Será? Ai, meu Deus, me ajuda! Ô, meu pai! Que que a gente faz? Que que a gente faz? Sai! Sai pela rua lateral!  
Do you think so? Oh, God, help me! Oh, my lord! What can we do? What can we do? Take an exit! Take a side street!
- THIAGO:** Não sei se é uma boa idéia. Todo mundo pode tá, pode tá olhando, tentando ir pelo mesmo caminho. Pode ser pior. Vamos, vamos, vamos esperar mais um pouco. Se em cinco minutos não sair, aí cê desce do carro<sup>20</sup> e pega o táxi na Getúlio Vargas.  
I don't know if that's a good idea. Everyone could be, could be watching, trying to go the same way. It could be worse. Let's, let's, let's wait a bit more. If it doesn't move in five minutes, then you get out of the car and take a cab at *Getúlio Vargas*.
- SIMONE:** Tá bom.  
Ok.



### 1. Não acredito que a gente tá aqui parado nesse trânsito logo agora, Thiago!

Well, it looks like Simone is very upset with the traffic... "*I can't believe that we're stuck in traffic, and precisely right now, Thiago!*", she says. Although the Portuguese word logo usually works as an adverb of time (meaning *soon*), here we have an example of a different use of it, as an adverb of manner and/or intensity, something like *just, exactly, rightly*.

### 2. a) Calma, ainda falta quarenta minutos. b) Ainda tem quarenta minutos.

Thiago tries to calm Simone down by saying that they still have forty minutes until Simone's interview begins, but this doesn't seem to make things easier for her... Notice the ways he says it: a) "*ainda **falta** quarenta minutos*", with verb faltar (*to miss* or *to lack*) and b) "*ainda **tem** quarenta minutos*", with verb ter (*to have*). When using verb faltar in this context, be aware that the grammar books say that the verb should agree in number with the object ("*ainda **faltam** quarenta minutos*"), but Brazilians usually use this verb in the singular form (just like Thiago did). On the other hand, verb ter in this context will always be in third person singular.

### 3. Vai dar tempo!

Once again, the amazing verb dar...*Vai dar tempo!*, says Denise. Did you notice the way you can say "*we still have time*" or even "*we'll be on time*" in Portuguese? *Vai dar tempo*...

4. Ai, meu Deus, vou chegar atrasada na minha entrevista! Como que faz

We can watch Simone panicking little by little... "What am I going to do?", she says. But notice the interesting way that she says this in Portuguese, using an impersonal or generic sentence: Como que faz?

5. Ah, gente. Odeio esse trânsito!

You already know that a gente works as an informal pronoun in Portuguese, meaning we. But this is not the case here. Notice that Simone says it in a more generic way, something like *people* or *guys*. The best translation here would be "Oh, man. I hate this traffic!"

6. a) Eu te falei, eu te falei pra você não pegar a Avenida Brasil! Era pra você ter saído, pela Contorno.  
 b) Vai andando até na Getúlio Vargas...  
 c) Por isso que meu pai odeia Belo Horizonte!

Belo Horizonte is a big city in Brazil, with an estimated population in 2010 of over 2.4 million. It is the capital of the state of Minas Gerais, in the southeastern region of Brazil. The city is familiarly known from the sound of its initials "BH" ("Beagá") or also "Belô". Avenida Brasil, Contorno and Getúlio Vargas are major avenues in the city.

The example "a" (*eu te falei pra você não pegar a Avenida Brasil* / "I told you not to take Avenida Brasil") can be interesting for an English speaker, since it has te (you) and você (you) in the same sentence. But notice that the preposition "para" (to) refers to the verb pegar and você is its subject: *para (você) pegar*, while te is the object of falar: eu te falei.



7. Passa por cima, uai!

Thiago gets more and more upset with the guy complaining behind them... Can't he just see that everybody is stuck? As a good Brazilian, he just yells back: Passa por cima, uai! (Go ahead and pass on through, man!). The expression passar por cima is also very commonly used meaning to *surmount*, to *overcome*. And notice that, as a good mineiro (from the state of Minas Gerais), Thiago ends his sentence with the expression uai.

8. Deixa o cara, Thiago! Deixa o cara!

Simone gets nervous with the whole situation and begs Thiago to forget about the guy behind them... Deixa o cara is the short version of Deixa o cara pra lá. Notice that the expression deixa(e) pra lá means something like *don't worry, let it be, never mind, forget it!*

9. Que que a gente pode fazer pra gente sair desse trânsito infernal...

Talking about that awful traffic in BH, Simone uses the word infernal (lit. *from the hell*). This is an adjective very commonly used to describe extremely bad, awful, unpleasant things or situations.

10. A gente fica aqui mais um tempo...

Well, maybe it's time to plan another way to get out of that trânsito infernal... In his suggestion, Thiago uses the expression ficar mais um tempo which cannot be taken literally by the non-native speaker... That's the Brazilian way to say *to stay a little bit more*..



11. Vai andando até na Getúlio Vargas, e pega o primeiro táxi que estiver passando no sentido da Contorno.

Prepositions... We can have a hard time with them... In this example, we see that the English preposition toward has a whole expression as its equivalent in Portuguese: no sentido de.

12. Será que eu consigo achar um moto-táxi?

Moto-táxi is a two-wheeler version of a taxi available in some cities of Brazil... It's a good way of reducing traffic. However, the rules for driving motorcycles in Brazil are very different from US. If you are not afraid of zigzagging like crazy in traffic, you could try one some day...

13. Mas não tem moto-táxi aqui! É só Montes Claros, São Paulo...

Montes Claros is a city located in the state of *Minas Gerais*, approximately 260 miles from Belo Horizonte. The estimated population in 2010 was around 413,000 inhabitants.

14. Ah, é verdade, mas eu tenho é que chegar a tempo na minha entrevista, Thiago!

Simone is very worried with the whole situation because she has to be on time for her interview... Notice the expression she uses here: chegar a tempo (to be somewhere on time).

15. Ele já vai me eliminar de cara!

This is a difficult sentence to translate... Literally, it says something like *He will eliminate me immediately*. Note that the expression de cara, in this case, means *immediately*. A good translation for the sentence would be something like, *He'd just eliminate me right then and there*.

16. Ah, mas eu falei que a gente devia ter ido pra Uberlândia!

*Uberlândia* (around 600,000 inhabitants as of 2010) is another city in *Minas Gerais*. It is located in the western part of the state, in a region called *Triângulo Mineiro*, one of the richest agricultural regions of Brazil.

17. Vamos ver o que que vai dar!

Are you tired of talking about the Portuguese verb *dar*? Don't be, because here it comes again... Let's see *how this will end up*... Vamos ver o que que vai dar!

18. De repente, a gente ainda tem uma outra chance de ir pra Uberlândia.

Although the Portuguese expression de repente usually means *all of a sudden*, here we see a different meaning for it: *maybe*.

19. De novo, esse infeliz aí atrás!

This is such a good expression in Brazilian Portuguese to refer to someone who is annoying: esse(a) infeliz... (lit. *this unhappy [person]*).

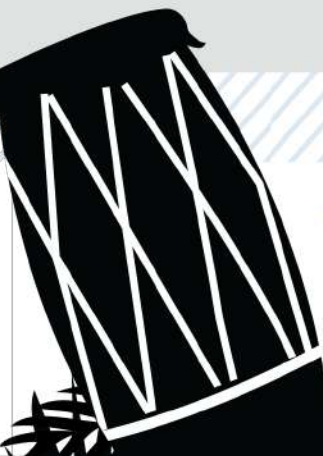
20. Se em cinco minutos não sair, aí cê desce do carro e pega o táxi na Getúlio Vargas.

Still trying to figure out a way to guarantee that Simone will be there on time for her interview, Thiago suggests that she could get out of the car (descer do carro) and take a cab at the avenue called *Getúlio Vargas*. Notice the verb used here: descer (lit. *to go down*) to refer to the act of to get out of the car. Of course, he could also have used the verb sair (to get out) in this same context.



## Gossip I: Ói, que safado!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=28>





Ah, there's nothing like good old juicy office gossip, and Simone and Cristina are sharing tons of it. Turns out that Carlos is arriving late at work again, meaning that he's probably drinking again. Even worse, if he's running around with other women, you aren't going to get any sympathy from the women in this office. No wonder they call him '*safado*', a real dirt bag, derogatory for sure, but it also makes for a great *Conversa Brasileira*!

**SIMONE:** Cris! Cê viu que o Carlos voltou a chegar atrasado na empresa de novo?

Cris! Did you see that Carlos is arriving late for work again?

**CRISTINA:** Sério? Que novidade... ❶ É a terceira vez que ele chega ❷ atrasado...  
Really? Not a surprise... It's the third time he's come late...

**SIMONE:** Sério? E eu tô suspeitando ❸ de duas coisas, Cris.  
Really? And I suspect it's one of two things, Cris.

**CRISTINA:** O quê?  
What?

**SIMONE:** Das duas, uma: ou ele voltou a beber de novo, ou ele tá traindo a esposa dele. ❹  
Two alternatives: either he's back drinking again, or he's cheating on his wife.

**CRISTINA:** Ah!  
Ah!

**SIMONE:** O chefe!  
The boss!

**CRISTINA:** Por que que cê acha isso?  
Why do you think so?

**SIMONE:** Ah, não sei... Cê não viu lá na festa da empresa, sábado, como que ele tava?  
Ah, I don't know... Didn't you see him at the company party, on Saturday, what he was doing?

**CRISTINA:** Eu lembro que ele tava dando umas cantadas fajutas ❺ pra Patrícia, não era?  
I remember he came with this sorry sweet-talking to Patricia, right?

- SIMONE:** Exatamente. Toda hora <sup>6</sup> ele convidava ela pra dançar, e ela tentava sair fora, <sup>7</sup> e ele insistia...  
Exactly. The whole time he was asking her to dance and she was trying to get away from him, but he kept on insisting...
- CRISTINA:** Ói, que safado! <sup>8</sup> E olha que <sup>9</sup> ele é casado, hein?  
Oh, what a jerk! And you know he is married, right?
- SIMONE:** Pois é, casado e com filho.  
Yeah, married and has a kid.
- CRISTINA:** Ai, que desgraçado! <sup>10</sup>  
Oh, what a jerk!
- SIMONE:** Safado... Cê acha que, se o chefe descobrir que ele tá chegando atrasado, que que ele vai fazer?  
Jerk... What do you think the boss would do if he found out that he's arriving late?
- CRISTINA:** Olha, eu acho que ele vai acabar demitindo ele, <sup>11</sup> hein?  
Well, I think he'd end up firing him, right?
- SIMONE:** Ah, eu também acho. <sup>12</sup> Porque eu não, eu não pagaria o salário de alguém que não quer trabalhar. De jeito nenhum! <sup>13</sup>  
Yeah, I think so too. Because I wouldn't, I wouldn't pay the salary for someone who doesn't want to work. No way!
- CRISTINA:** Apesar que existe a possibilidade dele estar bebendo, né? <sup>14</sup>  
But there is still a chance he's been drinking, right?
- SIMONE:** É... E eu já ouvi dizer que ele era alcoólatra. Então eu acho que uma vez alcoólatra, se beber de novo, não para mais não, viu, Cris? O chefe, Cris!  
Yeah... And I've heard he used to be an alcoholic. So I think once an alcoholic, if you drink again, you won't stop anymore, you know, Cris? The boss, Cris!
- CRISTINA:** De qualquer forma, eu acho que é melhor a gente cuidar da nossa vida, né? <sup>15</sup>  
Anyway, I think it's better for us to take care of our own business, right?
- SIMONE:** Também acho! <sup>12</sup>  
I think so too!



## Usage Notes

### 1. Que novidade...

Cristina and Simone can't help themselves from talking about Carlos... Although gossip was not created in Brazil, Brazilians love gossiping, a lot, especially when it involves people at work or family... Notice that Cristina points out - in a very interesting way - that she is not surprised that Carlos is late. She says: Que novidade (what a surprise), meaning exactly the opposite: it is not a surprise...

### 2. É a terceira vez que ele chega atrasado...

It's the third time the boss has come/been late... Notice that Cris uses the verb chegar in the present tense, even though she is making reference to an action in the past. This is very common in Portuguese, especially when referring to an action that implies repetition or a habitual action.

### 3. E eu tô suspeitando de duas coisas, Cris.

Did you notice our translation here? "I suspect" and not "I'm suspecting." That's because in Portuguese it is common to use the gerund to emphasize the process of an action, rather than its results. In other words, when she says eu tô suspeitando rather than eu suspeito, she focuses in the fact that this is something that she has been suspecting.

### 4. Das duas, uma: ou ele voltou a beber de novo, ou ele tá traindo a esposa dele.

What a great expression in Portuguese! Das duas, uma: ou ... ou... (Between these two [alternatives], one [is true]: either... or...). When introducing an idea with two different alternatives regarding something, you can always use this expression. Notice that in English we say "either... or..." but in Portuguese we say ou... ou... Use it and you'll sound very Brazilian!

5. Eu lembro que ele tava dando umas cantadas fajutas pra Patrícia, não era?

Dar uma cantada (lit. “to give a song”)... Once more, the restless verb dar used in a very interesting way: when talking about the way one tries to seduce another person with flattering words and manners. But Cristina makes sure to point out that Carlos was doing it in a fake or phony way, using cantadas fajutas (fake songs), or as we translated it, “sorry sweet nothings.”

6. Toda hora ele convidava ela pra dançar...

During the party last weekend, Carlos had been asking Patrícia to dance with him the whole time... Notice that the expression used in Portuguese was toda hora, which can't be taken literally (“every hour”).

7. ...e ela tentava sair fora, e ele insistia...

Poor Patrícia, she had to spend the entire party refusing Carlos' invitations to dance, trying to sair fora (lit. “to get out”), but he kept insisting with her... Notice that the expression sair (or cair) fora can be used either to refuse or not to engage in something (similar to não entrar nessa) or to get out of a place. It is similar to the English phrase, “get lost”!

8. Ói, que safado!

Oh, *what a jerk!* – this is the inevitable conclusion both girls have about Carlos... In the example here, Cristina says Ói – the short version for olha (look) used to introduce and emphasize what she'll say right away: que safado (what a jerk, what a dirt bag)!

9. E olha que ele é casado, hein?

Here we have another good example of how to emphasize something that is said afterwards: E olha que ... (And note that...). Of course, as a good Brazilian, take care of the intonation that goes with it.



10. Ai, que desgraçado!

Still talking about Carlos, Cristina uses another word for jerk: desgraçado. This word can have two different meanings: “unlucky, unfortunate, and miserable” (lit. “without grace”) or (as in this case here) “jerk, sleazy.” Notice that desgraçado is even stronger than safado. Poor Patrícia...

11. Olha, eu acho que ele vai acabar demitindo ele, hein?

Don't be confused with all of the personal pronouns in this sentence... First off, note that, in spite of the fact that you can drop the subject pronoun in Portuguese, it is very common to use it. That's what you see here: eu acho que... Notice also that the pronoun ele, used twice here, refers to two distinct persons: ele (the boss) vai acabar demitindo ele (Carlos).

12. Ah, eu também acho.

“I too think?” No, this is not the case here. Don't focus on the literal translation here. The word order is quite different between English and Portuguese, so when saying “I think so too,” in Portuguese, remember to use também (too) before the verb: eu também acho.

13. De jeito nenhum!

Simone wouldn't pay the salary for someone who doesn't want to work. De jeito nenhum is a Brazilian way of saying “no way, no how!” You talk about Brazilian jeito, well here there is no jeito!

14. Apesar que existe a possibilidade dele estar bebendo, né?

Contractions in Portuguese can always be a bit challenging for the non-native speaker. Here we have a good example: dele = de + ele. This one is the result of the contraction between the preposition de (required by the noun phrase: possibilidade de) and the subject pronoun ele (ele estar bebendo), which shows a personalized infinitive.

15. De qualquer forma, eu acho que é melhor a gente cuidar da nossa vida, né?

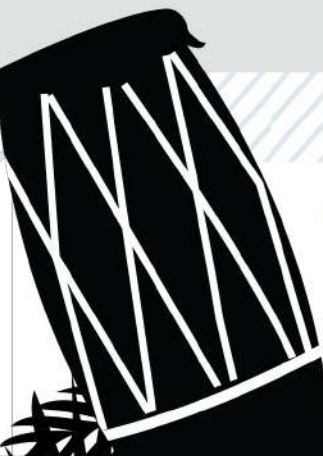
Well, at some point both girls realize it's time to stop gossiping and to take care of their own business. Or, as they say in Portuguese, cuidar da nossa vida (to take care of our own life). Back to work, girls!





## Gossip 2: Vai ser uma dupla interessante

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=29>





How tough is it to all of a sudden have an outsider brought in take over operations? Alexandre and Heloísa are not impressed with the new guy at all. Even worse, the rumor is that the new guy is way too young and they say he doesn't even have a valid diploma from the university. No wonder the gossip is flying around the office at light speed everywhere! Of course we are not condoning the gossip, but we have to confess that we love what it shows us about a great *Conversa Brasileira*!

ALEXANDRE: Olá, Heloísa. Tudo bem?  
Hi, Heloísa. How are you?

HELOÍSA: Tudo bem, Alexandre, e você?  
I'm good, Alexandre, and you?

ALEXANDRE: Tudo bem. Como foi o final de semana? ❶  
I'm good. How was your weekend?

HELOÍSA: Ah, foi tranquilo. Fiquei em casa descansando. Acabei não indo lá ❷ na festa da empresa.  
Ah, it was good. I stayed at home, resting. I ended up not going to the company party.

ALEXANDRE: Ah, eu ouvi falar ❸ dessa festa aí. As meninas ❹ estavam falando lá no café. ❷ Do Carlinhos... Cê conhece o Carlinhos, né?  
Ah, I've heard about this party. The girls were talking about it during the coffee break. About Carlinhos... You know Carlinhos, right?

HELOÍSA: Ah, conheço bem!  
Yeah, I know him very well!

ALEXANDRE: É, então. Parece que ele voltou a beber, tá traindo ou já traiu a esposa... Um negócio assim... ❸  
Well, then. It looks like he's started drinking again, he is cheating or he has already cheated on his wife... Stuff like that...

HELOÍSA: Nossa! Que grave!  
Wow! That's serious!

ALEXANDRE: Tá vindo alguém aí... ❷  
Someone is coming...

HELOÍSA: Sabe o que eu ouvi também?  
Do you know what else I've heard?

ALEXANDRE: Ahn? ⑥  
What?

HELOÍSA: É que o nosso novo chefe, o Marcos, tava lá também, né? E... Bom, eu não o conheço pessoalmente ainda, né? Só de vista, ⑦ assim. Sujeito ⑧ alto, usa óculos, né? Tá sempre elegante.  
That our new boss, Marcos, was also there, you know? And... Well, I still don't know him in person, you know? I've just seen him, you know. Tall guy, he wears glasses, right? He's always well-dressed.

ALEXANDRE: É, então. Eu ouvi falar que, inclusive, ele tava com o Carlinhos... E... vai ser uma dupla ⑨ interessante, né?  
Yeah, well. I've also heard that he was along with Carlinhos... And... it's going to be interesting with those two together, right?

HELOÍSA: Vai!  
Yeah!

ALEXANDRE: Cê sabe se ele é casado, também?  
Do you know if he also is married?

HELOÍSA: Olha, eu ouvi falar que sim. Não tenho certeza, não. Mas parece que ele é sim. Pera aí, ② tá vindo alguém.  
Well, I've heard he is. I'm not sure. But it looks like he is. Wait a minute, someone is coming.

ALEXANDRE: E... você sabe da onde ⑩ ele veio?  
And... do you know where he is from?

HELOÍSA: Então, parece que ele veio transferido ⑪ de Campinas ⑫ pra cá, né? Agora, o mais interessante - eu não sei se você ouviu isso -, mas parece, tavam comentando, ⑬ que talvez ele tivesse feito faculdade na Unicamp ou na PUC, ⑭ alguma coisa de Administração... Mas eu ouvi falar que parece que ele comprou o diploma! ⑮  
Well, it looks like he was transferred here from Campinas, you know? Now, the most interesting thing - I don't know if you heard about this -, but it looks like, people were talking, that maybe he had graduated at Unicamp or PUC, something in Business School... But I've heard that it looks like he "got a fake diploma"!

ALEXANDRE: Verdade?!  
Really?

HELOÍSA: Nem formado é!  
He's didn't even graduate from college!

ALEXANDRE: Isso é sério, hein? Inclusive, ele é muito novo pra apresentar esse

histórico que ele apresenta. 16

That's serious, you know? Besides that, he's way too young to have the background he claims to have.

HELOÍSA: Isso que eu achei, sabia? Eu acho que ele não deve ter muita experiência pra assumir um cargo de chefia.  
That's what I thought, you know? I think he might not have enough experience for a leadership position.

ALEXANDRE: É, eu acho que ele vai ter bastante dificuldade aqui. Tá vindo alguém aí.  
Yeah, I think he's going to have a hard time here. Someone is coming.

HELOÍSA: Inclusive, sabe o quê? Eu achei muito injusto de eles não terem dado o cargo pra alguém que já trabalha aqui, sabe? 17 Porque...  
Besides that, you know what? I thought it was so unfair that they didn't give the job to someone who already works here, you know? Because...

ALEXANDRE: Isso é verdade.  
That's true.

HELOÍSA: ... tem tanta gente experiente aqui, não é?  
... there are so many experienced people here, right?

ALEXANDRE: E seria bem mais fácil, pra gente e pra ele.  
And it would be much easier, for us and for him.

HELOÍSA: Porque agora ele vai ter que treinar, ele vai ter que conhecer o perfil de todo mundo... Eu achei bem injusto isso...  
Because now he needs to be trained, he needs to know everybody's profile... I thought this was so unfair...

ALEXANDRE: É, eu também.  
Yeah, me too.

HELOÍSA: Não é? Tá vindo alguém!  
Isn't it? Someone is coming!



## Usage Notes

### 1. Como foi o final de semana?

In Portuguese, when making reference to the weekend, you can either say fim de semana or final de semana.

### 2. Fiquei em casa descansando. Acabei não indo lá na festa da empresa.

Another interesting thing to note is the use of lá and aí several times in this dialog:

- a) Acabei não indo lá na festa da empresa. (*I ended up not going to the company's party.*)
- b) As meninas estavam falando lá no café. Do Carlinhos... (*The girls were talking about it during the coffee break.*)
- c) Tá vindo alguém aí... (*Someone is coming...*)
- d) Pera aí... (*Wait a minute... Short version of Espera aí...*)

We already talked before (in a previous lesson) about how Brazilians love to use the word lá (there) in places that a non-native speaker would never use it, as a form to add emphasis to the sentence. In this dialog, we have several examples of this, as in a and b, above.

Notice that the same happens with the word aí (there), as in the examples c and d. The difference is that lá is used to talk about a place away from both the speaker and the person being spoken to (lá: “over there”) while aí is used to refer to a place close to the person one is addressing (aí: “that place where you are”). Notice that in the expression pera aí (wait a minute), a very commonly used expression, there is not even any reference to a place...

### 3. Ah, eu ouvi falar dessa festa aí.

Yeah, this is always a good way to start gossiping: eu ouvi falar... (*I've heard it said...*). Notice that in Portuguese you use both verbs: ouvir and falar, the last one lacking its subject.

4. As meninas estavam falando lá *no café*.

The word menina usually means girl or young woman. But notice that this is not the case here: it doesn't mean young girls, but the women who work in the office too. This is a good example of how this word can be used as a familiar and affectionate term for a person of the feminine sex, adult or child.

5. Parece que ele voltou a beber, tá traindo ou já traiu a esposa... Um negócio assim...

It looks like Carlinhos is acting as a bad boy: he started to drink again, he is cheating or he has already cheated his wife... Or "um negócio assim (something like that)," says Alexandre... When gossiping, it's always a good idea to be careful not to make very strong declarations... Notice the expression you can use in Portuguese to do so: "um negócio assim..."

6. Ahn?

This is a very Brazilian way to say "what"?

7. Bom, eu não o conheço pessoalmente ainda, né? Só de vista, assim.

Well, the guys even don't know the new boss yet, at least not in person, but this is not a reason not to gossip about him... They've just seen him - só de vista...

8. Sujeito alto, usa óculos, né?

You already know the word cara, but here you have another one with the same meaning: sujeito (guy, fellow). It is also used to talk about an individual, a man whose name is not mentioned. Would the new boss be um bom sujeito (a good fellow)?

9. E... vai ser uma dupla interessante, né?

In some cases, the word dupla in Portuguese means *double*, like *dose dupla* (double dose) or *cabine dupla* (double cabin), etc. But usually the Portuguese word used for "double" is dobro. In the example here, we have a more particular meaning of the word dupla: duo, two persons appearing or somehow acting together. For instance, dupla sertaneja or dupla caipira (a kind of Brazilian country music duo) is very popular in Brazil.



10. E... você sabe da onde ele veio?

Alexandre seems to be very interested in knowing “where the new boss came from” (da onde ele veio). Well, if you look for this expression in the Portuguese textbooks, you won’t find da onde, but de onde instead. This is one more example of how spoken language can be very particular and interesting...

11. Então, parece que ele veio transferido de Campinas pra cá, né?

Notice here the use of the verb vir (in the past tense: veio) as a main verb with participle: ele veio transferido. You can also use ser as the auxiliary verb, but note that vir, in this case, adds flavor to the sentence and makes it more lively and interesting.

12. Então, parece que ele veio transferido de Campinas pra cá, né?

*Campinas* is a city located in the state of *São Paulo*, the third largest city in the state, after *São Paulo* and *Guarulhos*. *Campinas*' population is around 1million , as of the 2010 Census. The *Viracopos International Airport* connects *Campinas* with many Brazilian cities and also operates some international flights. The city is home to the *State University of Campinas (UNICAMP)*, one of the most important universities in Latin America.

13. ...eu não sei se você ouviu isso -, mas parece, tavam comentando...

It’s interesting to notice that when people are gossiping, it’s common that they adopt some strategies to reduce severity of possible effects of the message. Here we can see two examples of this: a) the use of verb parecer (to look like), a tool to avoid a total commitment with the truth of the proposition (something like: “if this is not true, don’t blame me”); and b) addressing the source of the information to someone else than the speaker: tavam comentando... (people were talking...).

14. ...que talvez ele tivesse feito faculdade na Unicamp ou na PUC

As mentioned before, Campinas is home to UNICAMP - short for *State University of Campinas*. According to the *Times Higher Education 2007 World University Rankings*, Unicamp is the 2nd best in Latin America (after *University of São Paulo*), responsible for around 15% of all Brazilian research. The city is also home to another prestigious Brazilian university, PUCCAMP (or only PUC), *Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Campinas*, a private and non-profit Catholic university.

15. Mas eu ouvi falar que parece que ele comprou o diploma!

Wait a minute. "Marcos bought his degree?" How come? Well, unfortunately, this used to be a sad reality in some parts of Brazil, and it still happens. It is possible – although very expensive and not so easy to do – to buy a fake diploma or fake degree from some very bad universities. In some cases, what happens is that the student attends only a couple of hours in some courses, but somehow ends up with the diploma...

16. Inclusive, ele é muito novo pra apresentar esse histórico que ele apresenta.

The word novo(a) in Portuguese can mean “new, recent,” but it also means “young, inexperienced” – and this last meaning is what we have here in this example.

17. Eu achei muito injusto de eles não terem dado o cargo pra alguém que já trabalha aqui, sabe?

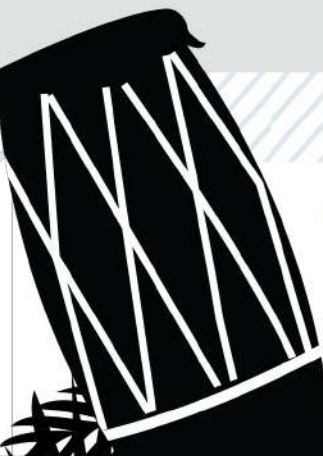
Note our translation here and you'll see the difference between the tenses of the verbs in the Portuguese / English version of the sentence: “I thought it was so unfair that they didn't give (and not have not given) the job to someone who already works here... But don't be intimidated: you can also use the simple past in this case, along with que: *Achei muito injusto que eles não deram*...





## Soccer I: Você foi muito fominha hoje!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=30>





We hate to lose, especially when we're ahead for a while and then lose it in the end, just hate that! And it doesn't help when the referee totally ignores the obvious fouls. And the next thing you know people are blaming each other too. It just goes from bad to worse. And that *gremista* guy was totally grabbing on to people's shirts and pulling them down. If any of this sounds familiar, welcome to the world of competitive sports. We can all relate. But, just like Heloísa, Alexandre, and Lucas, everyone's got to buckle down and get ready for next week's game too. They've still got a chance, as long as Zeca doesn't play goalie any more. Bad luck on the field, but a good chance to hear a new *Conversa Brasileira*.

SIMONE: Que jogo ruim, hein?  
What a terrible game, ahn?

HELOÍSA: Valeu. ❶ Ai, tá louco! ❷  
Thanks. Oh, what a bummer!

ALEXANDRE: Oh, Lucas. Dois a um de novo! Perdemos o jogo, cara!  
Oh, Lucas. 2-1 again! We lost the game, man!

LUCAS: Foi, e a gente jogou tão bem, hein?  
Yeah, and we were playing so well, you know?

HELOÍSA: Não, eu achei que a gente ia ganhar muito fácil esse jogo...  
Yeah, I thought we were easily going to win this game...

ALEXANDRE: Não, o jogo tava muito fácil, mas só que ❸ o juiz tava roubando pra eles! ❹  
Well, the game was way easy, but the referee was on their side!

LUCAS: Olha, de fato, a gente marcou primeiro, eles empataram... E aquele segundo gol, lá? Eles tavam impedidos ❺ e o juiz não marcou nada! ❻  
É impossível que ele não tenha visto.  
Look, you're right, we scored first, then they tied it up... And what about that second goal? They were offsides and the ref didn't call anything! There is no way he didn't see that.

ALEXANDRE: Eu acho que alguém molhou a mão dele. ❼ Não é possível! Ele tava com... ele foi comprado!  
I think he was bribed. It's not possible! He was... he was bought out.

- HELOÍSA: Não, ele jo... ele apitou muito mal! <sup>8</sup> Que é isso? Não é normal!  
 Yep, he... he refereed the game so badly! What is that? That's not normal!
- LUCAS: Nunca vi um juiz apitar tão mal assim.  
 I've never seen a ref do such a bad job.
- HELOÍSA: Não é normal.  
 That's not normal.
- ALEXANDRE: Tava roubando muito. Incrível!  
 He was cheating a lot. Unbelievable!
- HELOÍSA: Ó, mas sabe o quê? Cê foi muito fominha hoje, <sup>9</sup> Alexandre, também!  
 Pô, eu tava livre direto, <sup>10</sup> cê não passava a bola pra mim!  
 Look, you know what? Another thing, you were such a ball hog today, Alexandre! Man, several times I was good to go, but you didn't give me the ball!
- LUCAS: É verdade. Parecia que você queria jogar sozinho!  
 That's right. It looked like you wanted to play all by yourself!
- ALEXANDRE: Pô, pessoal! Eu fiz o único gol da partida, carreguei o time nas costas...  
<sup>11</sup> Tava ali no meio do campo tentando fazer alguma jogada, <sup>12</sup> fazer um lançamento pra ver se saía o gol, pô! E outra, <sup>13</sup> o problema também é aquele cara, o gremista. <sup>14</sup> Pô, o cara é muito violento!  
 Hey, guys! I scored the only goal of the game, I do everything for this team... I was right there in the middle of the field trying to make a play, trying to pass it off to get a goal, jeez! And one more thing, the real problem was that guy, the *gremista*. The guy was brutal, man!
- HELOÍSA: Eu vi. Cê viu aquela hora? Eu tava correndo, ele me pegou, me puxou, segurou pela camisa! Que é isso?! E o juiz não falou nada!  
 I saw that. Did you see that? I was running, he held on to me, pulling me, holding on to my shirt. What was that? And the referee didn't say a word!
- LUCAS: É verdade. Cê tem razão. Ele não deixou nenhum de vocês dois jogar.  
 That's true. You're right. He didn't let either of you two play.
- HELOÍSA: Não marcou falta! <sup>15</sup>  
 He didn't call any fouls!
- ALEXANDRE: Pô, cara! Pô!  
 Oh, man! Wow!
- LUCAS: Pô, o cara é folgado! <sup>16</sup>  
 Wow, he is so lazy!

- HELOÍSA:** Ó, agora a gente tem que ganhar deles o próximo jogo, hein?  
Well, now we've got to win against them next game, right?
- LUCAS:** É verdade!  
That's true!
- ALEXANDRE:** Não, quando... quando vai ser o próximo jogo?  
Yeah, when... When is the next game?
- LUCAS:** Olha, a gente tem jogo sexta-feira que vem.  
OK, we've got a game next Friday.
- ALEXANDRE:** Pô, Lucas.  
Man, Lucas.
- LUCAS:** E a gente precisa ganhar.  
And we gotta win.
- ALEXANDRE:** Pô, eu ia falar isso pra você, cara. A gente precisa trocar nosso goleiro. Ele é muito ruim!  
Man, I was going to tell you, man. We gotta have a different goalie. This one is terrible!
- LUCAS:** Pô, ele tomou um frangaço hoje, hein? 17  
Man, he couldn't stop anything today, you know?
- HELOÍSA:** Foi feio...  
It was ugly...
- LUCAS:** É verdade. Mas, pô, cê tem alguma idéia?  
True enough. But, man, you got any ideas?
- ALEXANDRE:** Pô, que tal aquele cara, aquele vizinho seu, lá? Como que ele chama?  
Well, how about that guy, that neighbor of yours? What's his name?
- LUCAS:** O Jorge?  
Jorge?
- ALEXANDRE:** O Jorge! Ele jogou o ano passado pra gente.  
Jorge! He played on our team last year.
- LUCAS:** Pô, é verdade. Eu podia falar com ele. Com certeza, ele é muito melhor que esse cara aí!  
That's true. I could talk to him. For sure, he'd be better than this guy!
- HELOÍSA:** Aí a gente deixa o Zeca como reserva.  
And then we'd leave Zeca on the bench.
- ALEXANDRE:** Isso.  
Right.
- HELOÍSA:** Beleza!  
Sweet!

ALEXANDRE: Tá bom. Então é o seguinte: na sexta-feira é o próximo jogo.  
Ok. So, that's it: the game is next Friday.

LUCAS: Isso.  
Yep.

ALEXANDRE: Quantos jogos a gente ganhou e quantos a gente perdeu?  
How many games have we won and how many have we lost?

LUCAS: Pô, a gente ganhou três até agora. E, contando com esse, a gente perdeu dois. A gente precisa ganhar o próximo.  
Well, so far we've won 3. And, counting this one, we've lost 2.

HELOÍSA: Ó, então a gente tem chance ainda no campeonato.  
So, we still have a chance to win the tournament.

ALEXANDRE: Beleza! Então faz o seguinte: quarta-feira a gente vai treinar, não? Já que o jogo vai ser na sexta... A gente nem avisa o nosso goleiro. Chama o Jorge.  
Nice! Then, let's do this: we're going to practice on Wednesday, right? Since the game is on Friday... We won't even tell the goalie. We'll call Jorge.

LUCAS: Tá bom, então.  
Ok, then.

ALEXANDRE: Beleza? 18  
Deal?

LUCAS: Tá, eu falo com ele.  
Yep, I'll talk to him.

HELOÍSA: Ó, faz o seguinte: vamo treinar sério 19 na quarta-feira e entrar e jogar pra ganhar, hein?  
Let's do it: let's practice hard on Wednesday and then play to win, ok?

ALEXANDRE: Não, claro!  
Yeah, sure!

LUCAS: Bom, mas depois desse jogo aqui... Vamo fazer alguma coisa?  
Well, but after this game... Let's go do something else?

ALEXANDRE: É, não, eu também tô morrendo de sede, cara...  
Yeah, I'm dying of thirst too, man...



### 1. Valeu.

Did you notice how Heloísa thanks Simone when she gives her the towel after the game is over? She says Valeu. This is another way - very colloquial and informal, almost a slang - to say obrigado in Portuguese, and a good one for our soccer game dialog. It is also used as a slang to say tchau (goodbye).

### 2. Ai, tá louco!

Don't misunderstand Heloísa here. She is not saying that someone there is crazy... The expression tá louco!, in this case, means something like "Oh, what a bummer!" or "That was just crazy," a way to express sadness or dismay in response to a bad situation or an unfortunate event.

### 3. Não, o jogo tava muito fácil, mas só que o juiz tava roubando pra eles!

This is a very interesting expression in Portuguese: só que is a very informal way to say "but" (mas), with a more intense force, introducing a clause that express a contrast that is unexpected in light of the first clause. Notice that here Alexandre uses both expressions: mas + só que, making sure to express all his anger against the ref... In English we say, "but it's just that..."



4. ... mas só que o juiz tava roubando pra eles!

Well, the game was way easy, but the referee was on their side! In Portuguese you can say the same thing with an expression that means something like “cheating (stealing) for them”: roubando pra eles...

5. Eles tavam impedidos...

According to the soccer rules, goals scored after committing an “offside offence” (impedimento) are nullified if caught by the referee. Well, that was not the case in our game here, and that’s why Alexandre is so upset: they were offsides (estavam impedidos) but the referee didn’t say a word!

6. ... e o juiz não marcou nada!

According to Alexandre, since the players of the other team were offsides, the referee should have nullified their goal. But he didn’t say anything – ele não marcou nada! Notice the verb marcar to refer to the ref’s act of judging and determining the fouls and penalties during a game (soccer, volleyball, etc.).

7. Eu acho que alguém molhou a mão dele.

What a great expression to talk about bribing! Molhar a mão (lit. “to water one’s hand”) is a direct allusion to the act of giving money or gifts to someone in order to persuade him/her to act in one’s favor, similar in some ways to the English expression “greasing the wheel.”

8. ... ele apitou muito mal!

In Portuguese, when talking about the act of refereeing a game, the verb used is apitar (lit. “to blow a whistle”), since the referee uses the whistle to signal a foul. In English we are more likely to say “call a foul.”

9. Cê foi muito fominha hoje, Alexandre, também!

Here we have a good example of a slang that is very common in Brazil: ser fominha (lit. the diminutive of hunger, fome + inha). It's used to refer to someone who is acting in a selfish, greedy way. It's also used a lot in the context of soccer games to refer to a player who tries to do everything by himself, disregarding his teammates, or as we say in English, “hogging the ball.”

10. Pô, eu tava livre direto, cê não passava a bola pra mim!

Heloísa is mad with Alexandre because several times during the game she was wide open and good to go but he didn't give her the ball! Notice that she uses the word livre (lit. “free”) to say she was “wide open.” The word direto (lit. “direct, straight”) is used to express something like “all the time,” “several times.” Another common use for this word is in the expression voo direto (nonstop flight).

11. Eu fiz o único gol da partida, carrego o time nas costas...

“*Eu carrego o time nas costas*,” complains Alexandre. The word time is the most used word in the context of sports to refer to a team, but equipe is also another option. This last one is the most used in the professional/business context.

Another interesting thing to notice here is the word costas (back). Be aware that this word is also used in the plural form in Portuguese.



12. Tava ali no meio do campo tentando fazer alguma jogada...

Alexandre says he was right there in the middle of the field trying to make a play. Notice he uses the word jogada to express that. In Portuguese, use the noun a jogada when referring to the noun “the play, the move (in a game) ,” and o jogo to refer to “the game.” In a context other than sports, the word jogada can also be used to refer to a scheme, a plot, something done with a fraudulent intention in order to cheat.

13. E outra...

While listing all the problems they faced during the game, Alexandre ends with the expression: e outra. This is the short version for e tem outra coisa (and there is one more thing/another thing) – an expression extremely used by Brazilians.

14. ... o problema também é aquele cara, o gremista.

Soccer (futebol) is by far the most popular sport in Brazil and it is a passion taken very seriously by Brazilian fans. There are several professional teams all around the country, and here we see a reference to one of them, Grêmio, and of its fans, gremista. Grêmio (short for Grêmio Foot-Ball Porto Alegrense) is based in Porto Alegre, capital of Rio Grande do Sul state. Grêmio enjoys a cross-city rivalry with Sport Club Internacional (or simply Inter).

15. Não marcou falta!

If you want to talk about a foul in a soccer game, use the word falta. It works for any sport, not just for soccer. But be aware that pênalti (penalty) is a word used in Portuguese just to refer to a foul inside the penalty area that results in a kick into the goal.

16. Pô, o cara é folgado!

Unfortunately, it is not that uncommon to find lazy guys trying to take advantage of others, either in a soccer game or in several other situations... That's what happens in our game here. O cara é folgado! (The guy is lazy!). When somebody takes a folga, he is taking a "break". So, a folgado is someone who is always taking a break.

17. Pô, ele tomou um frangaço hoje, hein?

What a great Brazilian soccer expression we have here! "Tomar um frango" or "tomar um frangaço" (even worse...) is definitely the expression which Brazilians use to refer to that situation when the goalkeeper is not able to "keep" anything, when he can't stop any ball... So, don't be confused: there is no chicken in question here... Frango is the word used to describe a blunder goal. You might say that the goalie's got "chicken legs".

18. Beleza?

This is a good Brazilian slang to learn about: beleza. Literally, the word means "beauty," but of course it is not the case here. Notice that Alexandre asks Lucas to invite Jorge for the next game, and then he makes sure to double check if Lucas got it: Beleza? (Deal?). The word is also very used as a slang to exchange greetings: "E aí, beleza?" "Beleza"!

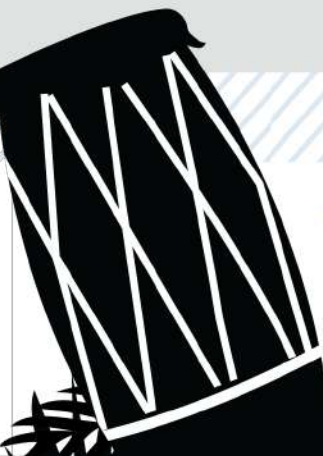
19. Ó, faz o seguinte: vamo treinar sério na quarta-feira e entrar e jogar pra ganhar, hein?

Please, don't misunderstand Heloísa here. She is not forbidding anyone to smile or laugh during the next soccer practice, but encouraging her team to practice hard... The word sério(a) (lit. "serious") is the way to describe something or some action requiring much thought or work. Vamo(s) treinar sério! Even in English we have a tendency to say, "we need some serious practice".



## Soccer 2: Ninguém tira o título da gente

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=31>





Don't we all just love the satisfaction of winning a close, hard fought game! Looks like Guilherme and Lucas' team is now 5-0, even if the other team did complain that the ref should have called Lucas offside when he scored the winning goal. Too bad, so sad. Let the other team go home to cry, Lucas, and friends are heading over to Guilherme's house where their *gaúcho* friend is going to break out the *churrasco*, which obviously will lead to more sports talk and even better *Conversa Brasileira*.

SIMONE: Jogão, ❶ Gui! Parabéns, viu? Jogão!  
Good game, Gui! Way to go, good game!

GUILHERME: Obrigado.  
Thanks.

SIMONE: Não, foi muito bonito o jogo! ❷ Cê achou que foi difícil?  
Yeah, it was an awesome game! You think it was a tough one?

GUILHERME: Foi bem difícil. Foi... placar dois a um. Bem apertado.  
It was very hard. A score like two to one, yeah, it was close.

SIMONE: É, a outra torcida tava revoltada que vocês ganharam. Nossa mãe!  
Yeah, the fans from the other team were way upset that you guys won. Oh my!

LUCAS: E aí, pessoal?  
What's up, guys?

SIMONE: Aí vem o goleador! Parabéns!  
Here comes the goal scorer! Nice job!

LUCAS: Valeu, valeu, valeu! ❸ Foi um bom jogo mesmo.  
Thanks, thanks, thanks! It really was a great game.

SIMONE: E aí, que que cê achou do jogo?  
So, what did you think about the game?

LUCAS: Pô, achei bom. Agora... aqui entre nós, aquele segundo gol... Vocês acham que eu tava impedido?  
It was good. But... just between us, that second goal... Do you guys think I was offside?

GUILHERME: Eu acho que você não tava impedido. Porque o juiz apitou bem.  
I don't think you were offside. Because the ref did a good job.

- SIMONE:** Eu não sei. A gente, daqui... deu a impressão <sup>4</sup> que tava impedido... Tanto é que <sup>5</sup> a outra torcida tava muito brava. Muito brava com vocês.  
I don't know. From here, it looked like you were offsides... So much so that the fans from the other team were really mad. They were really mad at you guys.
- LUCAS:** É? Eu vi que eles tavam nervosos... Eu confesso que eu fiquei na dúvida. <sup>6</sup> Mas... que bom que o juiz não marcou!  
Really? I saw that they were angry... I confess I wasn't sure. But... it's good that the ref didn't call anything.
- GUILHERME:** Não, acho que foi gol legítimo.  
No, I think the goal was legit.
- LUCAS:** Ah, legal. O que importa é que a gente ganhou.  
Ah, cool. What matters is that we won.
- SIMONE:** Foi de quanto? Dois a um? Foi isso?  
What was the score? Two to one, right?
- LUCAS:** Foi dois a um. Foi apertado.  
Yeah, two to one. It was very close.
- GUILHERME:** É. Foi bem difícil o jogo.  
Yeah, it was a very tough game.
- SIMONE:** Então agora vocês estão com vitória... Vocês estão invictos no campeonato!  
So now you've got the win... You guys are unbeaten in the league!
- LUCAS:** A gente tá invicto! Cinco jogos, cinco vitórias.  
We're unbeaten! Five games, five victories.
- SIMONE:** Cinco jogos vocês ganharam? <sup>7</sup> E quantos mais faltam?  
You guys have won five games? And how many more to go?
- LUCAS:** Bom, faltam três até o campeonato acabar. <sup>8</sup>  
Well, there are three more to go until the championship finishes.
- GUILHERME:** É, semana que vem é o próximo jogo. Se a gente ganhar <sup>9</sup> o próximo jogo, a gente vai estar bem perto de ganhar o campeonato.  
Yeah, the next game will be next week. If we win the next one, we'll be very close to win the championship.
- LUCAS:** Pô, vamo lá! <sup>10</sup>  
Let's do it!
- SIMONE:** Eu ouvi dizer que o próximo time que vocês vão pegar aí é bem difícil.

Vocês vão ter que treinar bastante!

I heard that the next team you guys get is real tough. You're going to have to practice a lot!

**LUCAS:** Vamo. A gente vai treinar... Ô, obrigado!  
We will. We're going to practice... Oh, thanks.

**SIMONE:** Mas então eu tô achando que vocês vão virar <sup>11</sup> campeões! E aí, se virar campeões, nós vamos ter que comemorar.  
But then I'm thinking you guys will end up being the champions! And then, if you're the champions, we'll have to celebrate!

**LUCAS:** Bom, a gente tá jogando bem. Se a gente treinar, <sup>9</sup> acho que ninguém tira o título da gente, <sup>12</sup> não.  
Well, we're playing well. If we practice, nobody can knock us out of first place.

**GUILHERME:** É. Bom, se vocês quiserem, <sup>9</sup> a gente pode fazer um churrasco hoje.  
Yeah. Well, if you guys want, we could have a barbecue today.

**LUCAS:** Vamo comemorar o jogo de hoje. O que que vocês...  
Let's celebrate today's game. What do you guys...

**SIMONE:** Eu tô dentro do churrasco...  
I'm totally into barbeque...

**LUCAS:** Eu gostei dessa idéia do churrasco.  
I liked this barbecue idea.

**SIMONE:** Eu adoro churrasco!  
I love barbecue!

**LUCAS:** Tá bom.  
Ok.

**SIMONE:** Tem alguma especialidade, aí? Já que cê é gaúcho... <sup>13</sup>  
Do you have any specialty? Since you're *gaúcho*...

**GUILHERME:** Bom, picanha com sal grosso... Se vocês gostarem... <sup>9</sup>  
Well, *picanha* with coarse salt... If you guys like it...

**LUCAS:** Boa ideia! Eu topo, hein? <sup>14</sup> Vamo nessa?  
Good idea! Count me in, ok? Let's go?

**SIMONE:** Eu também topo esse churrasco. Vam'bora!  
Count me in on this barbecue too. Let's go!

**GUILHERME:** Então vamo!  
Let's go, then.





### 1. *Jogão*, Gui! Parabéns, viu? Jogão!

You already know that Brazilians love diminutives and use them a lot. This is also true for the augmentatives, and their meaning, like that of diminutives, varies and depends on the context where they are used. Here we have an example of the augmentative being used to express praise: *jogão* (a very good game, a great game). Augmentatives are also used in Portuguese to express emphasis (*um barulhão* – a huge noise) or even a negative opinion (*menino chorão* – an annoying boy who cries all the time).

### 2. Não, *foi muito bonito o jogo*!

Simone considered this game to be a very good one, an awesome game. Notice the word she uses in Portuguese to express it: *bonito* (lit. “beautiful”), as a reference that the game was a “beautiful thing to watch.” Note also the word order in the sentence: *foi muito bonito o jogo* (lit. “was very good/beautiful the game”). Starting the sentence with the verb and then the adjective, prior to the subject, makes the adjective even more emphatic. This was really a good game!

### 3. *Valeu, valeu, valeu!* Foi um bom jogo mesmo.

Lucas saved the game! He was the one to make the decisive goal, and their friends are very happy for him... Notice the way he thanks their compliments: “*valeu!*” This is a common slang, which is a nice way to say “thanks.” It is commonly used among young people in informal contexts. It is also used as a slang to say “goodbye.”

4. A gente, daqui... deu a impressão que tava impedido...

From the place where the friends were watching the game, it looked like Lucas was offside... The expression used here is dar a impressão (lit. “to give the impression”), meaning “to look as if, to seem, to have the appearance of.”

5. Tanto é que a outra torcida tava muito brava.

Interesting expression here: Tanto é que. Just like “so much so”, this expression is used to link an argument or an example to a previous idea, as a way to corroborate and confirm it. But note that it has a very different structure compared to the English expression. It’s something like tanto é (verdade o que eu acabei de dizer), que... (it’s so very true what I’ve just said that...).

6. Eu confesso que eu fiquei na dúvida.

Aren’t you sure about what means this expression? That means that você ficou na dúvida... What an excellent way to express “not to be sure about something” – ficar na dúvida.

7. Cinco jogos vocês ganharam? E quantos mais faltam?

Here we have another example of a very distinct word order in English and Portuguese: Cinco jogos vocês ganharam? (lit. “Five games did you guys win?”). Starting the sentence with the object - prior to the subject and the verb (O S V) - makes the object more emphatic. Simone is really amazed with the fact that they already have 5 victories and she expresses it by putting this information at the beginning of the sentence. Notice that the intonation is also very important here.



8. Bom, faltam três até o campeonato acabar.

Well, there are still three more games to go until the championship finishes. Notice that in Portuguese you have to use the infinitive form of the verb after the preposition: até X acabar (lit. “until X to finish”), very different from the English structure (“until X finishes”).

9. a) Se a gente ganhar o próximo jogo, a gente vai estar bem perto de ganhar o campeonato.  
 b) Se a gente treinar, acho que ninguém tira o título da gente, não.  
 c) Bom, se vocês quiserem, a gente pode fazer um churrasco hoje.  
 d) Se vocês gostarem...

Note how many examples of Future Subjunctive we have in this dialog. In Portuguese, use the Future Subjunctive to express doubt or uncertainty when speaking about a future action, an action that **may** or **may not occur** in the future. It is commonly used after the words se (if) and quando (when).

10. Pô, vamo lá!

Literally, the expression vamo(s) lá means “let’s go there,” but you can tell that this is not exactly the meaning here. This is a very common way for Brazilians to encourage, inspire or cheer up each other. Notice that the written form requires the s at the end of the verb, while it’s usually dropped in the oral speech. Vamo lá! Use it!

11. Mas então eu tô achando que vocês vão virar campeões!

The verb virar can mean “to turn, change, or even rotate.” But it is also used to express the idea of becoming or ending up, and that’s the case here: with all those victories, they will become / end up being the champions.

12. Se a gente treinar, acho que ninguém tira o título da gente, não.

The word título can be used to talk about a title - either the heading of a written text or a name or denomination. In the example here, we are closer to this second meaning: the “denomination of the champion of the tournament.” So, ninguém tira o título da gente is something like “nobody will take our title (first place) from us.”

13. Já que cê é gaúcho...

There are several different ways to say “since” in Portuguese: when you are talking about the passage of time, use desde. As a conjunction, when giving reasons and linking two sentences (since = because), you can say desde que, visto que, uma vez que, como or also já que – the one that we see in the example here.

Guilherme is from Rio Grande do Sul state, the southern-most state in Brazil. So, he is a gaúcho. Já que ele é gaúcho... Since he is a gaúcho, he must know how to prepare a good churrasco! That’s because gaúchos are well known for their expertise in making an excellent barbecue. In some cases, the term gaúcho can also be used as a loose equivalent to the North American “cowboy” (but this is not the case regarding Guilherme!).

14. Boa ideia! Eu topo, hein?

Notice the word you can use to accept someone’s invitation, like Lucas did: eu topo! The verb topar means “to agree, to consent” and also “to accept an invitation.”



## Jam Session I: Acabou batendo aqui na cabeça

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=32>





So do you want to hear a little more *xote* or a little *baião*? Antônio, André, Daniel, and Tommy are having a little jam session. In fact, it's the first time they have ever played together. They've got a great sound, especially when you mix the rhythm from André's *zabumba* with Antonio's improvisation. And if you think the music is good, wait until you hear their *Conversa Brasileira*.

TODOS: "... *Cintura de menina... Vem cá, meu coração...* "  
"... *A girl's waist... Come here, my love...* "

ANDRÉ: Opa!  
Yeah!

DANIEL: Pô, pô... Eu gostei...  
Yeah, yeah... I liked it...

ANTÔNIO: ... tem que ensaiar, ❶ né?  
... we need to rehearse it, right?

ANDRÉ: ...continua ainda...  
... it still goes on...

DANIEL: ...mas eu gostei daquela parte que tu botou ❷ a... aquela letra ❸ do Tom Jobim. Do "*É pau, é pedra*". ❹ Ficou legal. Improviso. Boa!  
... but I liked that part where you put... those lyrics by Tom Jobim. From "*É pau, é pedra*." It was cool. Improvisation. It was good!

ANTÔNIO: Que é uma letra complicada, né? Aquela, né? "*É pau, é pedra. É o fim do caminho...*".  
That one has tough lyrics, right? That one, right? "*It's a stick, it's a stone. It's the end of the road...*"

ANDRÉ: Porque tem um compasso completamente diferente. Completamente não... Mas... é mais... alongado...  
Because it has a completely different beat. Not completely... But.. it is more... it's slower...

ANTÔNIO: É, eu tô preparando uma apresentação que eu vou fazer e eu vou tocar aquela música...  
Yeah, I've been preparing for a concert that I'll be performing and I'm going to play that song...

DANIEL: Ah, tá...  
Ok, then...

ANTÔNIO: Mas eu tô aprendendo, pra decorar, ⑤ né? É difícil, né? E aí, acabou batendo aqui na cabeça... ⑥  
But I'm still learning it, to memorize it, you know? It's tough, you know? And then, it ended up coming to my mind...

ANDRÉ: Legal, aí... Então vamo pra próxima que a gente tava, é... tava ensaiando... Querem tentar o quê? "Asa Branca"? ⑦ Ou a gente continua no xote ⑧ ainda?  
Cool... So let's move to the next one that we were, ah... we were playing... Which one do you wanna try? "Asa Branca?" Or should we still go on playing the xote?

DANIEL: Qual que era o outro xote que a gente queria tocar, mesmo?  
What was the other xote song that we wanted to play, again?

ANDRÉ: A gente tava no... Qual que é? Ahn... "Pisa na fulô"... ⑨  
We were playing... Which one? Ah... "Pisa na fulô..."

ANTÔNIO: É. "Pisa na fulô". É.  
That's it. "Pisa na fulô." That's it.

ANDRÉ: Ou quer tentar "Asa Branca"?  
Or do you wanna try "Asa Branca?"

DANIEL: Não, pô. Vamo, vamo continuar no clima do xote. ⑩  
No. Let's, let's keep on playing xote.

ANDRÉ: Então, vamo lá. Vamo mais um xote, então, e a gente passa... parte pra "Asa Branca".  
So, let's go then. Let's play another xote, and then we can move on to... to "Asa Branca."

TOMMY: Essa também é em RÉ? ⑪  
Is this one also played in D?

ANTÔNIO: Não, essa é em... G... ⑪  
No, this one is played in... G...

TOMMY: Esqueço... Ah, ok!  
I forget... Ah, ok!

ANTÔNIO: G menor... G pequeno...  
G minor... Small G...

DANIEL: SOL menor. ⑪ É em SOL menor. Vamo lá.  
G minor. It's played in G minor. Let's go.

ANDRÉ: Bonito!  
Sweet!

DANIEL: Tá legal.  
That's cool.

TODOS: *"Pisa na fulô, pisa na fulô... Pisa na fulô, não maltrata o meu amor..."*  
*"Step on the flower, step on the flower (or: Dance, dance)... Don't mistreat my love..."*



### 1. ... tem que ensaiar, né?

Talking about practice, we have some different verbs to express that in Portuguese: *praticar*, *treinar* and *ensaiar* (among others). It's not easy to point out the difference among them, but generally speaking we could say that *praticar* has a more general meaning, while *treinar* is the one used especially for sports and *ensaiar* is the word used in the context of music and theater. Brazilians would say: *o time de futebol está **treinando*** (the soccer team is practicing), but *os atores/a banda está(ão) **ensaiando*** (the actors/the band is rehearsing).

### 2. ...mas eu gostei daquela parte que tu botou a...

As you already know, in Brazilian Portuguese the 3rd person pronoun *você* is the prevailing pronoun and used to replace the classical 2nd-person pronoun *tu*. This is, however, complicated by regional and social variation, and the use of *tu* is still frequent in some parts of Brazil (such as in the very South and some parts of North, Northeast and Rio de Janeiro). But when Brazilians use *tu*, it is mostly accompanied by the 3rd-person verb conjugation, like in our example here: *tu botou* (although 2nd-person verb is still used in some places).



### 3. ...aquela letra do Tom Jobim.

The several meanings of the Portuguese word letra can be hard to master by a non-native speaker, since there are some similarities as well as some differences between it as its cognate **letter** (in English)... Notice:

- letra: lyrics (...aquela letra do Tom Jobim. / Those song lyrics by Tom Jobim.)
- letra: letter (**Bola** começa com a letra "B". / **Ball** starts with letter "B".)
- letra: font (Já usei todos os tipos de letra ./ I've already used all types of font.)
- Letras: Liberal Arts / Language and Literature (Sou formada em Letras / I graduated in Liberal Arts.)

And also:

- letter: carta (Letters to Juliet / Cartas para Julieta)
- by letter: por escrito
- to the letter: ao pé da letra

### 4. ...aquela letra do Tom Jobim. Do "É pau, é pedra".

Antônio Carlos Jobim or simply Tom Jobim (1927-1994) is one of the most important Brazilian musicians, and a great contributor to the *Bossa Nova* style. He was a songwriter, composer, arranger, singer and pianist/guitarist. His songs have been performed by many singers – not only within, but also outside Brazil (such as Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Tony Benet, Diana Krall, among several others). An interesting fact is that Rio de Janeiro International Airport was renamed as *Galeão - Antonio Carlos Jobim International Airport* in his honor.

"*Garota de Ipanema*" (The girl from Ipanema) is one of his most famous songs, as well as "*Águas de Março*" (Waters of March) – which is the one that Antonio is talking about in this dialog. "*É pau, é pedra. É o fim do caminho*" ("It's a stick, it's a stone. It's the end of the road") are the words in the first verse of that song. Its inspiration comes from the rainiest month in Rio de Janeiro, March, a month characterized by sudden storms with heavy rains at the end of summer in Brazil, that can cause flooding and carry sticks, stones, etc. The lyrics of the song are hard to sing and to memorize, since it has lots of words and a difficult rhythm to perform.



5. Mas eu tô aprendendo, pra decorar, né?

In Portuguese, to know something "by heart" is saber de cor. It's interesting to point out that the expression de cor has similarities with the English one, since de cor comes from the Latin word *cor*, *cordis* (heart), "the center of memory," among other meanings. Decorar is the Portuguese verb for "to memorize" or "saber de cor." It also means "to decorate."

6. E aí, acabou batendo aqui na cabeça...

Don't take the verb bater (to beat, hit) literally in this sentence... Notice: our musicians were playing, and then the song "Águas de Março" ended up batendo na cabeça (coming to Antonio's mind)... Bater na cabeça – what an interesting way to say that something comes to your mind unexpectedly...

7. Querem tentar o quê? "Asa Branca"?

"Asa Branca" (White Wing) is a song written in the 40's by Luiz Gonzaga and Humberto Teixeira. The song is about the droughts that afflict the *sertão* in the Northeast region of Brazil: it's said that the bird called asa branca is the last creature to leave the region during the drought, looking for water and a way to survive. If it flies away, it's because it won't rain...

Luiz Gonzaga (1912 – 1990) was a very famous Brazilian singer and composer, considered to be responsible for the promotion of *baião* - a popular dance/music genre of Northeastern Brazil - to the rest of the country. He used to perform singing and playing his accordion, dressed up in typical Northeastern costumes. "Asa Branca" was his greatest hit and it was covered countless times by several different singers in Brazil.

At the end of this lesson, you have the lyrics of the song "Asa Branca." Notice the strong presence of the oral language in the song, especially the words between commas which echo one of the varieties that differ from the standard Portuguese. This song is a good example of linguistic variation in language use among Brazilian Portuguese speakers (in this case, related to social and regional differences).

8. Ou a gente continua no xote ainda?

Xote is another Brazilian popular dance/music genre fairly common in the Northeast region of the country. It is similar to the Scottish polka, introduced in Brazil in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, and the Portuguese word comes from the German *schotisch*.

9. Qual que é? Ahn... "Pisa na fulô"...

"Pisa na fulô (where fulô = flor)..." What a great title for a song! Literally, it means "Step on the flower," but it is probably an expression in the Northeast region of Brazil that means "to dance." This song was written in 1957 by João do Vale (along with Ernesto Pires and Silveira Júnior).

10. Vamo, vamo continuar no clima do xote.

Here we have another good expression in Portuguese: *no clima de*. It is something like "in the mood of." Are you in the mood of dancing xote? Because our musicians will keep on playing it, since they are no clima do xote...

11. a) Essa também é em RÉ?  
b) Não, essa é em... G...  
c) SOL menor. É em SOL menor. Vamo lá.

Usually, the musical keys (in music theory) are not named in the same way in Brazil and US. In Brazil, they use the syllables - *do* (called fixed *do*), *ré*, *mi*, *fá*, *sol*, *lá*, *si* -, while in US letters are used to say the same - C, D, E, F, G, A, B, respectively. Our singers are going to sing "Pisa na fulô" in SOL menor, or G minor.

## Songs Lyrics:

### **Cintura Fina**

*(Luíz Gonzaga)*

Minha morena, venha pra cá  
Pra dançar xote, se deita em meu cangote  
E pode cochilar  
Tu és mulher pra homem nenhum  
Botar defeito, por isso satisfeito  
Com você eu vou dançar

Vem cá, cintura fina, cintura de pilão  
Cintura de menina, vem cá meu coração

Quando eu abraço essa cintura de pilão  
Fico frio, arrepiado, quase morro de paixão  
E fecho os olhos quando sinto o teu calor  
Pois teu corpo só foi feito pros cochilos do amor

### **Águas de Março**

*(Tom Jobim)*

É pau, é pedra, é o fim do caminho  
É um resto de toco, é um pouco sozinho  
É um caco de vidro, é a vida, é o sol  
É a noite, é a morte, é o laço, é o anzol

É pereba do campo, é o nó da madeira  
Caingá, candeia, é o Matita Pereira  
É madeira de vento, tombo da ribanceira  
É o mistério profundo, é o queira ou não queira

É o vento ventando, é o fim da ladeira  
É a viga, é o vão, festa da cumeeira  
É a chuva chovendo, é conversa ribeira  
Das águas de março, é o fim da canseira

É o pé, é o chão, é a marcha estradeira  
Passarinho na mão, pedra de atiradeira  
É uma ave no céu, é uma ave no chão  
É um regato, é uma fonte, é um pedaço de pão

É o fundo do poço, é o fim do caminho  
No rosto o desgosto, é um pouco sozinho  
É um estrepe, é um prego, é uma ponta, é um ponto  
É um pingo pingando, é um tremendo desconto, é um conto

É um peixe, é um gesto, é uma prata brilhando  
É a luz da manhã, é o tijolo chegando  
É a lenha, é o dia, é o fim da picada  
É a garrafa de cana, o estilhaço na estrada

É o projeto da casa, é o corpo na cama  
É o carro enguiçado, é a lama, é a lama  
É um passo, é uma ponte, é um sapo, é uma rã  
É um resto de mato, na luz da manhã

São as águas de março fechando o verão  
É a promessa de vida no teu coração

É uma cobra, é um pau, é João, é José  
É um espinho na mão, é um corte no pé  
São as águas de março fechando o verão,  
É a promessa de vida no teu coração

É pau, é pedra, é o fim do caminho  
É um resto de toco, é um pouco sozinho  
É um passo, é uma ponte, é um sapo, é uma rã  
É um belo horizonte, é uma febre terçã

São as águas de março fechando o verão  
É a promessa de vida no teu coração  
pau, pedra, fim, caminho  
resto, toco, pouco, sozinho  
caco, vidro, vida, sol, noite, morte, laço, anzol

São as águas de março fechando o verão  
É a promessa de vida no teu coração.

**Asa Branca**  
(Luís Gonzaga)

Quando "oiei" (olhei) a terra ardendo  
Qual fogueira de São João  
Eu "perguntei" (perguntei) a Deus do céu, ai  
Por que tamanha judiação?

Eu "perguntei" (perguntei) a Deus do céu, ai  
Por que tamanha judiação?

Que braseiro, que "fornaia" (fornalha)  
Nem um pé de "prantação" (plantação)  
Por "farta" (falta) d'água perdi meu gado  
Morreu de sede meu alazão

Por "farta" (falta) d'água perdi meu gado  
Morreu de sede meu alazão

"Inté" (até) mesmo a asa branca  
Bateu asas do sertão  
"Intonce" (então) eu disse: "adeus, Rosinha,  
Guarda contigo meu coração"

"Intonce" (então) eu disse: "adeus, Rosinha,  
Guarda contigo meu coração"

Hoje longe, muitas légua(s)  
Numa triste solidão  
Espero a chuva cair de novo  
Pra mim "vortar" (voltar) pro meu sertão

Espero a chuva cair de novo  
Pra mim "vortar" (voltar) pro meu sertão

Quando o verde dos teus "óio" (olhos)  
Se "espaçar" (espalhar) na "prantação" (plantação)  
Eu te asseguro não chore não, viu  
Que eu "vortarei" (voltarei), viu  
Meu coração

Eu te asseguro não chore não, viu  
Que eu "vortarei" (voltarei), viu  
Meu coração

**Pisa na fulô**

(João do Vale, Silveira Júnior e Ernesto Pires)

*Pisa na fulô, pisa na fulô*

*Pisa na fulô, não maltrata meu amor*

Um dia desse fui dançar lá em Pedreira  
Na rua da Golada e gostei da brincadeira  
Zé Caxangá era o tocador  
Mas só tocava *Pisa na Fulô*

Sô Serafim cochichava a Marvió  
Sô capaz de jurá que eu nunca vi forró “mió”  
“Inté” vovó garrou na mão de vovô  
Vão'bora, meu “veinho”, *pisá na fulô*

Eu vi menina que nem tinha doze anos  
Agarrar seu par, também sair dançando  
Satisfeita e dizendo:  
“Meu amor, ai como é gostoso *pisá na fulô*”

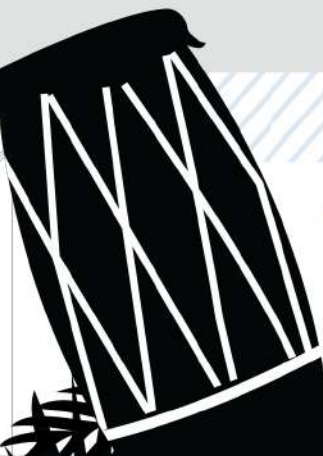
De madrugada Zeca Caxangá  
Disse ao dono da casa:  
“Num precisa me pagar  
Mas por favor, arranje outro tocador  
Que eu também quero *pisá na fulô*”

Vem cá, menina, que eu também quero  
Que eu também vou *pisá na fulô*  
*Pisa na fulô, não maltrata meu amor*



## Jam Session 2: Tem que agradar todo mundo, né?

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=33>





Aê, galera! That was André's reaction to the group's rendition of *Pisa na fulô*. It's like saying, "way to go guys!" Of course, one of the big decisions is to decide if everyone is singing in the right key. You've got to make it low enough for André and high enough for Antônio. After that, the group's got to decide on how to transition from one song to the next. It's a lot of details to work out, but by the sound of things, not only are they making awesome music, they are also coming out with a pretty cool example of a *Conversa Brasileira*.

TODOS: "Pisa na fulô... "  
"Step on the flower (or: Dance)... "

ANDRÉ: Aê, galera! ❶ Teve um probleminha aí, que eu achei...  
Way to go, guys! There was a little problem, that I noticed...

ANTÔNIO: Eu gostei...  
I liked it...

ANDRÉ: Cê acha que o tom tá bom?  
Do you think the key is ok?

ANTÔNIO: Tá.  
Yep.

ANDRÉ: Não tá muito alto, não?  
It wasn't too high?

ANTÔNIO: Não, tá... Não, tá ameaçando ❷ tá baixo, no caso. Não é?  
No, it's... No, if anything, it's actually kind of low, in this case. You know?

ANDRÉ: É? Cê acha?  
Is it? You think?

ANTÔNIO: Não, tá bom... Prá mim, tá ótimo.  
No, it's fine... For me, it's great.

ANDRÉ: Legal...  
Cool...

ANTÔNIO: Prá você tá meio baixo...  
It's kind of low for you...

DANIEL: Confortável. Tô confortável.  
It's good. I'm good.



ANDRÉ: É porque eu não tô conseguindo ouvir na... no... Não tô ouvindo no fone, ③ então pra mim tá... Eu tô pegando a variação do que tá aqui fora...

Because I can't hear in my... my... I can't hear anything in headphones, so for me it's... I'm getting the version of what's going on out here...

ANTÔNIO: Tá... talvez...  
Yeah... maybe...

DANIEL: Mas tá saindo bem, tá saindo bem aqui.  
But it's coming out fine, it's sounding good over here.

ANTÔNIO: Tá saindo bem aí?  
Is it sounding OK out there?

DANIEL: Aí dentro tá legal, também? Tá?  
Is it good out there too? Is it ok?

ANDRÉ: Tá. Essa música aí, acho que a gente tá pegando bem, cara. O ritmo é fácil e...  
Yeah. This song, I think we're catching on just fine, man. The beat is easy and...

ANTÔNIO: É... ela é mais...  
Yep... it's more...

ANDRÉ: E tá dando pra levar bem. ④  
And we are doing good with it.

DANIEL: Quer fazer mais uma ela? ⑤  
Do you wanna play it once more?

ANDRÉ: Porque essa daí, daria até pra gente juntar "Pisa na fulô" com aquela do Alceu, ⑥ cara. É...  
Because this one here, I think we could even put "Pisa na fulô" together with that one by Alceu, man. Ah...

ANTÔNIO: Ah é, que é o mesmo tom, né?  
That's right, which is in the same key, right?

ANDRÉ: Ai, ai... Não. É... Não. Essa é... É "Pisa na fulô" também, mas só que ele tem uma, ele tem uma outra letra. É... Como que é? "Eu andei pisando pelas ruas do passado..." Hum. Meio alto pra mim... "Criando calo no meu pé caminhador..." Só uma idéia pra próxima... ⑦  
Ah, ah... No... Ah... No. This one is... It's also "Pisa na fulô", but it has a, it has different lyrics. Ah... How does it go? "I've been walking on the streets from the past..." Hum. It's kind of high to me... "Giving me callous on my foot..." That's only an idea for next time...

- ANTÔNIO: Mas é diferente... É... Essa...  
But it's different. Ah... This one...
- ANDRÉ: Que a gente pode fazer um *medley*.  
Because we could make a medley.
- DANIEL: Mas quando for o show, a gente já toca <sup>8</sup> as duas juntas, entendeu?  
But at the show we could play both songs together, you know?
- ANTÔNIO: Essa é difícil... É...  
This is a difficult one... Ah...
- ANDRÉ: Dá pra emendar <sup>9</sup> uma na outra.  
We could string the two songs together.
- ANTÔNIO: Vai ser difícil mudar duma... daqui... vamo ver... "Dã, dã..." Que daí vai pra... É, é aqui aquela... Eu acho, é...  
It'll be hard to go from one to... from here... let's see... "Dã, dã..."  
And then we go to... It's, that one is here... I think, ah...
- ANDRÉ: É, tu vai aumentar...  
Yep, you could go to a higher key...
- ANTÔNIO: "Da, da, da... Oi, oi, oi, oi..."  
"Da, da, da... Oi, oi, oi, oi..."
- DANIEL: Isso é bonito, isso é bonito!  
That's pretty! That's pretty!
- ANTÔNIO: Mas é difícil. "Ai, ai, ai..."  
But it's difficult. "Ai, ai, ai..."
- TODOS: "Eu também quero, quero pisá na fulô..."  
"I also want it, I wanna step on the flower (or: dance)..."
- ANDRÉ: Beleza. Essa aí a gente tenta<sup>8</sup> depois, com mais estrutura.  
Sweet. This one we could try later on, give it a bit more structure.
- ANTÔNIO: É... pra mostrar pra ele...  
Yep... to show it to him...
- DANIEL: Essa é muito boa, hein?  
This is really a good one, isn't it?
- ANTÔNIO: É...  
Yep..
- ANDRÉ: Pra gente passar pro Tommy também, que ele pega rápido. <sup>10</sup>  
We could give it to Tommy too, because he catches on fast.
- ANTÔNIO: É...  
Yep.
- DANIEL: A gente toca as duas juntas... Fica bom. <sup>11</sup>  
We could play the two songs together... It works.

ANTÔNIO: É... É super bonito, né?  
Yes... It's very pretty, isn't it?

DANIEL: É bom porque o casal que tiver dançando, quando termina uma música, ele não larga<sup>12</sup> a dama. Ele já continua com ela pra próxima música... Por isso que tem que emendar.  
It's good because the couple that is dancing, when a song ends, he can keep on dancing with the same girl. He stays with her to dance the next music... That's why we need to play them together.

ANDRÉ: Não vai perder a mulher...  
He won't lose the girl...

ANTÔNIO: É... Segura a garota!  
That's it... Hold the girl!

DANIEL: "Pensa, pensa nós bobo?"<sup>13</sup> Como dizia meu avô...  
"Do you think we' silly?" As my grandpa used to say...

ANDRÉ: "Cochilou, o cachimbo cai!"<sup>13</sup>  
"If you nod off, the pipe will fall off!"

DANIEL: "Cochilou, o cachimbo cai!" Tem a outra também que fala assim:  
"Camarão que dorme a onda leva."<sup>13</sup>  
"If you nod off, the pipe will fall off!" There is another one that goes like this: "If the shrimp falls asleep, the wave will take him away."

ANDRÉ: Mas também é importante, também, às vezes dar a parada pra... pro pessoal trocar, né, cara? Os casais... Às vezes... a menina tá...  
But it's also important, sometimes, to give people a little break so... so the dancers can change partners, right? The couples... Sometimes... the girl is...

ANTÔNIO: É... Tá esperando...  
Yep. She is hoping...

ANDRÉ: Às vezes... a menina tá... o camarada tá, né? Meio...  
Sometimes the girl is... the guy is, you know? Kind of...



### 1. Aê, galera!

Our drummer, André, liked the sound: "way to go, guys!" There are two interesting things in the expression he uses: Aê, galera! The first one is the interjection aê (a variation of ai), which is an expression of applause or cheer, something like "splendid!, good!, fine!" The second one is the word galera. Its original meaning is *galley*, but in Brazil it is largely used meaning "band, gang" and also "cheering, cheerers."

### 2. Não, tá ameaçando tá baixo, no caso. Não é?

Well, that song was not threatening anybody... The verb ameaçar, in this case, does not mean "to threaten," but something like "to be or come near." In other words, the song (or its key) was actually kind of low, at least to Antônio. Another very common use for this verb, in this same sense, is in the expression: ameaçar chover (it looks like it might rain).

### 3. Não tô ouvindo no fone.

Notice that the Portuguese word fone, here, means "headphones". It is the short version for fone de ouvido, but usually Brazilians just say fone (always singular). The only context in which it is used as "telephone" is when one is giving a telephone number, for example: Fone: (011) 3297-7432.

4. E tá dando pra levar bem.

The guys are doing fine with that song... Note that the expression dar pra levar, in this case, is something like “it’s possible to perform well, to do good with it.” The verb levar, in this example, does not mean “to take,” but rather “to go on doing something.” A very common sentence with levar with this same meaning is: *A gente vai levando...* (we keep going on...).

5. Quer fazer mais uma ela?

This sentence can be a tough one for a non-native speaker... And that’s because we have an inversion in the word order and also a word that is missing here. The sentence could be replaced by something like: Quer fazer/tocar **ela** mais uma (vez)? (Do you wanna play it again?). Easier now?

6. Porque essa daí, daria até pra gente juntar "Pisa na fulô" com a aquela... do Alceu, cara.

André has just had an idea for the next show: he thought it would be even possible to string the song called "Pisa na fulô" together with that other one by Alceu Valença, called "Na melodia de Pisa na fulô." Alceu Valença (1946 -) is a singer and songwriter well known for his succesful way of recreating traditional Northeastern Brazilian music, balancing it with rock and alternative music. In the song mentioned here, this is exactly what the composer has done with the traditional song "Pisa na fulô," written in 1957 by João do Vale, Ernesto Pires and Silveira Júnior. (You can have more information about this song in Lesson 32, *Jam Session 1: Acabou batendo aqui na cabeça*).

7. Só uma idéia pra próxima...

“That’s only an idea for next time,” says André. But notice that he actually did not say the word “time” (or “show,” in this case). This is very common in Portuguese: the word vez (time) remains implied in several expressions: Até a próxima! (See you/Till next time); Fica pra próxima... (We’ll do it next time...); Quem sabe na próxima... (Maybe next time...).

8. a) a gente já toca as duas juntas (we could play both songs together)  
 b) Essa aí a gente tenta depois (This one we could try later on)  
 c) Pra gente passar pro Tommy (We could give it to Tommy)

Notice that in this dialog we often add an auxiliary verb to the translations of some of the sentences as a way to soften things up in English. But in Brazilian Portuguese it is common not to use the auxiliary verb and still have the same effect of suggestion or possibility.

9. Dá pra emendar uma na outra...

Notice here the interesting verb emendar: although it can also mean “to emend, amend or correct,” this meaning usually appears in more formal contexts. In our example here, we have the most common meaning for this verb: “to join in order to complete, to join parts to make a whole.” Our musicians will string the two songs together...

10. Pra gente passar pro Tommy também, que ele pega rápido.

It looks like Tommy, our sanfoneiro (accordionist), learns things fast. Ele pega rápido... The verb pegar (to catch, hold), here, is being used in a very particular way – to express the idea of “to grasp, understand, learn.”

11. A gente toca as duas juntas... Fica bom.

Ah, the wonderful verb ficar... So many meanings and interesting ways to use it. Here we see another one: Fica bom. Our musicians decided to play the two songs together because fica bom (it works; it turns out good). The result of it is something positive. A similar expression is fica bem but, in this case, it means “to fit, suit, become.” Here are some examples of this second one: Isto não fica bem a um homem de sua posição (This does not become a man of your position); Este chapéu fica bem para você (This hat suits you).

12. ... quando termina uma música, ele não larga a dama.

Daniel liked the idea of playing both songs together so “when a song ends, a guy can keep on dancing with the same girl” or ele não larga a dama. The verb largar means “to release, let go” and also “to abandon, put or leave aside”. In our case here, largar a dama in the context of a party or a show would imply that one stops dancing with the same girl.

13. a) Pensa, pensa nós bobo? (Do you think we’re silly?)  
 b) Cochilou, o cachimbo cai! (If you nod off, the pipe will fall off!)  
 c) Camarão que dorme a onda leva. (If the shrimp falls asleep, the wave will take him away.)

Here we have three great examples of Brazilian ditos populares (popular sayings). In some way, all of them are talking about the importance of being smart and acting without hesitation. The first one (a) makes it clear: “we are not silly!” Notice the strong presence of the oral language here: pensa nós bobo? This sentence echoes one of the varieties that differ from the standard Portuguese - (você) pensa que nós somos bobos? - and it is a good example of linguistic variation in language use among Brazilian Portuguese speakers (in this case, related to social differences).

The other two (b and c) are good examples of provérbios (proverbs) and have a more implied message about being smart and acting without hesitation, something like: “if one nods off or falls asleep, things will be bad. That’s why I don’t do such things...” In other words, that’s the Brazilian way to say “You snooze, you lose.”

14. a) Catinguento! (Stinking!)  
b) ... com aquele cecê (smelling of B.O.)

The acronym “B.O.” in English has its version in Portuguese: C.C. (cheiro de corpo), which can be spelled cecê. If you want to be really serious about that, you can use the word catinguento. This one come from the word catinga (or caatinga) which refers to a type of vegetation found in the northeastern part of Brazil, a forest of small knotty trees. But catinga is also synonym of “fetid or foul smell.”

15. baião, Asa Branca, Luiz Gonzaga

Baião is a popular dance/music genre of Northeastern Brazil; “Asa Branca” (White Wing) is a song written in the 40’s by Luiz Gonzaga, a very famous Brazilian singer and composer. For more information about these topics, see Lesson 32, *Jam Session I: Acabou batendo aqui na cabeça*.

### Songs Lyrics:

#### Pisa na fulô

(João do Vale, Silveira Júnior e Ernesto Pires)

*Pisa na fulô, pisa na fulô  
Pisa na fulô, não maltrata meu amor*

Um dia desse fui dançar lá em Pedreira  
Na rua da Golada e gostei da brincadeira  
Zé Caxangá era o tocador  
Mas só tocava *Pisa na Fulô*

Sô Serafim cochichava a Marvió  
Sô capaz de jurá que eu nunca vi forró “mió”  
“Inté” vovó garrou na mão de vovô  
Vão'bora, meu “veinho”, *pisá na fulô*



Eu vi menina que nem tinha doze anos  
Agarrar seu par, também sair dançando  
Satisfeita e dizendo:  
“Meu amor, ai como é gostoso *pisá na fulô*”

De madrugada Zeca Caxangá  
Disse ao dono da casa:  
“Num precisa me pagar  
Mas por favor, arranje outro tocador  
Que eu também quero *pisá na fulô*”

Vem cá, menina, que eu também quero  
Que eu também vou *pisá na fulô*  
*Pisa na fulô*, não maltrata meu amor

### **Cabelo no Pente**

(Alceu Valença)

Andei pisando pelas ruas do passado  
Criando calo no meu pé caminhador  
Dançando um xote,  
Trovecei com harmonia  
Na melodia de "Pisa na Fulô"

Andei passando como as águas como o vento  
Como todo sofrimento que enfim me calejou  
Terei futuro deslizando no presente  
Como o cabelo no pente que penteia meu amor

### **Asa Branca**

(Luís Gonzaga)

Quando "oiei" (olhei) a terra ardendo  
Qual fogueira de São João  
Eu "perguntei" (perguntei) a Deus do céu, ai  
Por que tamanha judiação?

Eu "perguntei" (perguntei) a Deus do céu, ai  
Por que tamanha judiação?

Que braseiro, que "fornaia" (fornalha)  
Nem um pé de "prantação" (plantação)  
Por "farta" (falta) d'água perdi meu gado  
Morreu de sede meu alazão

Por "farta" (falta) d'água perdi meu gado  
Morreu de sede meu alazão

"Inté" (até) mesmo a asa branca  
Bateu asas do sertão  
"Intonce" (então) eu disse: "adeus, Rosinha,  
Guarda contigo meu coração"

"Intonce" (então) eu disse: "adeus, Rosinha,  
Guarda contigo meu coração"

Hoje longe, muitas légua(s)  
Numa triste solidão  
Espero a chuva cair de novo  
Pra mim "vortar" (voltar) pro meu sertão

Espero a chuva cair de novo  
Pra mim "vortar" (voltar) pro meu sertão

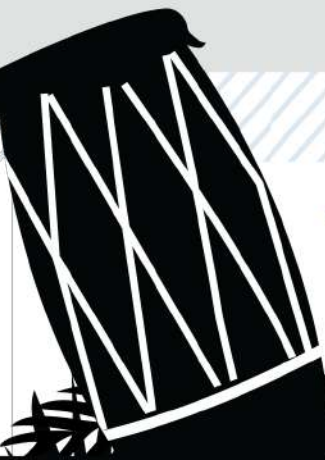
Quando o verde dos teus "óio" (olhos)  
Se "espaia" (espalhar) na "prantação" (plantação)  
Eu te asseguro não chore não, viu  
Que eu "vortarei" (voltarei), viu  
Meu coração

Eu te asseguro não chore não, viu  
Que eu "vortarei" (voltarei), viu  
Meu coração



## Studio I: Behind the Scenes, Ói, que safado!

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=34>





Here we are, revealing all of our behind-the-scenes secrets about *Conversa Brasileira*. In this clip you'll see the recording session we made while creating the pop-up comments that accompany, Gossip I: *Ói, que safado!* Whenever we get together to discuss the various lessons, in the end we have our own little chit chat about what to say, what to comment on, and how to say it. The team is comprised of Denise and Valentino from the Brazilian side and Orlando and Daniel from the American side. So, take a peek at our world and join in on our *Conversa Brasileira*.

ORLANDO: All right! Now we get to the word: '*ói que safado!*'

DENISE: '*Ói que safado!*'  
What a jerk...

DANIEL: The almighty '*safado!*'

ORLANDO: Jacob, we need your help again. We need a new word for 'jerk.'

VALENTINO: É, eu acho que o '*safado*' é um pouco mais forte que o '*jerk*'. Eu acho.  
Yeah, I think '*safado*' is a bit stronger than '*jerk*.' I think.

JACOB: What's this jerk doing?

ORLANDO: This guy is trying, you know, hit on this girl at the dance, and he's a married guy and so the girl says: 'What a jerk!' '*Que safado!*'

VALENTINO: Eu acho...  
I think...

ORLANDO: But Valentino says we need a word stronger even than 'jerk.'

CAMERAMAN: Douchebag...

DANIEL: Douchebag!

ORLANDO: Douchebag!

VALENTINO: I don't know this word...

DENISE: Me neither! Can you spell it for me, please? I have no idea!

DANIEL: Yeah... That's very modern, but it works perfectly.

VALENTINO: O 'safado' você pode usar como 'jerk', mas eu acho que ele passa, assim, uma ideia um pouco de desonestidade de caráter...  
'Safado' you can use like 'jerk,' but I think it goes beyond that, like, kind of an idea of dishonesty.

ORLANDO: Also dishonesty, in what he does... The reason I'm asking is because in the next one we have the word 'desgraçado,' and we translated them both as 'jerk.'

DENISE: Ficou a mesma coisa...  
It ended up being the same thing...

ORLANDO: It'd be nice to have different words, one for 'safado' and one for... 'desgraçado...'

DANIEL: Yeah, but a word that's not like a *palavrão*...  
Yeah, but a word that's not like a swear word.

DENISE: Mas 'desgraçado' não é pior? Nesse caso.  
But isn't 'desgraçado' even worse? In this case.

VALENTINO: Eu acho, porque...  
I think so, because...

DENISE: É mais forte.  
It's stronger.

VALENTINO: Tem uma acusação maior, né? ①  
It has a stronger connotation, right?

DENISE: Então nós vamos ter que ter outra ainda mais forte pro 'desgraçado'?  
So we have to have another one even stronger for 'desgraçado'?

VALENTINO: Talvez...  
Maybe...

ORLANDO: Valentino, o importante aqui pra nós, como americano: é palavrão, ou não é palavrão... dizer 'safado'?  
Valentino, the important thing here for us, as Americans: is it a swear word or not... the word 'safado'?

DENISE: Não...  
No...

VALENTINO: Depende da situação... Se você chama alguém diretamente de 'safado', é muito agressivo...  
It depends on the context... If you call someone 'safado,' this is very aggressive...

DENISE: 'Seu safado!'  
What a jerk!

DANIEL: ... mas não é palavrão.  
... but it's not a swear word.

DENISE: Não é palavrão.  
It's not a swear word.

VALENTINO: Não é palavrão.  
It's not a swear word.

ORLANDO: Isso que eu tô dizendo aqui. Nós, como americano, não sentimos o peso... o peso da palavra. Por exemplo, se eu aprender a palavra 'safado', onde dá pra usar?  
That's what I'm saying here. We, as Americans, don't feel the weight... the weight of the word. For instance, if I learn the word 'safado,' where can I use it?

DENISE: Vou chamar o professor de 'safado'? Não!  
Am I going to call the teacher a 'safado?' No!

ORLANDO: É, posso chamar o professor de 'safado'? O colega de trabalho?  
Yeah, can I call the teacher a 'safado?' Or a friend at work?

VALENTINO: É, em uma linguagem, em uma linguagem respeitosa, nunca. Numa linguagem é... como é que eu diria... *polite*, cortez, numa linguagem cortez, nunca.  
Well, in a respectful, in a respectful way of speaking, never. In a more, how could I say it, a more polite way of speaking, never.

ORLANDO: Mas não é palavrão? Né? Se... se...  
But isn't it a swear word? Right? If... if...

VALENTINO: Tá no limite, não, Denise? ②  
It's on the edge, right, Denise?

ORLANDO: Por exemplo, Denise, se a sua filha disser 'safado' em casa, cê vai dizer: 'Filha, por favor, não fala isso não'?  
For instance, Denise, if your daughter says 'safado' at home, are you going to say: 'Honey, please, don't say that?'

DENISE: Não... Se ela disser com uma entonação: 'Ah, que safado, hein?' Às vezes eu falo pra ela: 'Ah, sua safadinha!'  
No... If she says it with an intonation, 'Oh you safado you.' Sometimes I even say to her: 'Oh, you little safado you.'

ORLANDO: See... that's what I'm saying. If it's ok for your kids to say 'safado' in front of you, you're not gonna correct them. Or say anything about it.

DENISE: Não, não é como um palavrão.  
No, it's not a swear word.

ORLANDO: Then it's not really *palavrão*.

DENISE: Não. Mas é uma palavra forte. Principalmente se você falar com uma entonação... 'Safado!'  
No. But it's a strong word. Especially if you say it with a certain intonation... 'Safado!'

ORLANDO: Ok, so besides 'jerk' and 'douchebag'...

DENISE: Como é que escreve essa, isso?  
How do you write that?

VALENTINO: Como é que escreve essa palavra? Que bonita!  
How do you write that word? Nice.

DANIEL: Yeah, maybe 'ass'... Because, if you add the 'hole' then it becomes too *forte*, right? But if it's just 'ass,' then you can say it.

VALENTINO: 'Ass'?

DANIEL: Yeah! Not 'asshole,' but 'ass.' You put the 'hole' in there...

ORLANDO: Yeah, but, you know, the same sort of thing. Can you say that in front of your mom and dad? Or these, these are words you don't say in front of your parents? That would be the key...



DANIEL: But that's what I'm saying, I would... I might be ok with saying 'ass' in front of my parents, but I would never be able of saying like 'asshole'... Like I don't know what it's about the 'hole'...

VALENTINO: Eu, eu, eu tenho a impressão que essa palavra, ela encosta em ser palavrão. ③ Ela, ela tá no limite.  
I, I, I've got the impression that this word is right up there next to swear words. It's right on the limit.

ORLANDO: But I also like your observation. It also borders on dishonest person...

VALENTINO: Desonestidade...  
Dishonesty...

ORLANDO: You know, so it's also their honesty that's being questioned here...

VALENTINO: Uma questão de caráter.  
It's a matter of character.

ORLANDO: 'Seu safado!'   
What a jerk!

DANIEL: Oh, yeah, like, I remember a *menino me falou* that, like, he asked me 'Are the politicians in the US *safados* like *os brasileiros*?' And I was like: 'You're, like, 5 years old!' Like, why are you asking me that?

VALENTINO: É, pra político é uma boa palavra, né?  
Yea, it's a great word for politicians, right?

ORLANDO: Ok, let's get it all together here. We need then go on '*safado*.' We wanna talk about how... how strong of a word it is, but it's not really a *palavrão* per se, but it also includes this idea of being not just an idiot but also dishonest in what you're doing.

DENISE: Só uma coisa a acrescentar: ④ se a gente comparar o 8 com o 10, que vai ser 'Ai, que desgraçado!', 'desgraçado' é mais forte que 'safado'.  
Just one more thing to add here: If we are going to compare number 8 with number 10, which will be 'Ai que *desgraçado*!', '*desgraçado*' is stronger than '*safado*'.

ORLANDO: Ahn!  
Ahn!



VALENTINO: É um pouco mais.  
It is a little stronger.

DENISE: Tá? Então, o que seria melhor pra qual, pra cada uma? Essa é a minha pergunta pra vocês.  
Right? So, which would be better for which one, for each one? That's the question I have for you.

DENISE: Se a gente tem 'jerk', 'ass', o outro que ele falou que eu não sei repetir... Como é que é?  
If we have 'jerk', 'ass', or the other one that he mentioned here that I don't know how to say... How was it again?

ORLANDO: Douchebag.

DENISE: Douchebag. Qual seria qual aí? O que que é mais forte?  
Douchebag. Which would be which here? Which is the strongest?

ORLANDO: Ah, what is stronger? 'Jerk' or 'douchebag'?

JACOB: 'Douchebag' is stronger, but it's not the same thing...

CAMERAMAN: If he's a married jerk, you know, that is like hitting on girls, that's kind of... a lot of times, I think, people would use that.

ORLANDO: Right.

CAMERAMAN: Just because somebody use 'rude,' that I would not say

ORLANDO: This is more than 'rude.' This is scuzzy guy.

JACOB: I was thinking, like, 'sleazy...'

ORLANDO: 'Sleazy!' That's the word we wanna get in there! 'Sleazy!'

DENISE: So 'sleazy' is stronger than 'jerk?'

ORLANDO: Yeah, I think 'sleazy' is stronger than 'jerk.'

DANIEL: 'Sleazy' has, like, a disgusting meaning...

ORLANDO: Disgusting...

DENISE: Então a gente vai usar 'jerk' pro 'safado' e 'sleazy' pro 'desgraçado'?  
So we are going to use 'jerk' for 'safado' and 'sleazy' for 'desgraçado'?

ORLANDO: Yeah, 'sleazy' for 'desgraçado.' Yeah.

DENISE: Tá.

	Ok.
ORLANDO:	What a sleaze! Yeah. Ok, let's start with 'safado,' see how it goes here.
DENISE:	É: s-l-e-e-... It's: s-l-e-e-...
ORLANDO:	We'll do with all that later. And also this 'oi' does not mean 'hello.' It comes from 'olha.'
DENISE:	É, e não é 'oi', é 'ói'. Right, it's not 'oi', it's 'ói'.
ORLANDO:	Yeah, it's opened.
DANIEL:	'Ói, gente!' Look, guys!
DENISE:	'Ói, que safado!' Isso é muito mineiro... N'é não? 'Ói, que safado!' 'Pro cê ver...' 'Ói aqui pro cê ver...' 'Ói aqui! Ói aqui pro cê ver...' <sup>5</sup> 'Look, what a jerk!' That's really typical of <i>mineiros</i> , right? 'Look, what a jerk!' 'Look at this...' 'Look at this...' 'Look here! Look at this.'
ORLANDO:	'Ói aqui!' Great! This is going to be a good one. Let's do it! Gossip I, number 8, take 1. I just love this phrase! 'Ói, que safado!' What the heck is she doing here when Cristina says this?
DENISE:	É, eu adoro ouvir a Simone falar porque ela tem esse sotaque mineiro muito gostoso demais da conta... 5 E ela fala: 'Ói, que safado!' Então, primeiro tem esse 'ói'. Yea, I love to hear Simone talking here because she has this wonderful <i>mineiro</i> accent... and she says, 'Look at what a jerk!' So, first of all there is this 'ói'.
ORLANDO:	Wait, wait, wait... Stop, stop. This is actually Cristina falando...
DENISE:	Uh... É verdade! Uh... That's true!
ORLANDO:	So, let's do that again.
DANIEL:	De novo! Again...

DENISE: A Cristina não é de Minas, não?  
Cristina's not from Minas?

DANIEL: É de São Paulo.  
She is from São Paulo.

DENISE: Tava tão bom meu argumento! ⑥  
My point was going to be so good!

ORLANDO: Ela é de São Paulo. Ela é paulista!  
She's from São Paulo. She's a *paulista*!

DENISE: Tá bom, então não vamos poder ir por aí... ⑦  
OK, so let's not even go there...

ORLANDO: Still we can talk about that the same way. Gossip 1, number ⑧, take 2. So I love it here when Cristina says: 'Ói, que safado!' What is she talking about here with 'Ói, que safado!'?

DENISE: 'Ói, que safado!' Bom, tem duas coisas legais aqui pra gente comentar. A primeira é esse 'ói'.  
'Look at what a jerk!' OK, there are two cool things that we can comment on here. The first is this 'ói'.

ORLANDO: Yeah, what is 'ói'?

DENISE: É a versão curta do 'olha!'.  
It's a short version of 'olha!'.

VALENTINO: A versão caipira,<sup>8</sup> até, do 'olha!', né?  
Even a hillbilly version of 'olha!', right?

DENISE: 'Ói, que safado!'  
What a jerk!

ORLANDO: And notice, it is not the word 'hello', 'oi'...

DENISE: Não, não, não...  
No, no, no...

ORLANDO: It's with the open vowel: 'ói.'

DENISE: 'Ói', exatamente.  
'Look', exactly.

VALENTINO: É pra chamar a atenção. Como quem diz: 'observa, olha, veja'.  
It's to call attention. It's like saying, 'watch, look, see'.

ORLANDO: So, first she is saying: 'look here: *que safado!*'

DENISE: 'Ói, ói, que safado!'  
What a jerk!

ORLANDO: But what is '*safado*'?

VALENTINO: Bom, '*safado*' é uma palavra pra você se referir a uma pessoa que não está fazendo a coisa certa. É uma pessoa, é... que tá, enfim, cometendo um erro...

Well, '*safado*' is a word for you to refer to a person who is not doing the right thing. It's a person, he is, well, he's committing an error.

DANIEL: This is not a bad word though, right? Or is it?

DENISE: Quase! Não chega a ser 9 um palavrão...  
Almost! It doesn't actually end up being a swear word.

ORLANDO: Notice our translation here: the word 'jerk.'

DENISE: Jerk. É.

ORLANDO: So, our question here is: is it a swear word or not to say '*safado*'?

VALENTINO: Não...  
No...

DENISE: Não chega a ser, mas... 9  
It doesn't go that far, but...

VALENTINO: Mas tá no limite... Tá no limite.  
But it's on the border... It's on the border.

DENISE: Mas pode ser ofensivo, né?  
But it can be offensive, right?

VALENTINO: Sim, se você diz diretamente a uma pessoa...  
Yes, if you say it directly at a person...

DENISE: 'Seu safado!'   
What a jerk!

VALENTINO: 'Você é um safado!', 'Seu safado!', é muito agressivo.   
'You're a jerk!', 'What a jerk!', is very aggressive.

DENISE: É ofensivo.   
It's offensive.

ORLANDO: You talk about the other guy being *safado*. But you don't really look into his face and say, 'you are a *safado*!', unless you're really mad.

VALENTINO: Não, porque traz uma ideia que questiona a honestidade talvez... A pessoa não está sendo muito honesta.   
No, because it also carries the idea with it of honesty perhaps... The person isn't being totally honest.

ORLANDO: That's another good key. So you are actually questioning the honesty of a person when you call him a '*safado*.' He is not just a jerk, he is a dishonest jerk.

DENISE: Exato. Que é bem o caso aqui, né? O cara é casado...   
Exactly. This is the exact case here, right? The guy is married...

VALENTINO: E tá traindo a mulher...   
And he's betraying his wife...

DENISE: ... e tá cantando a menina. Então...   
...and he's flirting with the girl. So...

ORLANDO: I hear it with politicians. We can talk about politicians being '*safado*.'

DENISE: Safado!   
Jerk!

VALENTINO: É, no Brasil, todos eles merecem, né? Nós achamos que todos merecem. Mas, por outro lado, você pode usar até de forma carinhosa, né? Pra uma criança...   
Yes, in Brazil they all deserve it, right? We think that they all deserve it. But, on the other hand, you can also use it in an endearing way, right? To a child...

DENISE: É... 'Ah, sua safadinha!' 'Seu safadinho!' 10  
Yea... 'Ah, you little *safadinha*!' 'You're a little *safadinho*!'

ORLANDO: So there is also an endearment sort of: 'you, little *safadinho*!'

DENISE: Claro. De novo, né? Tem a ver com entonação...  
Of course. There you go again, right? You have to consider the intonation...

ORLANDO: So, to bring it all together here, Cristina says: 'Ói, que safado!', meaning: 'Look at that jerk of a guy!'... Good!

VALENTINO: Se não ficou longa, tá ótima... 11  
If it wasn't too long, it is great...



### 1. Tem uma acusação maior, né?

Here's a word a non-native speaker probably wouldn't have used in this context: *acusação*. When comparing the weight of the words *safado* and *desgraçado*, Valentino points out that the last one has a 'stronger accusation,' meaning it's stronger and more offensive than *safado*. In English, speakers might be more likely to say "it has a stronger connotation."

### 2. Tá no limite, não, Denise?

'It's on the edge, right, Denise?' says Valentino. Notice that he uses the word *limite* (usually translated as "limit") but with a different meaning from the English. It's important to understand here the expression *estar no limite*, something like "to be on the edge."

### 3. ... essa palavra, ela encosta em ser palavrão.

Valentino got the impression that the word *safado* is right up there next to swear words. It's right on the edge, it encosta em ser palavrão. Usually translated as "to lean," "place against" or "to touch," here the verb *encostar* is more like "to get closer."

### 4. Só uma coisa a acrescentar

Notice here that Denise uses the preposition *a* before the verb (that is in the infinitive form). It has to do with the structure of the sentence, which corresponds to something like *uma coisa a para ser acrescentada* (something to be added). This is a very common structure in Portuguese: *tenho uma coisa a dizer* (I have something to say); *tenho algo a fazer* (I have something to do).

5. a) *N'é não?*  
 b) *Ói aqui pro cê ver...*  
 c) *...gostoso demais da conta*

*Mineiros*, the inhabitants of the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais, especially the ones in the south part of the state, speak a regional variant of Portuguese which has some very peculiar accent characteristics. Among others, we could point: a) reduction/weakening/loss of final vowels and consonants; b) intense *liaison*; c) replacement of some diphthongs with long vowels. Notice that here Denise is trying to speak with a *mineiro* accent, stressing the *liaison* among the words.

6. Tava tão bom meu argumento!

Denise thought her point was going to be so good until she realized she was wrong... '*Tava tão bom meu argumento!*' she says. Note the interesting translation of the word *argumento* to English: as "point" and not "argument." She could also have used the Portuguese word *ponto* in this case, but using *argumento* in such a context is very common among Brazilians.

7. Tá bom, então não vamos poder ir por aí...

Don't take this sentence literally: when Denise says *ir por aí* (lit. "to go this way"), in this case, she means something like "to take that angle," "to lead the discussion in a certain way."



8. A versão caipira, até, do 'olha!', né?

*Caipira* ("hillbilly" or "country people") is a Brazilian Portuguese term used to designate: a) inhabitants of rural areas of some Brazilian states, b) people of lesser schooling, c) a dialect or group of dialects spoken in the states of São Paulo, Mato Grosso do Sul, the south part of Minas Gerais, and part of Paraná. Depending on how it is used, the word can be considered pejorative, especially when used to describe others as stereotypical *caipiras*, carrying the connotation of an uneducated (at times naïve) person, and someone who doesn't speak "proper" Portuguese. Some of the differences in comparison with standard Portuguese are the approximant "r" (as in *porta* [po.ɾta]), the absence of the palatal "l" (written "lh" in Portuguese), which in *caipira* is pronounced like a consonant "i" (*olha* > *óia*). The "l" is frequently modified into "r" (*flor* > *fror*).

9. Não chega a ser, mas...

Note the way Denise says, "it doesn't go that far:" não chega a ser. This is an interesting use of the verbs *chegar* (to come, arrive) and *ser* (to be) together, as an expression: *chegar a ser* (lit. "to come to be," something close to "to get to be"). *Eles chegaram a ser amigos* (they got to be friends). Sometimes *chega a ser* carries the idea that something has evolved naturally over time, it "ends up being" a certain way.

10. 'Ah, sua safadinha!' 'Seu safadinho!'

You already know that in Portuguese the term of address equivalent to the English "sir/mister" is *senhor*: *Senhor José*. In colloquial, oral speech, this term is usually reduced to *seu*: *Seu José*.

In this dialog, we see Denise using the term of address *seu* in a very particular way, 'Seu safadinho!' (Oh, you little *safado* you!) denoting endearment, which is a very common use of this term in Brazil. It can also be used in a humorous way (*Aposto que o seu André sabe de tudo*, 'I bet Sir André knows everything'—in a situation where you are talking to André but he is only a young boy) or even in an offensive way (Seu desgraçado!, "What a jerk!"). As a feminine version, sua can be used in the same way: sua boba! (you silly thing you!), sua safadinha! (you little *safadinha*!)

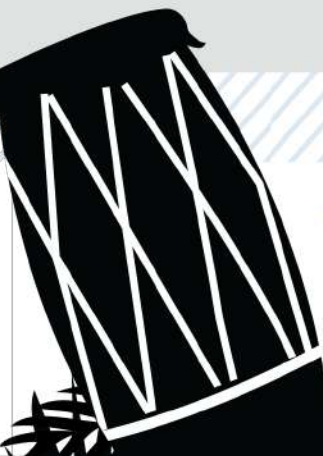
11. Se não ficou longa, tá ótima...

Valentino gives us here a nice example of *se* without the subjunctive form of the verb: Se não ficou longa, tá ótima... (If it wasn't too long, it is great...). Notice that he is not speaking hypothetically, there isn't any sense of one thing depending on another. He is simply stating that if indeed the recording was not too long, it will be fine. Even in English there is a subtle difference between "if it were" and "if it was."



## Studio 2: Behind The Scenes – Eu também acho

<http://coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/cob/lesson.php?p=35>





This is our second behind-the-scenes video of one of our pop-up recording sessions. This clip was also made while we were recording the comments section of the Gossip 1 lesson. First off, you'll see that we catch Orlando singing. (He seems to do that quite a bit, he's just a happy guy.) The recording sessions are always filled with tons of chit-chat, observations about what to say in the recordings, and language analysis to help decide what focus to take for the pop-up. Truth told, grammar and language shouldn't be this fun, but Denise, Valentino, Orlando, and Daniel look forward to it each and every week, and in the end they are all part of a pretty cool *Conversa Brasileira*.

ORLANDO: Good! How are we doing time wise, Jacob?

JACOB: It's 12:17 right now.

ORLANDO: 12:17! Uau! Caramba! ❶  
12:17! Wow! Holy Smokes!

VALENTINO: Caramba!  
Whew!

ORLANDO: *Ai, ai, caramba! Ai, ai, caramba!* ❷... So 12:17.  
*Wow, wow caramba! Wow, wow caramba!* So 12:17.

VALENTINO: Ele sempre canta Jorge Ben, né? ❷ Aqui na gravação.  
He always sings Jorge Ben's songs, right? Here at the studio.

DENISE: É!  
Yeah.

ORLANDO: So it's a quarter after 12, folks. E tá faltando quantos? Um, dois, três, quatro, cinco...  
So, it's a quarter after 12, folks. And we still have how many more to go? One, two, three, four, five...

DENISE: Seis.  
Six.

ORLANDO: Cinco, seis... Por aí. ③  
Five, six... About there.

DENISE: Seis, faltam seis, é.  
Six, we still have six more to go.

ORLANDO: Tá faltando muito ainda.  
We still have a lot to do!

DANIEL: Então, vam'bora. ④  
So, let's do it!

ORLANDO: And... Daniel, you're here till 12:30, right?

DANIEL G.: Right.

ORLANDO: Ok. Well, let's just kind of see how far we get, right?

DANIEL: Let's do it.

ORLANDO: Then if we get done, we get done. If we don't, we do it another day.

DANIEL: O doze. ⑤  
Number 12.

ORLANDO: That's Jorge Ben, right? *Ai, ai caramba...*

VALENTINO: Jorge Ben. *Ai, ai caramba...* É, muitas, muitas das músicas que a gente canta aqui, principalmente as suas, são do Jorge Ben.  
*Jorge Ben. Wow, wow caramba...* Yeah, a lot of the songs we sing here, especially you, are Jorge Ben's.

DENISE: Jorge Ben Jor, por favor...  
Jorge Ben Jor, please...

VALENTINO: Agora é Jorge Ben Jor, é verdade. Numerologia ⑥ levou ele a mudar o nome...  
Now he's Jorge Ben Jor, that's true. Numerology made him change his name...

DENISE: Numerologia mudou o nome dele.  
Numerology changed his name.

ORLANDO: Sério?  
Really?

VALENTINO: Sabe que eu prefiro as músicas da época de Jorge Ben?  
You know, I prefer the songs from the time his name was still Jorge Ben.

DENISE: Com certeza! Eu também.  
For sure! Me too.

VALENTINO: São mais...  
They're more...

ORLANDO: Well, now, today, I found out that I'm an old guy because I said I don't want to conform to the new orthography.

DENISE: Pois é. ⑦ Você finalmente assumiu! Isso é muito perigoso!  
That's it! You have finally given in to it! That is very dangerous!

ORLANDO: Cara velho que não quer mudar!  
An old guy who doesn't wanna change!

DENISE: Não vou aceitar a novidade!  
I'm not going to accept the new stuff.

ORLANDO: Ok. Let's get back on track here. So the next, the number 12, Simone says, '*Ah, eu também acho.*' And what I thought was interesting here is the word '*também*' goes before the verb. Because, in English, you would have said 'I think so too.' And so I think our American brain wants to go '*Eu acho também.*' And I think you can do that in Portuguese, but it sounds better with '*também*' before.

VALENTINO: É, normalmente o '*também*' é usado antes do verbo, né? '*Eu também gosto. Eu também faço. Eu também leio.*' Normalmente antes do verbo. Pode usar depois, tá correto, mas...  
Yeah, usually '*também*' goes before the verb, right? '*Eu também gosto. Eu também faço. Eu também leio.*' Usually it goes before the verb. You can use it after it, it's right, but...

ORLANDO: Você pode usar depois.  
You can use it after it.

VALENTINO: Sim, mas...  
Yes, but...

ORLANDO: Mas a tendência é de colocar antes.  
But the tendency is to put it before it.

VALENTINO: É, eu acho que, falando, praticamente ninguém usa depois do verbo, né, quando tá falando. Escrevendo você pode usar, mas falando não. ⑧  
Yeah, I think, when speaking, almost nobody uses it after the verb, you know, if speaking. When writing yes, but when speaking, no.

DENISE: 'I think so too' or 'I agree too?' 'I think so too', né?

ORLANDO: 'I think so too' sounds better.

DENISE: É, eu vou mudar, então.  
Ok, I'll change it then.

ORLANDO: 'I agree too' sounds a little more uppity.

DENISE: É.  
Yeah.

ORLANDO: What do you say, Jacob? 'I think so too?' 'I agree too?'

JACOB: 'I think so too.' Yeah.

DANIEL: Yeah, if you take off the 'too:' 'Yeah, I agree,' then it would be good.

DENISE: Ah!

ORLANDO: 'Yeah, I agree...' 'Yeah, I think so...'

DENISE: Interessante.  
Interesting.

ORLANDO: So let's change it to 'I think so.'

DENISE: 'I agree...' 'I think so...'

VALENTINO: I agree. Mas em português também você não teria o 'também', né? 'Eu concordo'. A menos que tenha mais de uma pessoa concordando.  
I agree. But also in Portuguese you'd not have 'também,' right? 'I agree.' That is unless you have more than one person who is agreeing with it.

DENISE: É. Você concorda e eu concordo também. ⑨  
Yeah. You agree, and I also agree with it.



VALENTINO: Eu concordo também. É. Também concordo.  
I also agree. Yeah. I also agree.

ORLANDO: But here the key, the key thing is...

DENISE: Onde vai o 'também', né?  
Where does '*também*' go, right?

ORLANDO: An American that says 'I think so too,' is going to say '*Eu acho também.*'

DANIEL: Right, the same syntax.

ORLANDO: But it'd be better to say '*Eu também acho.*' And let's just say that we need to learn that as a 'chunk.' You know, don't worry about the analysis, just kind of get used to Brazilians saying '*Eu também acho.*'

DENISE: E só pra apontar, a gente tem '*Eu também acho*' e '*Também acho*'. Da mesma Simone.  
And just to point it out, we have '*Eu também acho*' and '*Também acho*'. Both from Simone.

VALENTINO: Usando o 'eu' ou não.  
Using 'eu' or not.

DENISE: É. Só pra...  
Yeah. Only to...

ORLANDO: '*Eu também acho*' e '*Também acho*'.  
'*Eu também acho*' and '*Também acho*'.

DENISE: Porque a gente tava comentando isso antes... 10  
Because we were talking about this before...

ORLANDO: Let's try and see what happens here. Gossip 1, number 12, take 1. So here Simone says, 'I think so too.' And so my American brain says '*Eu acho também.*' But here the '*também*' is before the verb. How come?

DENISE: O '*Eu acho também*' também poderia ser uma opção. Mas eu acho que não é a mais natural não, né, Valentino? 11  
'*Eu acho também*' could also be an option. But I don't think it's the most natural one, right, Valentino?

VALENTINO: Não, não. Eu acho que o '*também*' é melhor sempre usar depois do verbo. É... antes do verbo! Desculpa...  
No, it's not. I think it's always better to use '*também*' after the verb. I mean, before the verb. Sorry...



ORLANDO: Antes do verbo.  
Before the verb.

VALENTINO: É, o 'também' é o mais comum.  
Yeah, '*também*' is the most common.

DENISE: Eu também acho! Eu concordo.  
I think so too. I agree.

ORLANDO: So, you could say, '*Eu acho também.*' But it's more natural to put it before and say, '*Eu também acho.*'

DENISE: Com certeza.  
Sure.

ORLANDO: I also think so. And so our advise to our students is just learn that as a 'chunk.' Put the word '*também*' before and say, '*também acho.*'

DANIEL: I too think.

DENISE: Isso aí!  
That's it!

ORLANDO: Ok. That was number 12.



### 1. Caramba!

Orlando here uses an awesome Portuguese word that is an exclamation expressing admiration or vexation: caramba! It's something close to "Don't tell me! My! Wow! Holy Smoke! Whew!"

### 2. Jorge Ben

It's so much fun to listen to Orlando singing old Brazilian songs, something he always does during the recording sessions. Here you can watch him singing a song from *Jorge Ben Jor*, a Brazilian popular singer and songwriter. He is very well known in Brazil especially for his unique way to mix samba, funk and rock, and also for the way he plays the guitar, revealing his appreciation of soul music and North-American funk.

### Here are the lyrics to *Caramba... Galileu da Galileia*:

Disseram que ele não vinha, olha ele aí  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai, ai caramba  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai, ai caramba  
 E como já dizia Galileu na Galileia  
 Malandro que é malandro não bobeia  
 Se malandro soubesse como é bom ser  
 honesto  
 Seria honesto só por malandragem, caramba  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai, ai caramba  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai, ai caramba  
 Diziam também que a terra era quadrada

Mas ficou provada que a terra é redonda,  
 caramba  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai, ai caramba  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai, ai caramba  
 Quem ama quer casa, quem quer casa quer  
 criança  
 Quem quer criança quer jardim  
 Quem quer jardim quer flor  
 E como já dizia Galileu, isso é que é amor  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai ai caramba  
 Ai, ai caramba, ai, ai caramba

### 3. Cinco, seis... Por aí.

Here we see Orlando counting the takes to check how many more to go: 'Five, six... About there.' Notice the expression in Portuguese: Por aí (lit. "by there", meaning "approximately, roughly, thereabout.") But observe that this expression is to be used by itself. In a context when you want to say something like "around five or six," you can say mais ou menos cinco ou seis or even uns cinco ou seis.

### 4. Então, vam'bora.

Here we see Daniel using a very interesting informal expression in Portuguese to say "let's go" or "let's do it," vam'bora. Notice that it corresponds to the short version for *Vamos embora* (lit. "let's go away").

### 5. O doze.

An interesting difference between Portuguese and English is the use of ordinal and cardinal numbers in English. Here Daniel says 'O doze', which in English would be "the twelfth" or "the number twelve". We've already seen in a previous lesson that the same thing happens regarding addresses and directions (24<sup>th</sup> Street in English and Rua 24 in Portuguese) as well as days of the month (Ex: Chego no dia 24 de maio. – "I arrive on May 24<sup>th</sup>"). The literal "the twelve" just wouldn't sound natural in English.

### 6. Numerologia levou ele a mudar o nome...

Based on Numerology, which stands the existence of a mystical relationship between a count or measurement and life, especially regarding proper names and destiny, some artists in Brazil have changed their names, adding or dropping letters from it. Here we see one example of this: *Jorge Ben* changed his name to *Jorge Ben Jor* in 1989. Another example is the Brazilian composer and singer *Baby Consuelo*, who changed her name to *Baby do Brasil* in the 90s.

7. Pois é. Você finalmente assumiu!

Denise says to Orlando, "that's it! You have finally given in to it!" Notice that she uses the expression pois é (lit. "because it is") meaning "that's it", a very common expression in Portuguese. This is also similar to the English express, "there you go."

8. Escrevendo você pode usar, mas falando não.

Did you notice the translation here? "When writing yes, but when speaking, no", even though you don't see Denise saying the word quando in the dialog. This is a very common construction in Brazilian Portuguese, you use the gerund where the word quando (when) is implied, emphasizing the process of an action. Falando Português você pode usar! (when talking in Portuguese, you can use it!).

9. É. Você concorda e eu concordo também.

"Yeah. You agree, and I also agree with it," says Denise. In Portuguese you can use either the verb concordar or the expression estar de acordo when agreeing with or being in accordance with someone or something. Both ways are good, but estar de acordo is a bit more formal.

10. Porque a gente tava comentando isso antes...

Notice that every American will want to say "comentando sobre isso antes," because in English we comment "about" things. But in Portuguese you can either use the preposition sobre or not, it doesn't matter to the meaning of the sentence.

11. Mas eu acho que não é a mais natural não, né, Valentino?

Notice the translation here: "But I don't think it's the most natural one... ", more natural in English. In Portuguese there is a difference between eu acho que não é (I think it is not) and eu não acho que é/seja (I don't think it is): the second one is normally used to disagree with a previous/different opinion (you might think it's like that but I don't think so), while the first one is used to express an opinion about something.