

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #1 Tell Me What's Wrong in Portuguese

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Marcos: Oi Sara, você está trabalhando na planilha com os endereços?
2. Sara: Estou sim. Mas está bem difícil na verdade. Toda vez que eu abro a planilha, tem erros que não tinha antes.
3. Marcos: Estranho. Posso dar uma olhada?
4. Sara: Pode sim.
5. Marcos: Muito estranho. Este programa nunca deu problema antes.
6. Sara: É, eu sempre gostei dele. É bem fácil de usar também. Mas desde a semana passada, passo mais tempo corrigindo os erros do que adicionando os endereços que o João pediu.
7. Marcos: Semana passada? Você atualizou a sua versão?
8. Sara: Não. Por quê? Precisa?

ENGLISH

1. Marcos: Hi Sara, are you working on the spreadsheet with the addresses?
2. Sara: Yes, I am. It's very hard, actually. Every time I open the spreadsheet, there are errors that weren't there before.
3. Marcos: That's strange. May I take a look?
4. Sara: Sure.

CONT'D OVER

5. Marcos: Very strange. This program has never caused problems before.
6. Sara: Yeah, I have always liked it. It's very easy to use, too. But since last week, I've been spending more time fixing errors than adding the addresses that João asked for.
7. Marcos: Last week? Did you update your version?
8. Sara: No. Why? Do I need to?

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
endereço	address	noun	masculine
planilha	spreadsheet	noun	feminine
programa	program	noun	masculine
estranho	strange, weird, odd	adjective	masculine
corrigir	to correct	verb	
adicionar	to add	verb	
bem difícil	quite difficult	phrase	
dar problema	to go wrong	phrase	
toda vez	every time	phrase	
atualizar	to update	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>E qual é seu endereço?</p> <p>"And what's your address?"</p>	<p>Eu contabilizo todos os meus gastos em uma planilha.</p> <p>"I do the bookkeeping of all my expenses in a spreadsheet."</p>
<p>Qual é o seu programa de TV favorito?</p> <p>"What's your favorite TV program?"</p>	<p>Você ouviu algum barulho estranho?</p> <p>"Did you hear a strange sound?"</p>
<p>Eu preciso corrigir os erros.</p> <p>"I need to correct the errors."</p>	<p>Posso te adicionar no Facebook?</p> <p>"Can I add you on Facebook?"</p>
<p>Esse trabalho tá bem difícil.</p> <p>"This work is really difficult."</p>	<p>Não vai dar problema não.</p> <p>"I won't cause any problems."</p>
<p>Toda vez que ele me visita, ele compra muitos presentes.</p> <p>"Every time he visits me, he buys lots of presents."</p>	<p>É sempre bom atualizar o seu computador.</p> <p>"It's always good to update your computer."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

dar problema

This is a very commonly used phrase in Brazilian Portuguese. Literally, *dar problema* translates to "give problem" but it means "to have problems" or "to cause problems." In the dialogue, Marco uses this phrase in the sentence *Este programa nunca deu problema antes*. In this example, Marco conjugates the verb *dar* to the past tense in the word becomes *deu*. So our translation is, "This program has never had problems before."

For example:

1. *Esse carro vai te dar problemas demais.*
"That car will cause you many problems."

2. *Ela só me deu problema desde o dia que a conheci.*
"She given me nothing but problems since the first day I met her."

toda vez

The phrase *toda vez* literally translates to "all turn" but it means "every time." It's also usually followed by the word *que* which translates to "that." Our tip here is to remember that, in Portuguese, the word *vez* is feminine and so the adjective *toda* is also in its feminine form. To say *todo vez* is incorrect. The correct way is *toda vez*.

For example:

1. *Esse carro vai te dar problemas demais.*
"That car will cause you many problems."
2. *Esse homem só dá problema.*
"That guy just causes problems."

bem difícil

The phrase *bem difícil* is a great phrase to learn in order to sound natural when you're speaking Brazilian Portuguese. Literally translated, *bem difícil* means "well difficult." However, the feeling of this phrase is much more like "very difficult" or "very hard." It could even be interpreted as "quite difficult" or "quite hard." You often use this phrase after the word *está*. The word *está* means "it is" so together they would sound like *está bem difícil* or, in English, "it's very hard."

Other examples with *bem* would be:

bem quente - "very hot"

bem gostoso - "very tasty"

bem rápido - "very fast"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is on How to Make Yes/No Questions in Portuguese

Você está trabalhando na planilha com os endereços?

"Are you working on the spreadsheet with the addresses?"

Portuguese and English both have a category of questions called "yes/no questions." These questions are called this not because they use yes or no in a question but because the answer that you need to give to these types of questions is going to be a "yes" or a "no." In English, these are usually questions that start with verbs. For example, in the dialogue we find the yes/no question: "Are you working on the spreadsheet with the addresses?"

That is how the natural response to this kind of question is "yes" or "no." To be polite, you'll probably add some kind of explanation.

In Brazilian Portuguese, using yes/no questions is even easier than in English. Instead of changing the order of the sentence to put the verbs first, like we do in English, Brazilian Portuguese leaves the word order the same and merely adds a rising tone at the end of the sentence. In our example from the dialogue, we heard this same question in Brazilian Portuguese as...

Você está trabalhando na planilha com os endereços?

Literally translated, this sentence would be...

"You are working on the spreadsheet with the addresses."

In English, this is a statement. To make a question, you have to change the "are" to be the first word and sentence. In Brazilian Portuguese, you don't have to do that. You just keep the sentence in its same form or in the statement form. To change a statement to a question you just add a rising tone to your voice at the end of the sentence. For comparison, let's look at two identical sentences; one is a statement, the other is a question.

Você fala português.

and

Você fala português?

In the first sentence, your voice falls at the end of the word *português*.

Você fala português.

In the second sentence your voice rises at the end of the word *português*.

Você fala português?

Answering Yes/No Questions

Yes/no questions are answered with a "Yes." or a "No." However, Brazilians are very creative and can say "Yes." or "No." in many, many different ways. Some of those ways are:

1. *Pode sim.*
"Yes, you can."
2. *Não, pode não.*
"No, you can't."
3. *Quero sim.*
"Yes, I want that."
4. *Quero não.*
"I don't want it."

The general rule is to reuse the verb from the question. So, if someone asks you *Você está trabalhando?* ("Are you working?")

You can respond with *Estou sim.* ("I am, yes.")

Language Tip

In our dialogue, there is a question that appears to break this rule of not changing the word order in Portuguese. That question is,

1. *Posso dar uma olhada?*
"May I take a look?"

We looked at this question during our vocab and phrases section, but now, regarding making

yes or no questions in Brazilian Portuguese, this sentence may seem to be an exception because the verb *posso* is at the beginning of the question, just like in English. However, that's just a coincidence. In the sentence,

Posso dar uma olhada?

The *eu* is omitted but if it were said, it would be placed before the *posso* to make,

Eu posso dar uma olhada?

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Computing in Brazil

Using computers in Brazil can often be a daunting idea. However, throughout most of Brazil, the reality is much easier than it seems. Many programs that you use daily are also used by Brazilians and it's very probable that the software program you're going to use on the computer is in English. This is because for many years major software programs like Microsoft Office were not translated into Brazilian Portuguese. So, Brazilians often have English versions of these programs.

Beyond that, many Brazilians learned how to use a computer during the time when there was so little available in Brazilian Portuguese. Therefore, many of the terms and words that they used to describe computers and technology are in fact English words. For example, "Microsoft Word," in English, is *Microsoft Word* in Portuguese. This is a name and therefore not translated. So, it would never be *Microsoft Palavra*.

Another example is word *deletar*. This word is from the English keyboards that Brazilians usually use. Portuguese has a word for "delete" which is *apagar* but when Brazilians talk about computers, they will often say *deletar*.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #2

Are You Always Short of Money in Brazil?

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Carlos: Está chato demais!
2. Luciana: O que que está tão chato?
3. Carlos: Deixa pra lá.
4. Luciana: O quê? Você não quer falar? Então por que você entrou aqui gritando?
5. Carlos: Mas que droga!
6. Luciana: O que que foi?!
7. Carlos: Os meus pais nunca têm dinheiro pra nada. Semana que vem minha turma vai pro Teatro Municipal. A escola vai pagar a metade da entrada, mas eu preciso pagar a outra metade. E os meus pais disseram que não têm dinheiro pra isso. Então eu não vou poder ir.
8. Luciana: Ah, é chato mesmo. E você já falou com a professora?
9. Carlos: Não. Eu acho que ela iria querer pagar pra mim mas eu sei que ela também não ganha muito.
10. Luciana: É verdade.
11. Carlos: Eu amo os meus pais e eles são muito bons, mas não ter dinheiro pra nada está me deixando chateado.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. Carlos: This is so irritating!
2. Luciana: What's so irritating?
3. Carlos: I don't want to talk about it.
4. Luciana: What? You don't want to talk about it? Then why did you come in here yelling?
5. Carlos: It's really irritating!
6. Luciana: What is it!?
7. Carlos: My parents never have money for anything. Next week my class will go to the city theater. The school will pay for half of the ticket, but I need to pay for the other half. And my parents said that they don't have money for it. So I can't go.
8. Luciana: Yes, that is irritating. And have you spoken to your teacher?
9. Carlos: No. I think that she would pay for me to go but I know that she doesn't make very much either.
10. Luciana: That's true.
11. Carlos: I love my parents and they're very good people but never having money for anything is making me really irritated.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
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demais	too much	adverb	
chato	irritating, boring	adjective	masculine
gritar	to yell	verb	
ingresso	ticket	noun	masculine
pagar	to pay	verb	
ganhar	to earn	verb	
deixa pra lá	nevermind	phrase	
dizer	to say	verb	
falar	to speak, to talk	verb	
nunca...pra nada	never...for anything	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Esta calça está cara demais.</p> <p>"These pants are too expensive."</p>	<p>Eu acho o seu irmão chato.</p> <p>"I think your brother is irritating."</p>
<p>Não precisa gritar.</p> <p>"You don't need to yell."</p>	<p>Eu tenho três ingressos para o jogo.</p> <p>"I have three tickets for the game."</p>
<p>Eu não estou disposto a pagar tão caro por um anel.</p> <p>"I'm not willing to pay so much for a ring."</p>	<p>Eu quero ganhar muito dinheiro.</p> <p>"I want to make a lot of money."</p>
<p>Deixa pra lá.</p> <p>"Forget about it."</p>	<p>Como se diz "computer" em português?</p> <p>"How do you say 'computer' in Portuguese?"</p>

Você fala com as suas flores? "Do you talk with your flowers?"	Ela nunca tem tempo pra nada. "She never has time for anything."
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VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

nunca...pra nada

This phrase is a formula you can use to make many other phrases. For example, the dialogue uses the phrase *nunca dá pra nada*.

nunca...pra nada is an interesting phrase that literally translates to "never...to nothing." But in English it means "never...for anything." This formula can be used all by itself or in conjunction with other phrases.

But it's probably most frequently used in connection with phrases that talk about having something. For example in the dialogue, the first friend said:

1. *Meus pais nunca têm dinheiro pra nada.*
"My parents never have money for nothing."

But in English we'd probably say: "My parents never have enough money for anything."

For example:

1. *Ele nunca me visita pra nada.*
"He never visits me for anything."
2. *Elas nunca vêm pra nada.*
"Those girls never come for anything!"

falar ("tell")

The word *falar* is usually translated as "to speak" but it can often be translated as "to tell" as well. For example, in the dialogue, friend number two said:

Você já falou com a professora?

Which literally translates to:

"You already spoke with your professor?"

But it means:

"Have you told your professor yet?"

Often, when you want to use the word "tell" in Brazilian Portuguese you can use the verb "falar."

Some other examples would be:

1. *Eu preciso te falar algo.*
"I need to tell you something."
2. *Ela me falou que você vai viajar mês que vem?*
"She told me you will travel next month?"

deixa pra lá

The phrase *deixa pra lá* is an interesting phrase that literally means "leave to there" but it can have several meanings. One of those is "I don't want to talk about it." Which is the way it was used in the dialogue.

Deixa pra lá could also be used to mean something like:

"never mind," "don't worry about it," or "forget about it."

The phrase *deixa pra lá* is a very useful phrase and one you will hear often so it's good to be familiar with it.

Some other examples are:

1. *Cara, não se preocupe com isso. Só deixa pra lá.*
"Dude, don't worry about it. Just forget about it."
2. *Não deixa pra lá não. Isto é importante.*
"Don't just forget about it. This is important."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Question Words and Question Phrases

O que? "What?"

In this lesson, we're going to look at all of the question words used in Brazilian Portuguese. We'll also take a quick look at some very typical phrases and ways to use these question words.

O que and *quem*

These two words are used almost identically to how their English counterparts are used. The word *o que* means "what" and *quem* means "who" or "whom." In general, when used in a question, these words will be the first words in the sentence.

For example:

1. *O que vocês estão fazendo?*
"What are all of you doing?"
2. *Quem está com a chave do carro?*
"Who has the car key?"

Quando, Como, Quanto and *Por que*

The other question words are *quando*, *como*, *quanto*, and *por que*. Again, when these words are used in a question, they are usually the first word of the sentence. Some examples would be:

1. *Quando você vai vir?*
"When are you coming?"
2. *Como você faz isso?*
"How do you do that?"
3. *Quanto custa?*
"How much (does that) cost?"

4. *Por que você quer saber?*
"Why do you want to know?"

Dialogue:

The dialogue introduced three phrases that can be used with these question words. These phrases are

O que está...?

O que?

Por que você (ação)...

O que que está...?

The phrase *O que que está...* is frequently used by Brazilians in many different situations and contexts. The dialogue use this phrase in the sentence:

1. *O que que está tão chato?*
"What's so irritating?"

But it can also be used in sentences like:

1. *O que que está na porta-mala?*
"What's in the trunk?"
2. *O que que está acontecendo?*
"What's happening?"

O que?

The question *O que?* is often used by itself and usually in reaction to something that someone else is said or done. In the dialogue, the first friend came in yelling about something that was very irritating and when his friend asked him what was wrong he said "I don't want to talk

about it." To this his friend answered:

O que?

The fun part about this question is the tone of voice. There's a very strong "I can't believe you just said that" tone to this question.

O que é* and *Qual é

The question phrases *o que é* and *qual é* are usually translated to "What is..." in English but in Portuguese, there is an important difference.

o que é...

"O que é..." is the literal translation and its use is identical to the English "what is..." For example:

1. *O que é DNA?*
"What is DNA?"

Qual é...

The question phrase *qual é* literally translates to "which is" and is used by Brazilians for phrases like:

1. *Qual é sua comida predileta?*

Literally, "Which is your favorite food?"

But we would probably say, "What is your favorite food?"

Qual is used when dealing with choices between two or more things, just like "which" in English.

Por que você...

The last phase will look at is *por que você...*. This is a very useful phrase and a structure that can be followed in many different situations. For example, the dialogue used this phrase:

1. *Então, por que você entrou aqui gritando?*
"Then why did you come in here yelling?"

This question phrase has a kind of formula that you can follow to make other similar phrases that will apply in different situations. The formula is "por que + (person) + (action phrase)." To create a different example sentence, we could say:

1. *Por que ela está aqui?*
"Why is she here?"
2. Or a different kind of sentence such as:
Por que eles podem viajar tanto?
"Why can they travel so much?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What's the State of the Brazilian Economy?

The Brazilian economy is a very intriguing mystery to most foreigners. Throughout Brazil's history, extremely high inflation rates have plagued Brazil constantly. Only in the past 25 years has Brazil been able to put the brakes on their extremely high inflation rate. However, to do this, the Brazilian government has invented a number of financial markers, checks, and measurements to monitor the Brazilian economy as well as created many taxes and tariffs they can increase or decrease in strategic areas in order to keep this inflation rate down.

This large number of tariffs and taxes is burdensome to the Brazilian economy but much less so than high inflation rates. To the credit of the unique Brazilian economic system, Brazil's economy has been stable and inflation has been in control for over ten years. However, many Brazilians are becoming restless about the high tax burden as evidenced by widespread riots through Brazil in 2013.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #3

Hoping For a Raise in Brazil

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3

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. João: Então pessoal, semana que vem vai ter uma promoção muito grande aqui na loja. Precisamos estar preparados para a chegada de muitos clientes novos.
2. Marco: Quantas pessoas o senhor está esperando durante essa promoção?
3. João: Muitas. Para vocês terem uma ideia, numa semana normal atendemos entre três e cinco mil pessoas.
4. Marco: Isso é muito? Porque não parece que a nossa loja fica tão cheia assim.
5. João: É normal para o nosso local. Mas, comparando com as outras lojas, é pouco. Se as outras lojas servirem de exemplo, semana que vem deve trazer uns 500% a mais de movimento.
6. Marco: Uau, então eu vou receber 500% de aumento também?
7. João: (laugh) Eu posso falar com 100% de certeza que não.

ENGLISH

1. João: Okay everyone, next week we'll have a big sale here at the store. We need to be prepared for the arrival of many new clients.
2. Marco: How many people are you expecting during this sale?

CONT'D OVER

3. João: Many. To give you an idea, in a normal week, we get between three and five thousand people.
4. Marco: Is that a lot? Because our store doesn't seem to get all that full.
5. João: It's normal for our location. But, compared to other stores, it's few. But, if other stores are indicators for us, next week should bring about 500% more people.
6. Marco: Wow, will I get a 500% raise too?
7. João: (laugh) I can say with 100% certainty, no.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
peçoal	people, personnel	noun	masculine
preparado	prepared	adjective	masculine
promoção	sale	noun	feminine
durante	during, while	preposition	
atender	to attend	verb	
servir	to serve	verb	
movimento	movement, flux (of customers)	noun	masculine
local	place, site	noun	masculine
para você ter uma ideia	for you to have an idea	phrase	
aumento	raise, increase	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Bom dia pessoal!</p> <p>"Good morning everyone!"</p>	<p>Eu não acho que você está preparado pra isso não.</p> <p>"I don't think you're ready for this at all."</p>
<p>Eu comprei este globo do mundo na promoção.</p> <p>"I bought this world globe on sale."</p>	<p>Durante os primeiros três dias, é melhor não sair de casa.</p> <p>"During the first three months, it's better to stay inside."</p>
<p>Eles atendem muito bem naquela loja.</p> <p>"They attend to customers very well in that store."</p>	<p>Isto serve para abrir garrafas.</p> <p>"This is to open bottles."</p>
<p>500% a mais de movimento.</p> <p>"500% more people."</p>	<p>Quero abrir uma loja naquele local.</p> <p>"I want to open a store in that place."</p>
<p>Pra você ter uma ideia, eu gasto mais de oitenta mil reais por transação.</p> <p>"To give you an idea, I spend more than eighty thousand reals per transaction."</p>	<p>Estou aqui para pedir um aumento.</p> <p>"I'm here to ask for a raise."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

aumento

The noun *aumento* means "raise" or "increase." And this is one of the phrases that Brazilians use when they're asking for "a raise." In the dialogue, Marco asked,

1. *Uau, vou receber 500% de aumento também?*
"Wow, will I get a 500% raise too?"

The full phrase is *aumento de salário* or *aumento no salário* which means "salary raise" or

"raise in the salary." However, Brazilians often just say *aumento*. The *de salário* or *no salário* is implied.

For example:

1. *Eu acho que não vou receber um aumento esse ano.*
"I don't think I'll get a raise this year."
2. *Parece que cada mês ele está recebendo mais um aumento.*
"It seem like every month he's getting another raise."

para você ter uma ideia

This phrase literally translates to "to you have an idea" but it means "so that you can have an idea." This grammar for this phrase is beyond the scope of this lesson but the verb conjugation used is called the present subjunctive. The word "ter" feels like "be able to have." This phrase is used often to introduce reasons, and can be used in singular or plural form, depending on who you're talking to.

For example:

1. *Para vocês terem uma ideia, numa semana normal atendemos entre três e cinco mil pessoas.*
"To give you an idea, in a normal week, we get between three and five thousand people."
2. *Eu estou morrendo de sono. Para você ter uma ideia, eu fui dormir às 4 da manhã.*
"I'm so sleepy. To give you an idea, I went to sleep at 4 am."

movimento

The word *movimento* literally translates to "movement" but in this dialogue, they are talking about the movement of customers in through the store. In other words, the number of customers that frequent the store in a given time period. For example, in the dialogue João said,

1. *500% a mais de movimento.*
"500% more people."

For example:

1. *O movimento da loja está muito baixa.*
"The flux of customer's through the store is very low."
2. *Não tem tanto movimento por aqui desde natal!*
"There hasn't been this many customers in the store since Christmas!"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using Questions to Gather More Information Once a Problem Has Been Identified.

Quantas pessoas o senhor está esperando durante esta promoção?

"How many people are you expecting during this sale?"

In the past two lessons we have look that the main types of questions in Brazilian Portuguese. Those are yes/no questions and questions formed by using the question words such as *o que*, *quanto*, and *como*?

In normal conversation, Brazilians will use these two types of questions repeatedly. Especially in situations, like in the dialogue, where more information is needed about a given topic these two types of questions are used to better understand the topic and to gather more information about it.

The rules governing when to use yes/no questions or when to use questions that use question words are very complicated. However, lucky for you, those rules are almost identical to the rules for English. So instead of going through the grammar rules, let's look at some examples of how these question words can be used together in a normal conversation.

Let's say you go to a new restaurant with some friends and are trying to decide what to eat. As you look the menu, the waiter approaches and asks what you would like to order. You tell the waiter,

1. ***O que é filet mignon simples?***
"What is filet mignon simple?"

Notice the use of the question word *o que*. Remember, question words are used to gather

general information. The waiter responds by saying,

1. *É um prato delicioso com filet mignon, arroz e feijão.*
"It's a delicious dish with filet mignon, rice, and beans."

The use of the question word "what" cause the waiter to give a description of the dish. Now compare that to this next question.

1. *Você recomenda?*
"Do you recommend it?"

This is a yes/no question. The waiter responds by saying,

1. *Sim, com certeza.*
"Yes, certainly."

Examples from the dialogue:

From the dialogue, Marco said,

1. ***Quantas*** pessoas o senhor está esperando?
"**How many** people are you expecting?"

Here he used the question word "quantas" which means "how many." Then, a little later, Marco said,

1. *Isso é muito?*
"Is that a lot?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What Are Meetings Like in Brazil?

Company meetings in Brazil can sometimes be very different from company meetings in the United States. While it depends a lot on the company's culture, the majority of company

meetings in Brazil are considerably less formal than equivalent company meetings in the United States. Often, employees will make jokes and interrupt explanations being given by their boss or supervisor with no repercussion or even thought of a reprimand.

However, there are some companies where the rules for behavior in a company meeting are even more strict than in many companies in the United States. For example, some Brazilian organizations have meetings that are so restricted and so reserved that employees are not even allowed to comment. They just listen and do as they're told.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #4

Learning a Bit of Brazilian History

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Mônica: Então, essa é a história de Brasília. Alguém tem alguma pergunta?
2. Luciana: Eu tenho, Mônica. Por que Juscelino Kubitschek quis fundar Brasília?
3. Mônica: Boa pergunta Luciana. O Juscelino Kubitschek, mais conhecido como JK, quis fundar Brasília por muitas razões.
4. Luciana: Mas qual era a maior razão?
5. Mônica: Eu não sei qual era a maior razão pro JK, mas uma razão muito importante era povoar o interior do Brasil.
6. Luciana: Por quê?
7. Mônica: Por que naquela época, mais de 80% da população brasileira morava no litoral. Tinha muita terra e espaço sobrando no interior, e ele acreditava que tirar as pessoas das cidades do litoral ia trazer mais benefícios à economia brasileira do que deixá-los onde estavam.

ENGLISH

1. Mônica: So, that's the history of Brasilia. Does anyone have a question?
2. Luciana: I have one, Mônica. Why did Juscelino Kubitschek want to start Brasilia?

CONT'D OVER

3. Mônica: Good question, Luciana. Juscelino Kubitschek, better known as JK, wanted to start Brasilia for many reasons.
4. Luciana: But what was the biggest reason?
5. Mônica: I don't know what the biggest reason for JK was, but one very important reason was to populate the interior of Brazil.
6. Luciana: Why?
7. Mônica: Because, at that time, more than 80% of the Brazilian population lived on the coast. There was a lot of land and space left in the interior, and he believed that removing people from the coastal cities would bring more benefits to the Brazilian economy than leaving them where they were.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
fundar	to found	verb	
razão	reason	noun	feminine
povoar	to populate	verb	
pro	to the	preposition	
naquela época	back then	phrase	feminine
litoral	coast	noun	masculine
fortalecer	to strengthen	verb	
população	population	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Quando ele fundou a igreja?</p> <p>"When did he found the church?"</p>	<p>Você tem toda a razão.</p> <p>"You are completely right."</p>
<p>Ele queria povoar o interior.</p> <p>"He wanted to populate the interior."</p>	<p>Dá isso pro Alex.</p> <p>"Give this to Alex."</p>
<p>Eu era feliz naquela época.</p> <p>"I was happy back then."</p>	<p>Existem muitas enseadas no litoral do Brasil.</p> <p>"There are many inlets in Brazil's coast."</p>
<p>Seu amor me fortalece.</p> <p>"Your love strengthens me."</p>	<p>A população está diminuindo.</p> <p>"The population is diminishing."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Naquela época

The phrase *naquela época* literally translates to "in that time" but it can also be translated as "in those days" or even "back then." The pronunciation of this phrase is very interesting.

The word *naquela* has the stress on the *e* and the word *época* has a special accent mark over the *e* which means that the stress falls on that syllable as well.

For example:

1. *Foi bom naquela época.*
"It was good back then."
2. *Eu trabalhei pelo PertoBras naquela época.*
"I worked for PetroBras back then."

*These two words are often pronounced as if they were only one word. When this happens, the *e* with the accent mark over it in the word *época* receives the most stress between the two words.

naquela época

Eu tenho vs "I have one"

In English, we often need to specify the number or type of things that we have. For example, we cannot simply say,

"I have."

We need to say,

"I have one." Or "I have ten."

In Portuguese, the verbs are "heavy verbs" which is one way to say that they don't need the number or type of things the way English does. In the dialogue, Luciana uses the phrase:

Eu tenho, Mônica literally meaning "I have, Monica."

But it means,

"I have one, Mônica."

Pro

The word *pro* doesn't actually have any official Portuguese words in it which can make it difficult to translate. However, this is a phrase any Brazilian would understand.

First, the word *pro* is a verbal contraction of the two words *para* and *o* which together mean "to the" or "for the." We'll get into more detail about this in a later lesson, however, just know that that's what it means even though it probably won't show up in any dictionary.

For example:

1. *Eu vou mandar isso pro Alexandre.*
"I will send this to Alexandre."
2. *Preciso levar comida pro trabalho.*
"I need to take food to work."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using Comparatives and Superlatives When Talking about the Past

Mas qual era a maior razão?

"But what was the biggest reason?"

Brazilian Portuguese uses comparatives and superlatives all the time. A comparative is a word that is used to make a comparison between two things. A superlative is a word or phrase used to indicate that one thing is superior to all other things of a particular type. Portuguese has many different comparative and superlative type words. Some examples of comparatives are...

maior - "larger" or "bigger"

mais - "more"

An example of superlatives would be the phrase,

o melhor - "the best"

In the dialogue, these comparatives and superlatives were frequently used in the past tense. We're happy to say that neither comparatives nor superlatives are conjugated nor change for the past tense. However, sometimes the sentences in the past tense in this new environment can make the comparative somewhat difficult to identify or use. For example, in the dialogue Luciana says,

Mas qual era a maior razão? - "But what was the biggest reason?" or "But what was the main reason?"

Notice how the Portuguese requires a comparative but the English does not. Sometimes this is reversed and the English requires a comparative but the Portuguese does not. Another example of using comparatives in the past tense is the sentence,

Ele acreditava que tirar as pessoas das cidades do litoral iria trazer mais benefícios a economia brasileira do que deixá-los onde estavam. meaning "He believed that removing people from the coastal cities would bring more benefits to the Brazilian economy than leaving them where they were."

Here the comparison is made using the phrase...

mais...do que - "more...than"

Use this phrase by inserting some sort of adjective between *mais* and *do que*. Some examples would be,

mais feliz do que - "happier than"

mais divertido do que - "more fun than"

mais caro do que - "more expensive than"

Also, the phrase *mais...do que* is often shortened to just "*mais...que*" in spoken Brazilian Portuguese. For example,

Ele ganha mais que ela. meaning "He wins more than her."

There are some instances where comparisons are made but which don't use typical comparison words like *mais* or *melhor*. For example,

É que talvez eles não sejam tão diferentes que nós.

Which literally translates to,

"It's that maybe they are not so different from us."

Here, the comparison was made by using the words *tão diferentes*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What do you Know About Brazil's Capital?

The city of Brasília is the federal capital of Brazil. In other words, it's the country's capital city much like Washington, D.C. is the capital city of the United States. Brazil's central government, including the legislative, judicial, and executive branches are all located in Brasília. The city was officially founded on the 21st of April, 1960 by the president Juscelino Kubitschek.

The city of Brasília is a planned city which means that the placement of every building, every park, and every bridge was laid out on paper before any construction began. The city was planned and designed by a famous Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer who passed away in 2012. The city is designed like an airplane pointing East. The capital building is found where

the cockpit of the plane would be the equivalent first-class is found where the various ministries or departments of the Brazilian government are located, and the wings are divided into sectors. Each sector has specific activities allowed to be performed there. For example, there is a banking sector where you can find many banks. There is a wheelchair sector where you can find many stores that sell wheelchairs. There are also many residential sectors where large apartment complexes can be found.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #5 Do You Know Your Brazilian Barbecue History?

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- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
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- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Luciana: Você é do norte. Vocês não aprendem a história do churrasco.
2. Carlos: E daí? Vai mudar minha vida saber como o churrasco foi inventado?
3. Luciana: Mas é justamente isso, o churrasco não foi inventado, ele desenvolveu ao longo de décadas ou talvez séculos.
4. Carlos: Tá, mas isso não muda nada. Eu nunca vou pro sul mesmo.
5. Luciana: Claro, mas pensa nisso. Entendendo a história do churrasco, você percebe que o churrasco não é só brasileiro mas argentino e paraguaio também, sem falar nas outras nacionalidades que ocupavam a região na época.
6. Carlos: Ou seja, você se acha argentina.
7. Luciana: Ai ai ai! Nada disso, é que talvez a gente não seja tão diferente. Pelo menos lá no sul.

ENGLISH

1. Luciana: You're from the north. You don't learn the history of barbecues.
2. Carlos: And what for? Will it change my life to know how the barbecue was invented?
3. Luciana: But this is exactly the point; churrasco wasn't invented, it developed over decades or maybe centuries.

CONT'D OVER

4. Carlos: Okay, but that doesn't change anything. I never go to the south anyway.
5. Luciana: Of course, but think about this. Understanding the history of churrasco, you realize that churrasco isn't just Brazilian but Argentinian and Paraguayan as well, not to mention the other nationalities that lived in the region at that time.
6. Carlos: In other words, you think you're Argentinian.
7. Luciana: My word! It's nothing like that, it's that maybe we are not so different. At least, in the south.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
inventar	to invent	verb	
justamente	exactly	adverb	
desenvolver	to develop	verb	
argentino	Argentinian	noun	masculine
paraguaio	Paraguayan	noun	masculine
churrasco	barbecue (Brazilian-style)	noun	masculine
sem falar	without saying	phrase	
não é só	it isn't just	phrase	
ao longo	throughout	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Apple inventou o iPhone.</p> <p>"Apple invented the iPhone."</p>	<p>Foi justamente isso o que ele me disse.</p> <p>"That was exactly what he said to me."</p>
<p>Minha empresa vai desenvolver muitos produtos novos.</p> <p>"My company will develop many new products."</p>	<p>Eu não sou argentina.</p> <p>"I am not Argentinian."</p>
<p>Eu tenho um amigo paraguaio.</p> <p>"I have a Paraguayan friend."</p>	<p>Se for ao Sul tem que comer um churrasco.</p> <p>"If you go to the South (of Brazil), you have to eat churrasco."</p>
<p>Você fez aquilo tudo sem falar nada!</p> <p>"You did all of that without saying anything!"</p>	<p>Não é só isso, ela era muito chata também.</p> <p>"It isn't just that, she was really rude too."</p>

Aprendi muito ao longo dessa jornada.

"I learned a lot throughout this journey."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

ao longo de

The phrase *ao longo de* literally translates to "to the long of it" but it means "throughout." One way to think about it is "for the length of" which is exactly a faithful translation but it does help with remembering all the words. This is an educated phrase and usually isn't used when talking about daily activities. For example, it would be very strange to say...

1. *Ele cantou ao longo de sua ida para o supermercado.*
"He's sang throughout his trip to the supermarket."

But it would be very normal to say something like...

1. *Eu aprendi muito ao longo da minha jornada.*
"I learned a lot throughout my journey."

sem falar

The phrase *sem falar* means "without saying" or sometimes, "without saying anything." In the dialogue, this phrase is used in the sense of "without even mentioning." The friend uses this phrase "sem falar" to connect to ideas and his rather long sentence. In general, this phrase is used when you are talking about reasons for a particular argument and then you would say this phrase, "sem falar" and then mentioned some other reasons that you are "not mentioning." In the dialogue he says...

O churrasco não é só brasileiro mas argentino e paraguaio também, sem falar nas outras nacionalidades que ocupavam a região na época.

Which we translated as...

"Churrasco isn't just Brazilian but Argentinian and Paraguayan as well. Not to mention the other nationalities that lived in that region at that time."

For example:

1. *Ele é muito bom, sem falar na esposa.*
"He is very good, without even mentioning his wife."
2. *Aquela cidade é muito cara, sem falar na passagem pra chegar lá.*
"That city is very expensive, not to mention the tickets to get there."

não é só

The phrase *não é só* literally translates to "no is only." However, it means "it isn't just" or "it isn't only." In the dialogue, it's used in the sentence...

1. *Você percebe que o churrasco não é só brasileiro.*
"You realize that churrasco isn't just Brazilian"

Our main tip with this phrase is that *não é só* is almost never used by itself. It will be inside another phrase just like it was used in the dialogue.

For example:

1. *Não é só ir pra escola! Você precisa estudar também!*
"It isn't just going to school. You have to study too!"
2. *Lembra que tudo não é só diversão.*
"Remember that everything isn't just fun and games."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Portuguese Spoken Contractions *pra* and *pro*
E eu nunca vou pro sul mesmo.
"And I never go to the south anyway."

Brazilian Portuguese can be broken up into two different types of language. The first type is the written Portuguese. This kind of Portuguese is very structured, has many rules, and is what you use in formal situations. Spoken Brazilian Portuguese is the second type and it's very similar to the written form of Portuguese but there are some specific distinctions. In this lesson we're going to talk about spoken contractions. These contractions are rarely if ever used in a written Portuguese unless it's being done to imitate spoken Portuguese. In other words, you will never see these in a formal technical document but you may see it written in storybooks or billboards.

Pra

The first spoken contraction we're going to look at is the word *pra*. This word can be the contracted form of two pairs of different words. The first, and by far most common, contraction is the word *para*. Remember, this is just a verbal contraction so it just makes it easier to say, the meaning doesn't change. For example...

1. *Eu vou pra Londres ano que vem.*
"I will go to London next year."

So, in this example, the person will probably stay in London for several weeks or maybe even many years. Another example would be the sentence...

Pra ela, o maior luxo.

The sentence has been used on billboards as part of an ad for women's perfume. It isn't a complete sentence, since there is no further, but the literal translation is...

"For her, the greatest luxury."

Notice how the word *pra* does not mean "to" or "at." This is normal for the word *para*; sometimes it means "to," and other times it means "for." This duality of meaning also applies to the contraction *pra*.

The second way that *pra* is used is as a contraction with the words *para* and *a*. This way is less common but still used often. An example of this would be the sentence...

1. *Ele enviou o pacote pra casa dele.*
"He sent the package to his house."

Here, the *pra* actually means "to the" and not just "to" like it usually does. If this sentence were written down, it would probably read...

Ele enviou o pacote para a casa dele.

In English, a literal translation of this would sound very strange. For example...

"He sent the package to the his house."

However in Portuguese the *a*, which means "the," is necessary. This may sound very strange in English, however, if we restructure the English sentence to be more similar to the Portuguese it isn't so strange. For example...

"He sent the package to the house of him."

This translation, while unusual, is grammatically correct and is how the Portuguese is translated word for word.

Another example would be the sentence...

1. *Ela chegou atrasada pra festa.*
"She arrived late for the party."

In written Portuguese this would look like...

Ela chegou atrasada para a festa.

Again, the *pra* translates as "for the" and not "to the."

Pra can also be plural as in *pras*. This sense follows regular pluralization patterns in Portuguese.

1. *Ela comprou vestidos pras meninas.*
"She purchased dresses for the girls."

Pro

The second spoken contraction we want to talk about is the word *pro*. This word is a contraction of the preposition *para* and the article *o* and, in meaning, is identical to the second use of *pra* we just talked about. For example...

1. *Ele deu o livro pro Daniel.*
"He gave the book to Daniel."

In proper written Portuguese, the sentence would be written...

Ele deu o livro para o Daniel.

The meaning does not change between these two sentences. But when you're speaking fluent Portuguese you often will say *pro* instead of *para o*. In this example, *pro* is translated as "to the." Let's take a look at an example sentence that uses *pro* to mean "for the." One sentence like that would be...

1. *Ela chegou atrasada pro trabalho.*
"She arrived late for work."

In written Portuguese this would look like...

Ela chegou atrasada para o trabalho.

Pro can also be plural as in *pros*. This sense follows regular pluralization patterns in Portuguese.

For example:

1. *Ele comprou um carro pros filhos.*
"He purchased a car for his children."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Being Agreeable While Disagreeing

In Brazil, being able to disagree in a happy, agreeable manner is very important. To Brazilians, being able to laugh and smile even when you disagree strongly with something the other person is saying is a mark of polite behavior. In particular, when topics become more sensitive such as politics, religion, or soccer, Brazilians often crack jokes and attempt to say everything they're saying in the funniest way possible.

This is done for two reasons. First, the Brazilians are able to express their disapproval of the topic by making fun of it with jokes or comical commentary. Along with that, it's easy to see when a joke that you have made may have offended someone because they stop laughing. That's a cue to most Brazilians that they need to stop and they usually will change subjects very quickly.

This behavior is very subtle in Brazilian culture and very few Brazilians would be able to explicitly explain it to you like this. But if you watch them, you will see that they behave this way.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #6 Giving a Presentation in Portuguese

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- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Luciana: Então, os meus estudos me levaram à conclusão de que o Brasil foi descoberto antes de Pedro Álvares Cabral, mas ainda não sabemos com certeza quem realmente descobriu o Brasil.
2. Carlos: Eu tenho uma pergunta.
3. Luciana: Sim, Carlos. Pode fazer.
4. Carlos: Eu sempre achei que o Brasil nunca foi "descoberto" por que já tinha muita gente que morava aqui.
5. Luciana: Você está falando dos índios?
6. Carlos: Sim, dos nativos dessa região. Como os das tribos Tupi e Guarani. Essas tribos já viviam aqui por quem sabe quantos séculos antes de Pedro Álvares Cabral ou qualquer outro europeu chegar.

ENGLISH

1. Luciana: So, my studies brought me to the conclusion that Brazil was discovered before Pedro Alvares Cabral, but we still really don't know for sure who discovered Brazil.
2. Carlos: I have a question.
3. Luciana: Yes, Carlos. You may ask.
4. Carlos: I always thought that Brazil was never "discovered" because there were already lots of people here.

CONT'D OVER

5. Luciana: Are you talking about the Indians?
6. Carlos: Yes, the natives of this region. Like the ones from the Tupi and Guarani tribes. These tribes already lived here for who knows how many centuries before Pedro Alvares Cabral or any other Europeans arrived.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
tribo	tribe	noun	feminine
européu	European	noun	masculine
muita gente	many people	phrase	
com certeza	for sure	phrase	
descobrir	to discover, to uncover	verb	
descoberto	discovered	adjective	masculine
me levaram a conclusão	brought me to the conclusion	phrase	
morar	to live, to reside at or in	Verb	
nativo	native	noun	masculine
século	century	noun	masculine
viver	to live	verb	
índio	native, indian	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Muitas tribos brasileiras falam a língua tupi-guarani.</p> <p>"Many Brazilian tribes speak the language Tupi-guarani."</p>	<p>Muitos europeus falam mais de uma língua.</p> <p>"Many Europeans speak more than one language."</p>
<p>Ele falou que com certeza vai estar lá amanhã.</p> <p>"He said that for sure he'll be there tomorrow."</p>	<p>Eles descobriram uma caverna oculta.</p> <p>"They discovered a hidden cavern."</p>
<p>O Brasil foi descoberto muito tempo antes de ser colonizado.</p> <p>"Brazil was discovered long before it was colonized."</p>	<p>Eu moro em um apartamento na cidade.</p> <p>"I live in an apartment in the city."</p>
<p>Minha irmã mora lá.</p> <p>"My sister lives there."</p>	<p>Estou fazendo uma pesquisa com os nativos dessa região.</p> <p>"I'm doing research about the natives of this region."</p>
<p>O arquiteto Niemeyer tem mais de um século de vida.</p> <p>"The architect Niemeyer has more than a century of life."</p>	<p>Ela vive muito bem.</p> <p>"She lives very well."</p>
<p>O chefe índio é o cacique.</p> <p>"The Cacique is the chief Indian."</p>	<p>O índio caiu da rede.</p> <p>"The indian fell from the hammock."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

me levaram a conclusão

The phrase *me levaram a conclusão* literally translates to "me they took to the conclusion." However, this phrase means "brought me to the conclusion." The differences between the Portuguese verbs *levar* and *trazer* and the English verbs "take" and "bring" are beyond the scope of this lesson. Just remember that this is one of those instances that in Portuguese you say *levar* but in English you say "bring."

For example:

1. *Suas novas informações me levaram a uma conclusão nova.*
"Your new information has brought me to a new conclusion."
2. *O que você falou não me levou a conclusão nenhuma.**
"What you said hasn't brought me to any conclusion."

*The verb *levar* in this phrase can change conjugation depending on the context.

muita gente

The phrase *muita gente* literally means "many people" and in the dialogue, that's exactly what it means, too. This phrase can actually have several meanings depending on how you interpret the sentence.

Based on the context, where Elias is talking about people who lived in Brazil before the Portuguese arrived, it's pretty safe to translate this phrase as either "many people." In other words, there were many different kinds of people.

However, other interpretations such as "a lot of people" or "many peoples" are also possible. We'd have to ask Elias to define *muita gente* better if we wanted to be sure.

For example:

1. *Tem muita gente na rua hoje.*
"There are a lot of people in the streets today."
2. *Não tem muita gente na loja hoje, não.*
"There aren't many people in the store today."

viver vs. morar

The word *viver* means "to live." The word *morar* also means "to live." The difference here can mostly be identified through location. When you use the verb *viver* you're either referring to the state of being alive or using *viver* as a euphemism to mean "doing something all the time."

For example:

1. *Eu vivo bem.*
"I live well."
2. *Ele vive na cozinha.*
"He spends all of his time in the kitchen."

When you use the verb *morar*, you're talking about physically residing or living in a specific location. For example...

1. *Eu moro em Los Angeles.*
"I live in Los Angeles."
2. *Ela mora no Rio.*
"She lives in Rio."

*If you were to say...

Eu vivo em Los Angeles.

Brazilians would have to struggle to understand what you meant. For example, the proper translation for the sentence would be,

"I am alive in Los Angeles."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Being Politically Correct in Brazilian Portuguese

Sim, dos nativos desta região do mundo.

"Yes, the natives of this region of the world."

Brazil has many nationalities that live in one specific geographic area. For the most part, Brazil is a peaceful country and people get along well. However, in recent decades, the

Brazilian government and others in power have been highly criticized for disregarding many minorities in Brazil. For example, in the year 2000 Brazil celebrated 500 years of history. This makes mathematical sense as Brazil was discovered in April of the year 1500. However, this celebration was highly criticized because Brazil wasn't really the Brazil we know today in 1500. In fact, it was hundreds of years later that Brazil became its own country.

Being politically correct in Brazil is just as important as it is in the United States or in the European Union. You should always be careful how you phrase things in order to avoid being misunderstood. For example, one phrase you should avoid is...

1. *Eu sou americano.*

"I am American."

Brazilians, since Brazil is also in the Americas, consider themselves to be Americans as well and when people from the United States say that they are "Americans," Brazilians feel excluded, even rejected. Instead, you should say...

1. *Eu sou dos Estados Unidos.*

"I'm from the United States."

Another phrase that is highly criticized was used in the dialogue, on purpose. The phrase was *descobriu o Brasil* meaning "discovered Brazil"

This phrase is criticized for many reasons. One of those reasons is that it is insensitive to the native populations. Just as the dialogue states, there were many people living here before the Portuguese arrived. Many Brazilians see this phrase as too "European" and disrespectful to the native tribes.

Another word that is not politically correct is *índios* which means "Indians." Just as in the United States or other countries in the Americas that were colonized by Europeans, the natives are often referred to as "Indians." However, this is incorrect and many Brazilians feel again that this is disrespectful to the native tribes of Brazil. Instead, many Brazilians use the word...

nativos

Which translates to...

"natives."

One last word that should always be avoided and is very politically incorrect, is the word *preto* meaning "black." Now, we should specify that the color *preto* or "black" is not offensive in any way. However, when you use the word *preto* to describe people of African Brazilian descent, then it is very rude. This is important to remember as in American English "black" is a very common term and not offensive in most situations. However, in Brazil it should be avoided. Instead, say...

negro

For black men, and...

negra

For black women.

*There is also the "non-gender" term *afro-descendente* which means "afro-descendent." This is a very politically correct term and is probably what you will find in government documents or speeches but it isn't used very often in normal conversation.

However, most Brazilians are neither *negro* nor *negra* and their skin color is much more brown or a deep tan than "black." To avoid most confusion or difficult and uncomfortable situations, it's often best to use the words...

moreno

For men, and...

morena

For women.

For white people, you can just say...

branco

For men, and...

branca

For women.

As far as political correctness is concerned, roughly 90% of the Brazilian population can be

described as either *branco/branca* or *moreno/morena*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Arrival of the Portuguese

Brazil was officially discovered on 22 April, 1500. There are many historians who believe this date to be false, but it is generally safe to say that sometime in April of the year 1500 the Portuguese fleet arrived in Brazil. That fleet was commanded by Pedro Álvares Cabral, whose name is known by all Brazilians.

The Portuguese quickly began setting out the forts and colonies and interacting with the indigenous people of the area. Many foreigners believe the first place the Portuguese landed in Brazil was Rio de Janeiro. However, this is incorrect. The Portuguese first landed, as best we can tell from historical documents, at a place called, Vera Cruz which is a small island south of Salvador, Bahia, Brazil.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #7

An Important Brazilian Meeting

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Rogério: Bom dia a todos!
2. Todos: Bom dia!
3. Rogério: Sejam bem vindos a essa primeira reunião do nosso comitê sobre assuntos acadêmicos da escola Inovação. Antes de começar com a agenda como programado, alguém quer falar alguma coisa?
4. Vitor: Eu quero. Este ano temos muitas coisas para planejar. A escola vai mudar de local como vocês já sabem e recebemos uma bolsa do estado para fazer essa mudança. Mas precisamos aproveitar esse dinheiro para comprar materiais novos pra escola também.
5. Rogério: Eu concordo. E o primeiro passo é identificar quais materiais devemos comprar. Vitor, você gostaria de coordenar essa parte do projeto?
6. Vitor: Com prazer.

ENGLISH

1. Rogério: Good morning to all.
2. Everyone: Good morning!
3. Rogério: Welcome to this first meeting for our Academic topics committee for the Innovative School. Before we begin the agenda as scheduled, does anyone want to say anything?

CONT'D OVER

4. Vitor: I do. This year we have many things to plan. The school will be moved to a new place as you already know, and we received a grant from the state to do this. But we need to take advantage of this money to buy new supplies for the school as well.
5. Rogério: I agree. And the first step is to identify which supplies we should buy. Vitor, would you like to coordinate this part of the project?
6. Vitor: With pleasure.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
comitê	committee	noun	masculine
assunto	subject	noun	masculine
mudar	to change, to move	verb	
acadêmico	academic	adjective	masculine
aproveitar	to enjoy, to take advantage of (positively), to avail oneself of	verb	
concordar	to agree, to consent	verb	
local	place, local	noun	masculine
programar	to program, to plan, to schedule	verb	
com prazer	with pleasure	phrase	
planejar	to plan	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Faço parte do comitê executivo.</p> <p>"I am part of the executive committee."</p>	<p>Por que vocês se interessaram por este assunto?</p> <p>"Why have you become interested in this subject?"</p>
<p>Eu vou me mudar para Sergipe.</p> <p>"I'm going to move to Sergipe."</p>	<p>Este assunto é muito acadêmico.</p> <p>"This topic is very academic."</p>
<p>Eu vou aproveitar muito essa viagem.</p> <p>"I'm going to enjoy this trip a lot." or "I'm going to take advantage of every benefit of this trip."</p>	<p>Ela concordou em trabalhar no feriado.</p> <p>"She agreed to working on the holiday."</p>
<p>Ele mora neste local.</p> <p>"He lives in this area."</p>	<p>A reunião está programada para as 5.</p> <p>"The meeting is scheduled until 5."</p>
<p>Eu faço isso com prazer.</p> <p>"I will do that with pleasure."</p>	<p>Ele planejou tudo com antecedência.</p> <p>"He planned everything in advance."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

planejar and programar

In Brazilian Portuguese, the words *planejar* and *programar* can often be used interchangeably. But not always. First, *planejar* means "to plan." Second, the word *programar* means "to plan" but it can also mean "to program."

In general, when you're talking about computers and you use the word *programar*, you're talking about programming software. In contrast, when you're talking about an event and someone uses the word *programar*, they really mean "to plan." It might help to think about *programar* as "to make a program for" as in a program or agenda for an event.

com prazer

The phrase *com prazer* is a very common phrase in Brazilian Portuguese and it's a very polite phrase. It's usually used when someone requests something of you. So, if someone requests you to do something for them, you can say

com prazer

To mean,

"Yes, certainly, with pleasure."

Since this phrase is so polite, sometimes it's seen as too formal for casual conversation. So you should avoid using *com prazer* when you're just with friends.

mudar de local

The phrase *mudar de local* literally translates to "change of locale" or "change of place." This phrase is usually used for permanent changes.

For example, it would not be appropriate to use *mudar de local* if you are moving a book from one side of the table to the other. However, it was very appropriately used in the dialogue where they were describing the move of an entire school from one building to a new building.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use and Understand Long Titles in Brazilian Portuguese

Comitê sobre assuntos acadêmicos da escola Maura Abaurre
"Academic topics committee for the Maura Abaurre school"

One very difficult task for learners of Brazilian Portuguese is how to decipher very long titles. As many Brazilian organizations have very long titles or names it's often very difficult to know what to call certain places or companies or even worse how to translate them into English.

In English, we create long titles usually by compounding adjectives. For example...

"International Phonetic Alphabet Creation and Marketing Committee"

Here, the "committee" is preceded by everything that describes it. It is an international committee, it is a phonetic alphabet creation committee, it is a phonetic alphabet marketing

committee, And many other things depending on how you rearrange the adjectives.

Titles in Brazilian Portuguese

In Brazilian Portuguese, the structure is generally in reverse however it is more complicated than that. First, with short titles you have the name of the entity for example a committee, at the beginning which is then followed by its adjectives. So a short title example would be...

Comitê internacional - "International committee"

Thus far, not complicated. However, it does get more complicated from here on out. With longer titles, such as...

"International Phonetic Alphabet Committee"

...Brazilian Portuguese requires the use of phrases and prepositions inside the title. So this title would be translated as,

Comitê do alfabeto fonético internacional

Notice how the word *do* is inserted between the *comitê* and the *alfabeto*. This is because, in Portuguese, committees need to do something or exist for some reason. And that reason needs to be evident in the title. So a word-for-word translation of this title would be...

"Committee on the international phonetic alphabet."

With even longer titles, things become even more complicated. To use our example from before,

"International Phonetic Alphabet Creation and Marketing Committee"

This becomes in Portuguese...

Comitê para a criação e divulgação do alfabeto fonético internacional.

In other words, the title is more of a sentence describing the committee instead of a list of adjectives describing the committee like it is in English. Word for Word, this title would translate as...

"Committee for the creation and marketing of the international phonetic alphabet."

Long title examples:

1. *A organização profissional de surfistas do Brasil* - "Professional Brazilian Surfers Organization"
2. *Conselho Econômico e Social da Organização das Nações Unidas* - "United Nations Economic and Social Council"

Example from the dialogue:

The dialogue had a very good example of a title like this. In the dialogue, Rogério said,

1. *Comitê sobre os assuntos acadêmicos da escola Maura Abaurre* - "Academic topics committee for the Maura Abaurre school."

Here, the titles are even more complex. However, remember that the complexity is not because of grammar but because of the situation. The school is going through a large change and this committee has been organized to help deal with that change. In other words, since the relationship between the committee and the school is more complex, the title for the committee will also be more complex.

When titles are very long, you can usually break them up into smaller parts. In this case, this title has three main parts. The first part is only one word...

comitê

This part is the "core" of the title. All the other parts of the title refer back or refer to this core. The next part of the title is...

sobre os assuntos acadêmicos - "About the academic topics"

This is the first level of description used in the title. In other words, it is the most central aspect of the "core," or *comitê*.

The next part is...

da escola Maura Abaurre.

This second part doesn't describe the "core" directly. Instead, it describes the "academic

topics" or rather, identifies whose academic topics they are. In other words, they are the academic topics of the Maura Abaurre school.

When you put these three parts together, you get...

Comitê sobre os assuntos acadêmicos da escola Maura Abaurre - "Academic topics committee for the Maura Abaurre school."

Language Tip

In Brazilian Portuguese, titles are often broken up into these parts. A good tip for being able to identify the parts is looking for the prepositions. In our title from the dialogue, each part was easily divided at the prepositions.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Importance of Education in Brazil

Education is very important to Brazilians. In fact, education is written into Brazil's constitution as a right of every Brazilian. The Brazilian school system has both a public and a private side that function alongside each other. Private schools are usually paid monthly and many public schools are funded by government funds and grants along with donations from the local community.

Most of the time, the private schools are better than the public schools. The teachers are paid better and the students have better materials as well. However, this is not always true and there are many public schools in Brazil that are very highly ranked among Brazilian schools.

At the university level, however, this relationship is inverted. In fact, of the top ten universities in Brazil, seven are public or *federal*. These public universities function on a merit system. Each year, a very difficult test called the *vestibular* is taken by thousands of hopeful students. Only the highest scores are accepted into that university.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #8 Why Should You Accept This Portuguese Invitation?

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- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Adriana: Alô? Eu poderia falar com a senhora Fernandes?
2. Débora: É ela mesma.
3. Adriana: Senhora Fernandes, eu sou a Adriana Lima e faço parte do comitê sobre assuntos acadêmicos para a escola Inovação. Estou ligando para convidá-la a participar da nossa próxima reunião.
4. Débora: Eu agradeço o convite mas quero saber o porquê antes de aceitar ou rejeitar o convite.
5. Adriana: Com certeza. Como a senhora já deve saber, a nossa escola vai mudar de endereço. Quando o comitê foi informado que a senhora passou pela escola como aluna e também foi professora aqui por muitos anos, decidimos que a sua opinião sobre o futuro da escola deveria ser ouvida.
6. Débora: Entendi. Obrigada pelo convite. Eu aceito o seu convite então. Quando vai ser a reunião?

ENGLISH

1. Adriana: Hello! Could I speak to Mrs. Fernandes?
2. Débora
Fernandes: This is she.
3. Adriana: Mrs. Fernandes, I am Adriana Lima and I am part of the Academic Subjects Committee for the Innovative school. I'm calling to invite you to participate in our next meeting.

CONT'D OVER

4. Débora
Fernandes: Thank you for the invite, but I want to know the reason why before I accept or reject it.
5. Adriana: Certainly. As you might already know, our school will change its address. When the committee was informed that you studied at this school and taught there as well for many years, we decided that your opinion about the future of the school should be heard.
6. Débora
Fernandes: Okay. Thank you for the invite. I accept your invitation. When will the meeting be?

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
poderia	could	verb	
comitê	committee	noun	masculine
participar	to participate	verb	
aceitar	to accept	verb	
rejeitar	to reject	verb	
saber o porquê	to know the reason why	phrase	
a senhora	ma'am	phrase	
deveria	should	verb	
decidir	to decide	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Poderia me ajudar?</p> <p>"Could you help me?"</p>	<p>Faço parte do comitê executivo.</p> <p>"I am part of the executive committee."</p>
<p>Eu quero participar da festa!</p> <p>"I want to participate in the party!"</p>	<p>Eu aceito.</p> <p>"I accept."</p>
<p>Eu rejeitei a oferta.</p> <p>"I rejected the offer."</p>	<p>Eu queria saber o porquê da sua ligação.</p> <p>"I would like to know the reason for your call."</p>
<p>A senhora quer ajuda?</p> <p>"Would you like some help ma'am?"</p>	<p>Ele deveria te ajudar mais.</p> <p>"He should help you more."</p>

Está decidido, a comida está ótima.

"It's decided, the food is great."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

a senhora ("you")

In Brazilian Portuguese, there are formal forms of you. One of the two most important ones was used in the dialogue. That phrase was *a senhora*. Literally translated, *a senhora* means "the lady." However, in Brazilian Portuguese, this is a polite way to directly refer to someone who is older than you. In other words, when you are speaking to an older woman, you can politely address her as,

a senhora

Or if you're addressing an older man you can politely address him as,

o senhor

In a sentence, these two forms of address replace the word "you."

For example:

1. *O senhor vai nos visitar semana que vem?*
"Will you visit us next week, sir?"
2. *A senhora quer ajuda para por a mesa?*
"Do you want help to set the table, ma'am?"

deveria vs. poderia

The two words *deveria* and *poderia* share something in common, which is the *ia* at the end. This is a type of conjugation that is often referred to as the "would conjugation." So, *poderia* would be translated as "would be able to" or "could." However, *deveria* would be translated as "would must," which doesn't really make sense in English. The feeling however of this word is very similar to the word "should" in English.

For example:

1. *Ele deveria ter chegado já.*
"He should be here by now."
2. *Ela poderia viajar para a Europa.*
"She could travel to Europe."

Another difference is that the word *poderia* can be separated from its *ia* ending and that ending can be put before it. This changes the meaning from "would be able to" to "was going to be able to." So it would be *ia poder*.*

However, you cannot do this with *deveria* and maintain the meaning. *Deveria* means "should" and *ia dever* means "was going to owe."

For example:

1. *Ela ia dever muito dinheiro.*
"She was going to owe a lot of money."
2. *Eles iam poder vir mas teve uma tempestade muito forte, e ficaram em casa.*
"They were going to come but there was a very strong storm and they stayed at home."

*Technically, *ia poder* is a conjugated form of *ir* and the infinitive form of *poder*. However, the meaning is the same.

saber o porquê

The phrase *saber o porquê* literally translates to "to know the for that." But this phrase means, "to know why" or "to know the reason why." In spoken Portuguese there isn't anything particularly special happening here however, in written Portuguese, this *porquê* is spelled slightly different from normal. The *que* has a circumflex accent over the *e*. This is very important when you are writing. And Portuguese professors will always mark down points if you don't put that circumflex accent over the *E*.

The way to know when you should put the circumflex accent over the *e* is by the word that comes before it. The *porquê* with the circumflex accent is almost always preceded by the article *o*.

For example:

1. *Eu queria saber o porquê da sua desistência.*
"I wanted to know the reason for you quitting."
2. *Eu não queria saber o porquê disso.*
"I didn't want to know the reason for that."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Giving Reasons using *para*
Estou ligando para convidá-la a participar da nossa próxima reunião.
"I'm calling to invite you to participate in our next meeting."

In previous lessons, you learned how to give reasons by using the word *porque*, which means because. In this lesson, we're going to look at several instances where the word *para* can be used in the same way.

Example 1

In the dialogue, we heard the phrase...

1. *Estou ligando para convidá-la a participar da nossa próxima reunião.*
"I'm calling to invite you to participate in our next meeting."

Notice how the word *para* is used to introduce the reason why Adriana is calling. Also notice that this is also the same way that the word *to* is used in English.

Sentences using *para* to provide an explanation have three parts. First, you have the action or the thing that you want to explain. Second, you have the word *para* which indicates a shift toward giving an explanation. Third, you have the actual explanation or reason that you're giving.

So let's break down this sentence. Our first part or the thing we want to explain, would be...*Estou ligando* - "I am calling."

The second part of the sentence is the word *para* which signals a change or adjustment. In the sentence, it means that something different from what was before is about to come. Our third part of the sentence is the largest part of the sentence...*convidá-la a participar da nossa próxima reunião*. - "Invite you to participate in our next meeting."

Now, the word *convidá-las* is a special verbal conjugation that we will talk about in the intermediate series. For now, just know that *convidá-la* means invite you, when you're talking to a woman. If Adriana had been talking to a man she would have said, *convidá-lo*.

Example 2

Another good example of this is the sentence...

1. *Preciso de silêncio para eu poder falar.*
"I need silence to be able to speak."
"I need silence so that I can speak."

Now, in this example, a few things are happening. First, the same as three parts of the sentence exist; you have the action or thing that you want to explain, you have the word *para* which indicates the transition, and then you have the actual explanation. Second, you have the word *eu* followed by an infinitive form of *poder*.

Usually, when you have the word *eu* followed by a verb, that verb needs to be conjugated into the first person. However in this case, the verb stays in its infinitive form. This is special in

definitive form is called the personal infinitive, and we talk about it more in our intermediate series.

Our tip here though, is that almost any time that a verb follows the preposition *para* that verb will be in its infinitive form.

Example 3

Our last example deals with using the word *para* with more than one person. All of our other examples of only used a single person. So our example sentence is...

1. *A banda tocou uma música agitada para as pessoas dançarem mais rápido.*
"The band played a fast song so the people would dance faster."

This example has the same three parts of the sentence. One difference here is that the first part which gives the action or thing you want to explain is much larger than in our previous examples. But the structure is the same. There is a special for conjugation in the third part of the sentence however.

There, the word *dançarem* is a plural form conjugation of the personal infinitive. In this situation, you have the infinitive form of the verb, which is *dancar*, with an additional *-em* added on the end. This *-em* makes the personal infinitive plural in the third person.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Addressing Your Elders in Brazil

In Brazil, things are always changing. One of the things that is changing right now is how you speak to people who are older than you. The traditional way is to address them using the phrases *o senhor* for men and *a senhora* for women.

In general, if the person is much older than you, thirty or forty years older for example, you should probably still refer to them in this way. However, for people who are close to your own age, within ten years for example, it often depends more on social relationships than on age. For example, if you are older than the other person but they are your boss you would probably still call that person *o senhor* or *a senhora*.

Another situation where neither *o senhor* nor *a senhora* would work is when you're talking

with a close friend. Usually, even if the person is twenty years older than you, they won't like you always calling them *o senhor* or *a senhora*. So, unless they specifically tell you to, don't use these terms with close friends.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #9

Reporting Back in Portuguese

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. **Adriana:** Boa tarde a todos e sejam bem vindos a reunião do nosso comitê. Eu me desculpo pelo Rogério por não estar aqui hoje. Ele teve um compromisso familiar. Vitor, você poderia começar?
2. **Vitor:** Sim, obrigado. Como conversamos na última reunião, a senhora Fernandes foi convidada para participar da nossa reunião na semana que vem para compartilhar conosco a sua opinião a respeito das mudanças que a escola vai sofrer em breve. Adriana, foi você que convidou ela, certo?
3. **Adriana:** Fui eu sim.
4. **Vitor:** E o que ela achou do convite?
5. **Adriana:** No começo, parecia que ela ia falar não. Mas depois que eu expliquei as razões do convite, ela concordou em vir.

ENGLISH

1. **Adriana:** Hello everyone and welcome to this committee meeting. I apologize for Rogério for not being here. He had a family engagement. Vitor, could you start for us?
2. **Vitor:** Yes, thank you. According to our conversation from our last meeting, Mrs. Fernandes was invited to participate in next week's meeting to share with us her opinion on the changes the school will soon undergo. Adriana, it was you who invited her, right?
3. **Adriana:** Yes, it was me.

CONT'D OVER

4. Vitor: And what did she think of our invitation?
5. Adriana: At the beginning, it seemed like she was going to say "no." But after explaining our reasons to invite her, she agreed to come.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
compromisso	appointment	noun	masculine
começar	to begin, to start	verb	
convidou ela	invited her	phrase	
participar	to participate	verb	
compartilhar	to share	verb	
opinião	opinion	noun	feminine
em breve	soon	preposition	
convite	invitation	noun	masculine
parecer	to appear, to seem	verb	
sofrer	to suffer	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Eu tive um compromisso ontem.</p> <p>"I had an appointment yesterday."</p>	<p>Ele começou a trabalhar no posto de gasolina faz uma semana.</p> <p>"He started working at the gas station a week ago."</p>
--	---

<p>Já já a gente vai começar.</p> <p>"We're just about to start."</p>	<p>Eles começaram faz pouco tempo.</p> <p>"They started a short time ago."</p>
<p>Que horas você começa a trabalhar?</p> <p>"What time do you start working?"</p>	<p>Eu não conheço a pessoa que convidou ela.</p> <p>"I don't know the person who invited her."</p>
<p>Eu quero participar da festa!</p> <p>"I want to participate in the party!"</p>	<p>Ele compartilhou sua ideia com a equipe.</p> <p>"He shared his idea with the team."</p>
<p>Qual é a sua opinião?</p> <p>"What's your opinion?"</p>	<p>Seu pacote vai chegar em breve.</p> <p>"Your package will arrive soon."</p>
<p>Recebi um convite hoje.</p> <p>"I received an invitation today."</p>	<p>Você parece triste.</p> <p>"You look sad."</p>
<p>Seus planos vão sofrer uma mudança.</p> <p>"Your plans will suffer a change."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

em breve

The phrase *em breve* literally translates to in brief but it means soon. In the majority of situations, the phrase *em breve* is interchangeable with the word *logo* which also means soon.

The main difference between *em breve* and *logo* is that *em breve* is a more polished phrase. In other words, using it could make you sound a bit more intelligent.

Also, the phrase *em breve* is sometimes referred to as a floater phrase. This is because it can

be put at the beginning of the sentence, in the middle of the sentence, or at the end of the sentence without changing its meaning.

But always remember that you can't split the phrase. In other words, you cannot insert different words between the *em* and the *breve*.

convidou ela (vs a convidou)

The phrase *convidou ela* is an interesting one. This is because it is grammatically incorrect in almost all forms of Portuguese, however, almost everyone says it.

This phrase can be heard in the southern part of Brazil, in the south eastern part of Brazil, in the north of Brazil, in the north east of Brazil, and in central Brazil. In other words, in practically every part of Brazil you can find people who say this phrase instead of its correct form which is,

a convidou

We spoke about this grammar structure in a previous lesson and it was mentioned there that using this particular grammar structure must be done with care. In general, using a *convidou* at work is probably safe. However, if used among friends it can make you sound pretentious.

Some other examples of other grammatically incorrect phrases used in Brazil are:

1. *Deixe-me ver.*
"Let me see."
2. *Vou pegar o sapato!*
"I'm going to get my shoes."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is When to Conjugate Verbs

Vitor, você poderia começar?

"Vitor, could you start for us?"

At about the Upper Beginner level, sentences with multiple verbs become common. One of the major difficulties that Portuguese learners have at this level is identifying which verb to

conjugate in the sentence. Sometimes, you can have multiple verbs conjugated in multiple tenses in one sentence and other times only one verb will be conjugated and the rest will be in infinitive form. In this lesson, we're going to look at how you can know when to do which. We have three main tips.

Tip 1

The simplest sentence only has a single verb. For example:

1. *Eu gosto de sapatos.*
"I like shoes."

Here the verb *gostar* is conjugated into its present tense first-person form. Another example is the sentence:

1. *Eu fazia caminhada todos os dias.*
"I went on a walk every day."

Here the verb *fazer* is conjugated into its past tense first-person form.

Tip 2

Getting a little more complicated, we find sentences that have two or more linked verbs. Linked verbs occur when two verbs have their meaning connected in some way. When verbs are linked in Brazilian Portuguese, the first verb is conjugated into its appropriate tense and the second verb is left in its infinitive form. For example, in the dialogue we had the phrase:

1. *que a escola vai sofrer*
"That the school will suffer"

In this sentence we have two verbs. The first is the verb *ir* which is conjugated into its present tense third person form which is *vai*. The second verb is *sofrer* which means to suffer, or in the context of this dialogue "to have happen to."

These are considered linked verbs because the verb *vai (ir)* indicates the future tense in Brazilian Portuguese. So, *vai sofrer* translates to "will suffer" or "will have happen to it." Because these two verbs are linked, the second verb is not conjugated. If you were to say:

1. *que a escola vai sofrer*
"That the school will suffer"

Brazilians would not be able to understand what you're saying because the verb "sofre" is in the third person singular form when it should be in the infinitive form. Brazilians are very good guessing so they can probably figure it out, however that sentence does not make sense. And be aware that the English translation does not change. So while it seems to make sense by the English translation, the Portuguese is unintelligible.

Some other examples:

1. *gosta de cantar*
"like to sing"
2. *pode tentar*
"can try"

Tip 3

Our last tip has to deal with some exceptions to these two basic rules. Exception number one is that verbs following the word *para* are not linked to the previous verb but they are conjugated. That conjugation is called the personal infinitive and we'll talk more about that in our intermediate series. But an example sentence would be:

1. *Ele levantou para ajudar a moça.*
"He got up to help the young lady."

Exception number two is that verbs following the word "que" are also not linked to the verbs that precede them and will often be conjugated in the normal way. For example:

1. *Foi tão bondoso o que ele fez comigo.*
"It was so kind what he did for me."

Or, in more colloquial English:

1. "What he did for me was so kind."

In this sentence, we have two verbs. The first verb is *ser* and in the sentence we see the past tense third person conjugation *foi*. The second verb is *fazer* and in the sentence we see the past tense third person conjugation of it as well which is *fez*.

Here, the word *que* acts as a transition point between the two separate phrases. Notice how the first phrase is an independent clause and the second phrase is a dependent clause, for those of you who like to structure sentences that will be helpful. For those of you who don't ignore what we just said.

Exception 3 is that there are specific verb conjugations that require that both verbs be conjugated. However, they are not conjugated equally. For example:

1. *estava conversando*
"was talking"
2. *tenho trabalhado*
"I have worked"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Brazilian Meeting Etiquette

When you're at a meeting like the one in the dialogue, people often need to report to the group about the tasks they have performed. In general, this kind of reporting is done in one of two ways in Brazilian companies. One way is that the head of the group, for example the supervisor, boss, or president, will request information from people individually. This is the pattern used in the dialogue.

The second way is that the head of the group will open up the reporting to everyone at once by saying something like...

Quem quer começar?

Which translates to...

"Who wants to start?"

In either case, be ready with your answers and already have them well planned out in

advance. Knowing what you are going to say makes it much easier to say it when the time comes.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #10

How Will The Kids Get Home From Their Brazilian School?

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- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Esposo: Mas amor, não vai dar! Eu tenho que estar do outro lado da cidade meio-dia. Eu não posso pegar as crianças.
2. Esposa: Mas eu também estou ocupada. Tenho uma reunião bem nesse horário e meu chefe falou que se alguém faltar, vai ser demitido.
3. Esposo: Mas se eu faltar, também vou ser demitido.
4. Esposa: Então o que que a gente faz? A gente não conhece ninguém nessa cidade.
5. Esposo: Será que não tem uma van que pode buscá-los só dessa vez?
6. Esposa: Não. O motorista foi honesto comigo e falou que só trabalha com contrato mensal.
7. Esposo: Hum... E a Vívian? Ela não trabalha todos os dias. Talvez ela possa.

ENGLISH

1. Husband: But my love, it won't work! I have to be on the other side of the city at noon. I can't pick up the kids.
2. Wife: But I'm busy too. I have a meeting right at that time and my boss said that if anyone misses it they'll be fired.
3. Husband: But if I miss my meeting, I'll be fired too.
4. Wife: So, what are we going to do? We don't know anyone in the city.

CONT'D OVER

5. Husband: Might there be a van that could pick them up just this once?
6. Wife: No. The driver was honest with me and said that he only works with monthly contracts.
7. Husband: Hum... What about Vívian? She doesn't work every day. Maybe she can.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
emprego	job, employment	noun	masculine
horário	time, schedule	noun	masculine
só dessa vez	just this once	phrase	
chefe	boss, chief, head	noun	masculine
demitido	fired	adjective	masculine
van	van	noun	feminine
talvez ela possa	maybe she could	phrase	
tenho que	I have to	phrase	
buscá-los	pick them up	phrase	
contrato	contract	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Eu preciso de um emprego.</p> <p>"I need a job."</p>	<p>Só dessa vez, podemos comer em casa?</p> <p>"Just this once, could we eat at home?"</p>
<p>Todos no escritório usam terno, exceto o chefe.</p> <p>"Everyone at the office wears a suit, except the boss."</p>	<p>Meu chefe é muito legal.</p> <p>"My boss is very cool."</p>
<p>Ela foi demitida semana passada.</p> <p>"She was fired last week."</p>	<p>Tem uma van que passa por aqui?</p> <p>"Is there a van that comes by here?"</p>
<p>Talvez ela possa ser japonesa.</p> <p>"Maybe she could be Japanese."</p>	<p>Eu tenho que voltar pra casa agora.</p> <p>"I have to go back home now."</p>
<p>Você vai buscá-los?</p> <p>"Are you going to pick them up?"</p>	<p>Não assine nada antes de ler o contrato cuidadosamente.</p> <p>"Don't sign anything before you have read the contract thoroughly."</p>
<p>Bem, o trabalho é de contrato.</p> <p>"Well, it's contract work."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

tenho que vs. tenho de

In the dialogue you heard the phrase *Eu tenho que* which literally translates to "I have that" but it means "I have to." We've taught this phrase in previous series and it's one that you hear often every day in Brazil.

A similar phrase that you do not hear as often is *eu tenho de*. The meaning here is exactly the

same as *eu tenho que*. However, *Eu tenho de* sounds more professional or more educated.

For example:

1. *Eu tenho que terminar com esse projeto.*
"I have to finish this project."
2. *Eu tenho de terminar com esse projeto.*
"I have to finish this project."

buscá-los

The phrase *buscá-los* literally translates to "search them" or "go after them." However, in the dialogue, and in most contexts, the phrase *buscá-los* means "pick them up." The idea behind the verb *buscar* is to go get something/someone and bring it/them back.

Also, this is a special structure of the verb. There is another similar form which is *buscá-las* which you would use when the people you are "picking up" are all female.

For example:

1. *Quem vai buscá-los?*
"Who will pick them up?"
2. *Não vai dar pra buscá-los.*
"Picking them up is not going to work."

*Many Brazilian's don't often use this phrase in daily conversation as it can feel too formal, but any Brazilian would understand it.

talvez ela possa

The phrase *talvez ela possa* is what we often call a subjunctive phrase and it means "maybe she could." The word *talvez* which means "maybe" always brings a feeling of uncertainty when it's used. That uncertainty triggers the subjunctive conjugations of verbs. There are many different variables which can trigger the subjunctive, and there are three different types or tenses of the subjunctive. The phrase *talvez ela possa* is in the present subjunctive. We'll look at the future subjunctive in our grammar point.

For example:

1. *Talvez ela possa vir aqui em casa!*
"Maybe she could come here to our house!"
2. *Talvez ela possa viajar para o Japão.*
"Maybe she could travel to Japan."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Future Subjunctive

...meu chefe falou que se alguém faltar, será demitido.

"...my boss said that if anyone misses it he'll be fired."

The subjunctive can be used in the past, in the present, and in the future. In this lesson will look at using the future subjunctive tense.

The future subjunctive tense is not unique to Portuguese. English has it too, however, in English we don't have special conjugations for the future subjunctive tense. Some examples of English future subjunctive would be...

1. "I will go if he comes."

AND...

1. "They will do it when he asks them."

These sentences will also use the future subjunctive if there translated into Portuguese. For example...

1. *Eu vou se ele chegar.*

AND...

1. *Eles o farão quando ele pedir.*

There are at least two different ways to explain the future subjunctive and how to use it. We'll look at both methods.

Method 1

The general rule for forming the future subjunctive starts with the Portuguese third person plural preterite tense. First, you conjugate the verb into the third person plural preterite tense. For example:

falar ("to talk") becomes *falaram* ("they talked")

comer ("to eat") becomes *comeram* ("they ate")

dormir ("to sleep") becomes *dormiram* ("they slept")

You then drop the *-r-a-m* ending and add a new ending. For the singular forms, you simply add *r*. For the first person plural, you add *-r-m-o-s*, and for the third person plural you add *-r-e-m*.

So, for example the verb *falar* when put into the future subjunctive first person singular form is *falar*. ("I will speak). It's exactly the same. It's as if you are simply stating the infinitive.

For first person plural, there is a slight change so the verb *falar* would become *falamos* ("we will speak").

And the verb *dormir* would become *dormirmos* ("we will sleep").

For the third person plural, there is also a very slight change. In this conjugation, the verb *falar* would become *falarem* ("they/you'll will speak") and the verb *comer* would become *comerem* ("they/you'll will eat").

It's also important to remember that the subjunctive is only used when there is an uncertain mood about what is being said and that what you are saying is in the future tense.

Method 2

You can also think of these conjugations in another way. This "other way" simplifies the future

subjunctive tense to simply reusing the infinitive form in the subjunctive situation. This explanation usually works because almost every form of the future subjunctive is simply the infinitive form of the verb. The least common conjugations for the future subjunctive tense, which are the first person plural and third person plural, do have a slight change but they are simply additions to the infinitive form.

According to this explanation, in the future subjunctive you simply reuse the infinitive form all the time whenever you need to, and when you need to conjugate the verb to the will or the form you will add *-m-o-s* or *e-m* respectively. For example:

1. *Ele vai viajar quando tiver dinheiro.*
"He will travel when he has money."

If you wish to change that to the third person plural, the same sentence would be:

1. *Eles vão viajar quando tiverem dinheiro.*
"They will travel when they have money."

Quick Tip

So, the tip here is that the verb following the triggers *quando*, *assim que*, *se*, *logo que*, *depois que*, or *enquanto* will be in the future subjunctive if the main verb of the sentence is in the future tense. For example:

1. *Eu vou dormir assim que puder.*
"I will go to sleep as soon as I can."

OR

1. *Elas vão jogar vôlei se não chover.*
"The girls will play volleyball if it doesn't rain."

One example from the dialogue is:

1. *Mas se eu faltar, eu também vou ser demitido.*
"But if I miss my meeting, I'll be fired to."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

School Transport in Brazil

In most Brazilian cities, a public school transport system does not exist. There are no big yellow school buses in Brazil. That said, in cities with a public transportation system, students can receive fare discounted as much as 100%.

There is also a sizable industry of individuals and small companies who purchase medium-sized vans and small buses to transport children from their homes to their schools. These individuals and companies, often referred to simply as *van* or *transporte*, are independent from the local government. However, they are all registered with the schools and licensed by the city or state government to be school bus drivers.

Usually, each family that has children going to school will contact one of these individuals or companies and make a contract for that company or person to pick up their child at their home and taken to school and then pick up their child at school and bring them home. Prices vary for the service from around \$40 per month to more than \$500 per month, depending on the school, the distance, and the city.

In general, smaller children ride the special buses when the family can afford it and older children ride public transportation.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #11

Are You Experiencing Some Problems in Brazil?

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- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
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- 3 Sample Sentences
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- 8 Cultural Insight

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Adriana: Seu Rogério? Eu poderia falar com o senhor?
2. Rogério: Sim Adriana. Como eu posso ajudar?
3. Adriana: Bom, eu acho que temos um problema.
4. Rogério: O que houve?
5. Adriana: Eu recebi um telefonema da senhora Fernandes faz uns 15 minutos. Ela disse que não vai poder vir na nossa reunião.
6. Rogério: Houve algum problema?
7. Adriana: Não, senhor. Ela esqueceu que está indo pra Europa amanhã pra passar as férias. Vai ficar lá umas 4 semanas.
8. Rogério: Hmm...Bem, vamos ter a nossa reunião como programado e podemos recebê-la quando ela voltar então.

ENGLISH

1. Adriana: Mr. Rogério? Could I speak to you, sir?
2. Rogério: Yes, Adriana. How can I help?
3. Adriana: Well, I think we have a problem.
4. Rogério: What happened?

CONT'D OVER

5. **Adriana:** I received a phone call from Mrs. Fernandes about fifteen minutes ago. She said she won't be able to come to our meeting.
6. **Rogério:** Did something happen?
7. **Adriana:** No, sir. She forgot that she was going to Europe tomorrow on vacation. She will stay there for about four weeks.
8. **Rogério:** Hmm... Well, we'll have our meeting as planned and we can invite her again when she returns then.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
telefonema	phone call	noun	masculine
Seu	Mister (Mr.)	noun	masculine
um	one, a	numeral	masculine
esquecer	to forget	verb	
férias	vacation, break, holiday	noun	feminine
programado	planned	participle	masculine
algum problema	any problem	phrase	
O que houve?	What happened?	phrase	
não vai poder vir	Will not be able to come	phrase	
receber	to receive	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Eu recebi um telefonema do meu pai.</p> <p>"I received a phone call from my father."</p>	<p>O senhor que alguma ajuda, Seu Carlos?</p> <p>Do you need any help, Mr. Carlos?</p>
<p>Comprei um carro novo.</p> <p>"I bought a new car."</p>	<p>Não esqueça o seu guarda-chuva.</p> <p>"Don't forget your umbrella."</p>
<p>Eu esqueci a senha da minha conta de banco.</p> <p>"I forgot the password of my bank account."</p>	<p>Eu to de férias no final do mês.</p> <p>"I'll be on vacation at the end of the month."</p>
<p>Está tudo programado?</p> <p>"Is everything planned?"</p>	<p>Eu acho que tem algum problema com essa máquina.</p> <p>"I think there is some problem with this machine."</p>
<p>Sara, o que houve?</p> <p>"Sara, what happened?"</p>	<p>Ela não vai poder vir dessa vez.</p> <p>"She won't be able to come this time."</p>
<p>Eu recebo dois mil reais por mês.</p> <p>"I get paid two thousand reals per month."</p>	<p>Os artistas famosos recebem cachês muito altos.</p> <p>"The famous artists receive high paychecks."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

O que houve?

The phrase *o que houve* literally translates to "what existed" but it means "what happened." This phrase is a very intelligent phrase. In fact, most phrases that use the verb *haver*, like this one, tend to sound intelligent and polished.

This could be because the verb *haver* is an irregular verb and has a fairly difficult conjugation pattern. In addition, the word is not used very often, which makes its occasional appearance and speech seem even more noticeable.

In any case, the question *O que houve?* is a very polite and kind question you can use when you want to show that you are concerned about someone or something.

For example:

1. *O que houve, Sara?*
"What happened Sara?"
2. *Você precisa me falar o que houve.*
"You need to tell me what happened."

não vai poder vir

The phrase *não vai poder vir* literally translates to "no go to be able to to come." However, the meaning is much simpler and this phrase conveys the understanding of "Will not be able to come."

This is an instance where we have three verbs—*ir*, *poder*, and *vir*—linked together in a kind of verbal string. The only verb that is conjugated is the first one, *vai*. The following verbs are kept in their infinitive forms. This is a pattern that is followed throughout Portuguese.

For example:

1. *Sua irmã não vai poder vir para a festa.*
"Your sister will not be able to come to the party."
2. *Ele não vai poder vir para a missa.*
"He won't be able to come to mass."

algum problema

The phrase *algum problema* literally translates to "some problem," which, luckily, is exactly what it means. What we wanted to point out here was that the word *problema* is a masculine word. Not that it is used only by men but grammatically it is a masculine word. In other words if you were to say...

alguma problema

That would be grammatically incorrect. The correct way is...

algum problema.

For example:

1. *Tem algum problema?*
"Is there some problem?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using *uns* and *umas* to Talk About Probability in Brazilian Portuguese

Eu recebi um telefonema da senhora Fernandes faz uns 15 minutos.

"I received a phone call from Mrs. Fernandes about 15 minutes ago."

In Brazilian Portuguese, there are four related words that have much more than four meanings. Those four words are *um*, *uma*, *uns* and *umas*.

In this lesson we're going to look at the three main meanings of these four words.

1. The Indefinite Article

Probably the most common use of these words is as indefinite articles. Indefinite articles are words like "a" and "an." In English, we only have these two however, in Portuguese, there are four which are the four words we just said, *um*, *uma*, *uns*, and *umas*.

Two examples of these words being used as indefinite articles are:

1. *Eu quero ganhar uma viagem para a Europa.*
"I want to win a trip to Europe."

AND

1. *Meu amigo vai servir no exército como um técnico de informática.*
"My friend will serve in the Army as an IT specialist."

In English, we change between "a" and "an" because of pronunciation. In Portuguese, Brazilian's change between *um* and *uma* because of grammatical gender. In the dialog, Fabiana said:

1. *Eu acho que temos um problema.*
"I think we have a problem."

2. The Portuguese Plural *uns* and *umas*

The words *um* and *uma* can also change because of plurality. For example, let's look at the first sentence in plural form to see how it will change.

1. *Eu quero ganhar uma viagem para um hotel cinco estrelas.*
"I want to win a trip to a five-star hotel."

Therefore, we may more properly say that the Portuguese words *um* and *uma* are equivalent to "a" and "an" while the plural Portuguese words *uns* and *umas* are more equivalent to the word "some." Another example sentence of this would be,

1. *Eles compraram umas casas.*
"They purchased some houses."

3. Using *uns* and *umas* as "about" or "around"

In the dialogue, the word *uns* was used twice with the meaning of "about." For example:

1. *Eu recebi um telefonema da senhora Fernandes faz uns 15 minutos.*
"I received a phone call from Mrs. Fernandes about 15 minutes ago."

Notice how both meanings of *um* are used in the same sentence. She says:

1. *eu recebi um telefonema*
"I received a phone call"

But then at the end of the sentence she said *faz uns 15 minutos*, which translated to "about 15 minutes ago."

Another example can be found toward the end of the dialogue. For example:

1. *Vai ficar lá umas 4 semanas.*
"She will stay there for about 4 weeks."

In English, we can sometimes do this. For example:

1. "The person just bought some 50 houses."
A pessoa acabou de comprar umas 500 casas."

This isn't a common way to speak, nor a common purchase for most people, however it also is not incorrect to speak this way. In Brazilian Portuguese, this is the meaning that *uns* and *umas* have. The only difference is that in Brazilian Portuguese, this usage is much more common.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Showing Respect in Brazil

As we mentioned in lesson eight, when you speak to people who are older than you usually use the terms *o senhor* or *a senhora* or their plural forms *os senhores* or *as senhoras* when you're speaking to a group. Two other words that are used to show respect are *seu* for men and *dona* for women. These roughly translate to "Mr." and "Mrs." but are more terms of respect than exact titles. You use them in the same situations and with the same people you would use the phrases *o senhor* or *a senhora*. For example:

1. *Seu Pedro? O senhor vai sair conosco?*
"Mr. Pedro? Will you be leaving with us?"

One excellent guide to excelling in Brazilian culture and Brazilian society is to be kind. Use kind tones of voice, use kind word choices, use kind gestures with your hands, and use kind facial expressions. Many aspects of Brazilian culture boil down to simply being nice to one another.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #12

Learning Something New in Portuguese

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- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
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- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Juninho: Vamos brincar de pique-esconde?
2. Aninha: Pique-esconde? Como que joga?
3. Juninho: Bem, eu fico aqui e conto até dez. Aí, você se esconde.
4. Aninha: E você vem me achar?
5. Juninho: Isso!
6. Aninha: Ahn, é como o esconde-esconde que eu brinco com meus irmãos!
7. Juninho: Foi isso que eu falei! Pique-esconde.
8. Aninha: Tá. Então, eu vou contar até dez. Um, dois, três, quatro, cinco, seis, sete, oito, nove, dez! Prontos ou não, lá vou eu!
9. Juninho: (risos) Ela nunca vai me achar aqui!
10. Aninha: Achei você!
11. Juninho: Ah!

ENGLISH

1. Juninho: Let's play hide and seek?
2. Aninha: Hide and seek? How do you play it?

CONT'D OVER

3. Juninho: Well, I stay here and count to ten. Then you go hide.
4. Aninha: And you'll come and find me?
5. Juninho: That's it!
6. Aninha: Oh, that's just like hide and seek that I play with my brothers!
7. Juninho: That's what I said! Hide and seek.
8. Aninha: Okay. So I'll count to ten. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten! Ready or not here I come!
9. Juninho: (laughs) He's never going to find me here!
10. Aninha: I found you!
11. Juninho: Ah!

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class
brincar	to play, to joke, to have fun	verb
esconde-esconde	hide and seek	proper noun
esconder-se	to hide oneself	verb
contar	to count	verb
nunca	never	adverb
Prontos ou não, lá vou eu!	Ready or not, here I come!	expression
achar	to find	verb

Foi isso que eu falei!

That's what I said!

expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Eu só estava brincando. "I was just playing."	Você quer brincar de esconde-esconde? "Do you want to play hide and seek?"
Eu vou me esconder. "I will hide."	Eu vou contar até dez. "I will count to 10."
Ele nunca vai me levar de volta ao palácio. "He'll never take me back to the palace."	Nunca fale com estranhos. "Never talk to strangers."
Prontos ou não, lá vou eu! "Ready or not, here I come!"	Eu não consigo achar meus óculos. "I can't find my glasses."
Foi isso que eu falei! "That's what I said!"	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Foi isso que eu falei!

The phrase *Foi isso que eu falei!* is a fun phrase and one that is said so often that even little children know it as you heard in the dialogue. Literally translated, this phrase would be:

1. "It was that what I said!"

Or in more colloquial English:

1. "That's what I said!"

The grammar here is a bit complex, but this phrase is used so often it's very easy to memorize you will hear it all the time. You can even use it as a formula to create other similar phrases like:

1. *Foi isso que ela falou.*
"That's what she said."
2. *Era isso que eu tinha falado.*
"That was what I had said."

Prontos ou não, lá vou eu!

This is what Brazilian children say after they finished counting when they're playing hide and go seek. It's equivalent to English "Ready or not here I come!"

Literally, the sentence translates to "Ready or no, there go I."

Notice the different word order like in our previous phrase:

Foi isso que eu falei.

Brazilian Portuguese and English speakers often think the other is speaking "backwards."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning How to Do Something New

Aí você se esconde.

"Then, you go hide."

Learning new things in Brazilian Portuguese is very similar to learning new things in English but there are a number of things to remember. In this lesson we're going to look at learning simple things with short answers and then we'll look at more complex concepts and how to negotiate them.

Simple

Directions

When you're giving simple directions, either telling someone how to get somewhere or giving them directions on how to do something, you will most often use patterns or words and phrases that are repeated often. For example, when someone asks you how to get to the bank you can give them directions like this,

1. *Vai reto nessa avenida e vira a direita depois de três quadras. Aí o banco fica em frente do supermercado.*

"Go straight on this avenue and turn right after three blocks. From there, the bank is across from the supermarket."

Two important pattern phrases to use are:

vai reto. ("Go straight.")

AND

em frente de

Which literally translates to "in front of" but actually means "across from"

When you're giving simple instructions on how to do something, the patterns are much the same. One of the main differences when giving instructions on how to do something that you often explain things in stages. In the dialogue the child explaining went through the various stages of playing hide and go seek and told the other child what happened in each stage. In Brazilian Portuguese you follow those same steps. For example, imagine someone asks you how to wash a table. You could easily respond with:

1. *Primeiro, molha o pano e passa na mesa. Segundo, adiciona o produto de limpeza ao pano e passa novamente. Terceiro, passa um pano limpo para secar a mesa.*

"First, wet the cloth and wipe it on the table. Second, add cleaning product to the cloth and wipe the table again. Third, wipe the table with a clean cloth to dry it."

Complex Instructions

In many instances, giving or receiving instructions will be done in either a complex context or a complex way. This can often happen when one or both of the parties involved thinks the other knows more or less about the topic than they actually do. For example, it's very common to hear Brazilians say *passar pano* meaning "pass cloth" but this actually means "to clean the floor."

And be aware that it isn't simply cleaning the floor. Brazilians have a specific technique for cleaning their usually tiled floors involving a cloth and a broom or large squeegee of some kind and scrubbing the floor with that. This can also happen with the phrase *cozinhar feijão* meaning "cook beans."

However, when Brazilian say *cozinhar feijão*, they are referring to a rather complex cooking technique that Brazilians have of washing, preparing, seasoning, cooking, and then further seasoning the beans.

In these situations, when the instructions are complex and multi-layered, it's best to ask many questions. Three excellent questions are:

1. *Como que faz?*
"How do you do it?"

Then...

1. *Qual é o próximo passo?*
"Which is the next step?" or better, "What's the next step"

Then...

1. *E agora?*

...which translates to "And now?" but means...

1. "What now?"

Or...

1. "What's next?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Learning from Brazilian Children

Brazilian children have a different way of speaking from their parents. This is to be expected as Brazilian children are still learning many aspects of Portuguese. However, since Brazilian children are learning Portuguese just like you are, they can often be among the best sources for new vocabulary, better pronunciation, and better understanding of Portuguese.

Brazilian children, like most children, have more sensitive ears to the variety of pronunciations around them than Brazilian adults do. For that reason, the way that Brazilian children talk is often more accurate than most textbooks. Textbooks attempt to teach a correct form of Brazilian Portuguese but, in reality, very few people speak a version of Portuguese that anyone would consider correct. Beyond that, the way Brazilian children talk is usually more exaggerated than their parents or other adults which can make it easier for you to identify and imitate the nuances of speaking Brazilian Portuguese.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #13

Learning Your Portuguese Letters

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13

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Aninha: Manhê?
2. Mãe: Sim, filhinha.
3. Aninha: Eu estou escrevendo as letras aqui mas não consigo fazer o "z" direito.
4. Mãe: Eu posso te ajudar, filha. O "z" se faz assim. Uma linha em cima, uma em baixo, e uma que liga as duas pontas.
5. Aninha: Mas o meu sempre sai um "s" ao contrário. Eu não quero escrever nunca mais!
6. Mãe: Filha, não fala assim. Escrever é que nem desenhar. E você gosta de desenhar, né?
7. Aninha: Gosto.
8. Mãe: Então. Faz de conta que você está desenhando o "z" e não escrevendo o "z."

ENGLISH

1. Aninha: Mom?
2. Mother: Yes, daughter?
3. Aninha: I'm writing letters here but I can't do the "z" right.

CONT'D OVER

4. Mother: I can help you, daughter. The "Z" is done like this. One line on top, one at the bottom, and one that connects the two points.
5. Aninha: But mine always comes out like a reverse "S." I don't want to write ever again!
6. Mother: Daughter, don't talk like that. Writing is just like drawing. And you like to draw, don't you?
7. Aninha: I do.
8. Mother: Well then, pretend that you are drawing the "Z" and not writing the "Z."

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
conseguir	can, to be able to	verb	
escrever	to write	verb	
letra	letter	noun	feminine
cima	top, summit	noun	feminine
baixo	low, short	adjective	
ponta	tip	noun	feminine
fazer de conta	to pretend	verb	
poder	to be able to	verb	
desenhar	to draw	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Você consegue abrir essa lata?</p> <p>"Can you open this can?"</p>	<p>Por favor, você poderia escrever isto?</p> <p>"Please, could you write this down?"</p>
<p>A letra B é a segunda letra do alfabeto.</p> <p>"The letter B is the second letter of the alphabet."</p>	<p>Ele mora no andar de cima.</p> <p>"He lives on the floor above me."</p>
<p>Vinha pensativo, de cabeça baixa.</p> <p>"He was thoughtfully coming, with his head down."</p>	<p>Tá na ponta da língua.</p> <p>"It's on the tip of my tongue."</p>
<p>Faz de conta que eu sou um leão.</p> <p>"Pretend I'm a lion."</p>	<p>Você vai poder terminar até o dia quinze?</p> <p>"Will you be able to finish by the fifteenth?"</p>
<p>O artista está a desenhar uma ilustração.</p> <p>"The artist is drawing a picture."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

fazer de conta

The phrase *fazer de conta* literally translates to "make of count" but it means "pretend." Many Brazilian parents and children use this phrase when kids are playing pretend.

This is an important expression in Brazilian Portuguese because if you don't understand it when people say it, there's no way you can figure out what it means. The phrase *fazer de conta* is actually a specific expression and expressions in Brazilian Portuguese do not have the same meaning their words imply. In other words, if you were to decipher this phrase would probably have something to do with doing your math calculations properly.

For example:

1. *Vamos fazer de conta que eu sou o Super Homem.*
"Let's pretend that I'm Superman."
2. *Eles adoram brincar de faz de conta.*
"They love playing pretend."
3. *Vamos fazer de conta que iso nunca aconteceu.*
"Let's pretend this never happened."

conseguir vs poder

The two words *conseguir* and *poder* are very similar but there are some important distinctions. In general, *conseguir* and *poder* are both translated as "can" or "to be able to." However, these two words can change the meaning of your sentences depending on which one you use.

The simplest comparison is to the English by using the words "may" and "can." In this sense, the verb *conseguir* would be translated as "can" or "to be able to" and then, the verb *poder* would be translated as "may" or "to be allowed to do."

For example:

1. *Eu não consigo fazer isso.*
"I can't do that." or "I am unable to do that."
2. *Eu não posso fazer isso.*
"I can't do that." or "I am not allowed to do that."
3. *Você consegue.*
"You can do it."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using *sempre* for Emphasis and *nunca* for "ever."

Mas o meu sempre sai um "s" ao contrário

"But mine always comes out a reverse 's'."

In Brazilian Portuguese, words are often used to emphasize what the person is saying. Many different words can do this and, in Portuguese, one of the most frequently used ones is *sempre*. The word *sempre* is used so often that Brazilian Portuguese learners often misunderstand the emphasis use of "sempre" and the dictionary use of "sempre."

Sempre

Example 1:

1. *Ele sempre viaja para o Brasil.*
"He always travels to Brazil."

In this example, the word *sempre* is not used in its literal sense. It is used in a figurative sense that is very similar to the English use. This example means that the man travels to Brazil often, not that he is on a plane going to Brazil but that never actually gets there.

Example 2:

1. *Eu sempre corto frango desse jeito.*
"I always cut chicken this way."

In this example, the word "sempre" is used to show that something is done habitually, not that it is constantly done. Or rather, when this person is cutting chicken, she does it this way.

Nunca

The word *nunca* means "never" and can also be used to emphasize.

For example:

1. *Ela nunca lembra dos aniversários dos netos.*
"She never remembers her grandchildren's birthdays."

Remember, she probably remembers the birthdays at some point, but she forgets them often. This sentence could also be spoken when the "she" doesn't send a birthday card or present to her grandchildren because she forgot. We get this feeling because *nunca* is a negative word.

That means whoever said this is probably criticizing that woman.

Tip: *nunca* as "ever": *Ela não me ajuda nunca.*

In this example, the word *nunca* is used for emphasis again but it doesn't mean "never" anymore. A literal translation of this sentence would be "She no help me never." or "She doesn't help me never."

This is probably understandable in English but it isn't grammatically correct because it's a double negative. Brazilian Portuguese can have double negatives and even triple negatives but not English. We negotiate this by changing the *nunca* to "ever" and the proper translation becomes "She doesn't help me ever." or better, "She doesn't ever help me."

Notice how the "ever" is in a different place than *nunca*. The tip is:

The placement of the word *nunca* when used for emphasis in a double negative sentence is almost always toward the end of the sentence.

In English, the "ever" is placed in the middle of the sentence but that is impossible in Portuguese.

If we were to put the *nunca* which means "ever" in the same place as English, the phrase would be something like *Ela não nunca me ajuda.*

Which doesn't make sense in Portuguese.

From the dialogue:

Eu não quero escrever nunca mais! meaning "I don't want to write ever again!"

Here, *mais* translates as "again" but we'll talk about that in a different lesson.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Importance of Family in Brazil

In Brazil, families are very important. Brazilians often get together at family functions and invite the whole family over for a barbecue, typically on a regular basis.

Brazilian families also help each other often. Particularly, the children help their parents as

needed. For example, it is completely understandable for a father to call up his married children and ask for help to purchase a new car for himself and their mother. The basic idea is that the parents have done so much for the children by raising them that the children should help their parents in whatever they ask for. However, this "duty-based" perspective is not very common. Most families members help each other because they love each other.

Purchasing a vehicle for your parents doesn't happen as often today because the general financial situation of most Brazilians has improved considerably. However, this family relationship and desire to help all the other family members be happy is very strong in the hearts of all Brazilians.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #14

Moving to a New School in Brazil

CONTENTS

- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

14

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Stefany: O que você acha que vai acontecer ano que vem?
2. Sofia: Como assim? Na escola?
3. Stefany: É. Tipo, vai ser uma escola nova para nós duas. Vamos ter quase todas as matérias juntas mas todas as outras pessoas vão ser diferentes.
4. Sofia: Eu não sei. Mas eu estou muito animada. Eu tava muito cansada da nossa última escola. Eram tantas fofoqueiras que nem dava pra ter uma conversa, que depois sempre tinha alguém falando mal de você pelas costas.
5. Stefany: É verdade. Espero que isso não aconteça na escola nova.

ENGLISH

1. Stefany: What do you think will happen next year?
2. Sofia: What do you mean? At school?
3. Stefany: Yes. Like, it'll be a new school for both of us. We'll have almost all of our classes together but all of the other people are going to be different.
4. Sofia: I don't know. But I'm very excited. I was really tired of our last school. There were so many gossips that you couldn't even talk to anyone, because there was always someone bad-mouthing you behind your back.

CONT'D OVER

5. Stefany: That's true. I hope this doesn't happen at the new school.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
acontecer	to happen	verb	
como assim	what do you mean	phrase	
quase	almost	adverb	
junto	together	adverb	
animado	excited	adjective	
fofoqueiro	a gossip	noun	masculine
pelas costas	behind one's back	phrase	
falar mal de	to talk badly about	phrase	
matéria	subject, matter	noun	feminine
dar pra	can, to be possible	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>O que é que aconteceu?</p> <p>"What happened?"</p>	<p>Como assim, ela terminou com você?</p> <p>"What do you mean, she broke up with you?"</p>
<p>Ele quase desmaiou quando me viu.</p> <p>"He almost fainted when he saw me."</p>	<p>Eu quero ir junto.</p> <p>"I want to go with you."</p>

<p>Ele tá tão animado!</p> <p>"He is so excited!"</p>	<p>Eu não gosto de fofoqueiros.</p> <p>"I don't like gossipers."</p>
<p>É muito feio falar pelas costas.</p> <p>"It is very rude to talk behind someone's back."</p>	<p>Eles sempre falam mal do governo.</p> <p>"They will always bad mouth the government."</p>
<p>Eu não gosto dessa matéria.</p> <p>"I don't like this subject."</p>	<p>Dá pra ter um pouco de paciência?</p> <p>"Could you have a bit of patience?"</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

dar pra ter

Dar pra ter literally translates to "give to." But it's kind of expression so the it means something like "possible to."

For example:

1. *Nem dava pra ter uma conversa.*
"You couldn't even have a conversation."
2. *dá pra fazer uma festa dia 25 de outubro.*
"It is possible to have a party on the 25th of October." or "We could have a party the 25th of October."

falar mal de

Falar mal de literally translates to "to speak bad of" or "to talk badly about." But it feels a lot like the slang "to bad-mouth."

For example:

1. *Sempre tinha alguém falando mal de você pelas costas.*
"There was always someone bad mouthing you behind your back."

The phrase will change when the verb is conjugated but the basic structure will remain the same.

For example:

1. *ela falou mal dele*
"she badmouthed him"
2. *Eles sempre falam mal delas.*
"They always bad mouth those girls."

Pelas costas

The phrase *pelas costas* which literally translates to "by the back" or "for the back." However, *pelas* is actually a contraction of *por as* which is where we get the literal translation "for the." The meaning or feeling of the *por* in this case is closer to "around" like the phrase *por aqui* which means "around here."

For example:

1. *pelas costas*
"behind your back"
2. *Eu não faço nada pelas costas de ninguém.*
"I don't do anything behind anyone's back."
3. *Eu não acredito que ela fez isso pelas costas dele.*
"I don't believe she did that behind his back."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using the Plural Forms Properly in Brazilian Portuguese
Vamos ter quase todas as matérias juntas mas todas as outras pessoas vão ser diferentes.

"We will have almost all of our classes together but all of the other people are going to be different."

Instead of identifying each part of speech and which one is plural, this lesson will explain things kind of like waves in a pond. From this perspective, you take in the whole picture of the dialogue and the sentence itself, not just the individual grammatical components. But, we've already explained enough, let's get to it!

First half:

Vamos ter quase todas as matérias juntas

Here, Stefany uses *vamos* which is a plural form of the verb *ir* which means "to go." The word *vamos* is used because Stefany is talking about the two of them. The reason she uses the plural here is because of the reality that there are two of them, not because of some grammatical rule.

The word *vamos* is followed by the infinitive form for *ter*. This is the simple future tense and so this word *ter* is connected to the verb *vamos* and shares its "plural."

Next comes *quase todas as matérias* meaning "almost all our subjects."

Here, we should point out that the word *quase* cannot be made plural. It is a type of preposition and in Brazilian Portuguese prepositions are never plural or singular. The next three words are plural because the girls are taking a more than one *materia* or "subject" at school.

The wave

When you have something in your context or dialogue or sentence that is plural, it affects the other words around it just like a rock thrown into the water affects the water and causes waves. So, because the word *matérias* is plural, the words "todas" and "as" are also plural. These words are connected to "matérias" so, they need to be in their plural forms.

Second half

todas as outras pessoas - "all the other people."

This phrase follows the same pattern as the phrase *todas as matérias* which we just looked

at. And again, the "wave" perspective becomes very useful.

Here again, Stefany talks about something in the context or in reality that is plural. So, of these four words, the only one that is an actual thing is the word *pessoas* which means "people" or "persons."

The people, the places, the names, and the ideas in your context will cause "waves" throughout the rest of your sentence and, if they are plural, they will cause the words connected to them to become plural, too. Here, the word *pessoas* is that kind of "real" thing and it causes the "waves" that affect the other words. In other words, the words *todas*, *as*, and *outras* are all plural because *pessoas* is plural.

Vão ser - "will be"

This phrase is just like our very first phrase in the sentence which was *vamos ter*. And this is considered plural for the very same reasons. The word *vão* is a plural form of the verb *ir* and it is connected to the verb *ser* in the two-word future tense.

Diferentes

This word is interesting because it is kind of "off by itself." We can tell that it's plural because it has an *s* at the end, but the word *diferentes* means "different" and we can tell that it's describing something. "Something" is "different." But what? All of the other examples in the sentence have little groupings of plural; multiple words close together that are all plural for the same reason.

Just as the waves that come from a rock thrown in the lake go out in all directions, so does the effect of these "real context" words within a sentence. The second half of the sentence has one of the "content" words; *pessoas*. So, the word *diferentes* is being affected by the "waves" of the plural found in *pessoas*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What's a Brazilian *Turma*?

The Brazilian public school system is set up in *turmas*. A *turma* is a group of students that study together. And you'll stay with the same *turma* for all of your classes, like math,

Portuguese, and science.

It can sometimes be difficult to change *turmas* but, on the whole, the system is very similar to what's in the USA. Once you're placed in a *turma*, you pretty much stay there unless there is a serious problem.

The public universities are structured differently than in the USA. So you apply directly to a program and follow that program from start to finish. Practically, that means if you get into the university under an engineering degree but then realize you want to do Portuguese, for example, you have to stop and reapply as a Portuguese student. And you start your program over completely. Only rarely will any of your classes crossover even when you're going to a related program.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #15

Feeling Frustrated in Brazil

CONTENTS

- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

15

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Esposa: Eu não sei mais o que fazer com ele!
2. Esposo: Por quê? O que aconteceu?
3. Esposa: Ele não me ouve. Eu peço para ele fazer as coisas e ele não faz. Ele demora demais pra fazer coisas super simples. Sabia que ontem ele demorou uma hora para comer a janta? Uma hora!
4. Esposo: Ah, meu bem. Ele não faz pra te magoar. Ele ainda é muito pequeno.
5. Esposa: Eu sei, mas tá na hora dele aprender essas coisas. Eu não quero um filho que só faz coisa errada.
6. Esposo: Eu entendo meu amor. Mas ele só tem 5 anos. Tem bastante tempo pra gente ensinar pra ele o que ele precisa saber.

ENGLISH

1. Wife: I don't know what to do with him anymore!
2. Husband: Why? What happened?
3. Wife: He doesn't listen to me. I ask him to do things and he doesn't do them. He takes so long to do super simple things. Did you know that yesterday it took him an hour just to eat dinner? An hour!
4. Husband: Oh, my love. He doesn't do it to hurt you. He's still so little.

CONT'D OVER

5. **Wife:** I know but it's time for him to learn these things. I don't want a son that only does things wrong.
6. **Husband:** I understand my love. But he's only five years old. There's a lot of time for us to teach him what he needs to know.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
demorar	to delay, to take a long time	verb	
magoar	to hurt, to hurt one's feelings	verb	
ainda	still, yet	adverb	
errado	wrong	adjective	masculine
ensinar	to teach	verb	
meu bem	my dear	phrase	
sabia que	did you know that	phrase	
tá na hora	it's about time	phrase	
aprender	to learn	verb	
meu amor	my love	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>A reconstrução do nordeste do Japão vai demorar anos.</p> <p>"The reconstruction of the northeast of Japan will take years."</p>	<p>Nossa, a reunião demorou muito hoje.</p> <p>"Wow, the meeting was very long today."</p>
<p>Magoou.</p> <p>"You hurt (my feelings)."</p>	<p>Ainda não fomos apresentados.</p> <p>"We still haven't been introduced."</p>
<p>Tudo que eu falo tá errado.</p> <p>"Everything I say is wrong."</p>	<p>Ela me ensinou uma receita deliciosa.</p> <p>"She taught me a delicious recipe."</p>
<p>A mulher está ensinando as crianças.</p> <p>"The woman is teaching the children."</p>	<p>Você quer fazer alguma coisa hoje à noite, meu bem?</p> <p>"Do you want to do something tonight, sweetheart?"</p>
<p>Você sabia que o meu carro é da Toyota?</p> <p>"Did you know my car is a Toyota?"</p>	<p>Tá na hora de você crescer!</p> <p>"It's about time for you to grow up!"</p>
<p>Onde você aprendeu inglês?</p> <p>"Where did you learn English?"</p>	<p>Meu amor, faz favor!</p> <p>"My love, could you come here please?"</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

meu bem/meu amor

These two phrases are used every day between couples as terms of endearment or nicknames. A husband could call his wife *meu bem* and a wife could call her husband *meu bem* or they could call each other *meu amor* or alternate between the two.

The grammatical issue here is that these forms do not change for gender. So don't say *minha*

bem to your wife or girlfriend even though she's a woman.

(Está) Tá na hora

The next phrase we'll look at is *tá na hora* which literally translates to "it is in the hour" but it means "it's about time."

For example:

1. *Mas tá na hora dele aprender essas coisas.*
"But it's about time for him to learn those things."
2. *Acho que tá na hora de ir embora.*
"I think it's about time to go home."

sabia que

Sabia que means "did you know that?" *Sabia que* is used many times every day by practically all Brazilians. The word *você* is inferred and will sometimes be spoken as well.

For example, *você sabia que...* means "Did you know that..."

Use this phrase by first stating *Sabia que...* or *Você sabia que...* and then inserting what you would like to tell the person.

For example:

1. *Você sabia que o Alexandre vai me visitar semana que vem?*
"Did you know that Alexandre will visit me next week?"
2. *Sabia que o sabiá sabia assobiar?*
"Did you know that the song-thrush bird knew how to whistle?" (popular tongue-twister)

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Personal Infinitive

Eu peço para ele fazer as coisas e ele não faz.

"I ask him to do things and he doesn't do them."

The personal infinitive is used to clarify the subject when the is inferred.

For example:

1. *É um prazer estarmos em sua casa.*
"It is a pleasure **for us** to be in your home."

The verb has to be in the infinitive form and because it's in the infinitive form, sometimes who the subject is or rather the person that's doing that action can get lost or confused.

If the subject or topic is clear, the personal infinitive is not necessary.

For example:

1. *É um prazer estar em sua casa.*
"It is a pleasure to be in your home."

In this example, the two verbs in the sentence are simply connected and since you are the person speaking the sentence then the sentence refers to you. So, just as in English, the subject is inferred but there's no confusion about who is doing the action.

For example:

1. *Antes de sairmos, vocês deveriam falar com ela.*
"Before we leave, you should talk to her."

Using the Personal Infinitive

Situation 1

The first situation in which you use the personal infinitive is when the subject of the main verb is different from that of the infinitive verb. In other words, there are two verbs and two subjects and you're not sure which subject belongs to which verb.

For example:

1. *Foi muito triste para ele sair tão cedo.*
"It was very sad for **him** to leave so soon."

Situation 2

Also use the personal infinitive when the infinitive has the same subject as the verb, but the infinitive follows a preposition.

For example:

1. *Antes de viajarem, eles foram ao supermercado.*
"Before they traveled they went to the supermarket."

Language Tip

Many Brazilians confuse the personalized infinitive with the object of the preposition.

1. *Você poderia fazer isso para mim?*
"Could you do that for me?"

Compare that with the sentence:

1. *Você poderia fazer isso para eu poder arrumar a casa?*
"Could you do this so I can clean up the house?"

Notice how both the English and the Portuguese change from "me" to "I." However, people often say:

1. *Você poderia fazer isso para mim poder sair?*
"Could you do this so that me can leave?"

AND

1. *Deixa me ver.*
"Let you see me."

These are incorrect.

From the dialogue:

1. *Eu sei, mas tá na hora dele aprender essas coisas.*
"I know but it's time for him to learn these things."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Brazilian Social Flexibility

In general, Brazilian parenting techniques are not very different from parenting techniques in other countries. However, Brazilians are very particular about teaching "social flexibility" to their children. For example, when adults go to a party they will often take their children with them. The children are simply expected to find a way to entertain themselves.

Compare that to the United States where the parents bring their children's toys, maybe a movie, book, and iPad, or set up some kind of babysitting while the parents go to the party. Some Brazilian parents do this but they are the minority.

Another example would be at the beach. Children are expected to not only play with the other children but if there are any beach toys, everyone is expected to share with everyone else. That doesn't always happen, but that is the expectation.

This "social flexibility" extends to things like lateness. For example, if someone is 45 minutes late to meet you, you simply "deal with it." You don't get angry or make snide remarks about how nice it is to be punctual. Another example would be, if a travel bus breaks down in the middle of nowhere, you're much more likely to see Brazilians outside the bus helping and happily chatting than you are to see any of them angry or frustrated at the delay. Getting angry about just being late seems very childish to most Brazilians.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #16

You Can't Wear That to a Brazilian Job Interview!

CONTENTS

- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 4 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight

16

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. **Filha:** Mas mãe! Eu quero vestir esse shorts. Está na moda.
2. **Mãe:** Mas filha, você vai pra uma entrevista de trabalho. Tudo bem sair vestida assim pra uma festa, mas pro trabalho, eles não vão gostar não.
3. **Filha:** Mas o trabalho é numa loja de roupa feminina. Eles querem ver que eu sei o que que está na moda.
4. **Mãe:** Mas esse shorts está muito curto. Você parece uma mulher tentando vestir roupa de criança. Eu sei que você tem outras roupas na moda além desse shorts. Se você vestir algo mais apropriado, mas ainda na moda, talvez você consiga um emprego melhor.

ENGLISH

1. **Daughter:** But mom! I want to wear these shorts. It's in style.
2. **Mother:** But daughter, you're going to a job interview. It's fine for you to dress like that for a party, but to work, they won't like it at all.
3. **Daughter:** But the job is at a women's clothing store. They want to see that I know what's in style.
4. **Mother:** But those shorts are too short. You look like a woman trying to wear children's clothes. I know you have other fashionable clothes besides those shorts. If you wear something more appropriate, but still in fashion, maybe you'll get a better position.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
vestir	to wear, to dress, to clothe	verb	
shorts	women's shorts	noun	masculine
parecer	to appear, to seem	verb	
ganhar	to win, to gain, to earn	verb	
emprego	job, employment	noun	masculine
na moda	in style	Phrase	
apropriado	appropriate	adjective	masculine
entrevista de trabalho	job interview	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Ela veste roupas tamanho M.</p> <p>"She wears size M clothes."</p>	<p>Eu comprei um shorts novo.</p> <p>"I bought a new pair of shorts."</p>
<p>Você parece triste.</p> <p>"You look sad."</p>	<p>Eu nunca ganho nesse jogo.</p> <p>"I never win at this game."</p>
<p>Eu preciso de um emprego.</p> <p>"I need a job."</p>	<p>Essa blusinha não tá na moda.</p> <p>"That blouse isn't in style."</p>
<p>Aquilo não foi apropriado.</p> <p>"That was not appropriate."</p>	<p>Amanhã, eu tenho uma entrevista de trabalho.</p> <p>"Tomorrow, I have a job interview."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

na moda

Na moda translates as "in style" or "in fashion." Teenagers and adults use this phrase in a variety of different situations. *Na moda* can be used while talking about clothing, hairstyles, building or architectural styles, advertisements, and practically anything that would need to be designed.

Sarcasm

Sometimes Brazilians will say something like:

1. *Olá a calça dele! Está na moda, né!*
"Look at his pants! Those are in style, aren't they!"

...when they're watching old TV shows and old fashions show up on screen. This is almost always meant sarcastically.

entrevista de trabalho

Entrevista de trabalho literally translates as "interview of work" but it means "job interview."

The pronunciation of the word *entrevista* is interesting. The correct pronunciation of this is...

entrevista

NOT

intrevista

However, many Brazilians say *intrevista*.

So it really comes down to where you are and who you are talking to.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using the *-ado*, and *-ido* Endings Appropriately

Tudo bem sair vestida assim pra uma festa.

"It's fine for you to dress like that for a party."

Creating verbs that end in *-ado*:

Regular *ar* verb (*sentar*)

To create verbs ending in *ido*

Regular *er* verb (*beber*)

Regular *ir* verb (*partir*)

The Past Participle

The past participle has many irregular forms. *Abrir* has an irregular past participle which is *aberto*. Or the verb *entregar*, which has an irregular past participle of *entregue*.

English speakers often have a lot of difficulty with the past participle because in English the past participle and the standard past tense often look the same. So it seems like the word is both past tense and the past participle but that isn't true.

For example:

1. *Ele falou.*
"He spoke."

This is the simple past tense in both English and Portuguese. A sentence that uses the past participle would be *Ele tinha falado*, which literally translated would look like "he had spoken."

In English, "spoke" is the past tense and "spoken" is the past participle.

Past participle used as an adjective:

The past participle is often used as an adjective in Brazilian Portuguese to describe people and things.

From the dialogue:

1. *Se você vestir algo mais apropriado.*
"if you wear something more appropriate."

Here, Brazilian Portuguese uses the past participle *apropriado*, as an adjective while in English, we just use the adjective, "appropriate."

Language Tip

When the past participle is used as an adjective, it can be either masculine or feminine. So, in the dialogue we heard the word *vestida* which means "dressed" and it was in the feminine form because it was describing the daughter.

In that same pattern, the mother uses the word *apropriado* which means "appropriate" because she used the word *algo* which is a masculine word.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Brazil: a Country of Fashionistas

In Brazil, very few things are more important than fashion. Especially in the major cities like São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, what you wear or don't wear, says as much about you as what you do or where you work.

Brazilians will often look at you and, based on what you're wearing, be able to determine various things about your personality, where you work, your income level, your education level, and your likes and dislikes. However, it's not common for Brazilians to judge you based on just clothing or appearance.

Brazilians will treat you differently based on if you are wearing clothes that are in style or not but they probably won't think that you are a good or bad person based on the clothes you're wearing. In fact, Brazilians will probably think that you are an amazing person no matter what you're wearing, unless you prove them otherwise through what you do or what you say.

Because of this and other cultural factors, Brazilians feel an incredibly large amount of pressure to obey the trends of fashion. It's very common for a particular dress or pair of pants or coat that's worn on one of Brazil's famous nightly soap operas to be worn by people in the street practically the next day. Not because they like it, or because they need it, but because it's in style.

This is particularly pronounced with women and girls. There is a lot of pressure for girls to dress not in any particular way because fashion changes almost on a weekly basis, but to dress the way that is in fashion at that time. So, one week a girl may be wearing a tube top and very short shorts while the next day she'll be wearing a floor-length dress.

This doesn't just apply to clothing. Hairstyles, fingernail polish, and makeup are all equally used or not used based on what is currently in style.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #17

A Difficult Portuguese Math Problem

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17

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Brasileira: Ei, John, você é bom em matemática?
2. Americano: Eu não sei de tudo, mas já fiz muitas aulas de matemática. Por quê?
3. Brasileira: Por que eu não consigo acertar essas perguntas não. Toda vez sai uma resposta errada.
4. Americano: Onde?
5. Brasileira: Aqui. O professor já deu a resposta certa mas ele quer que a gente resolva o problema também, pra mostrar que estamos seguindo os passos certos.
6. Americano: Eita. Eu estudei essas coisas uns 10 anos atrás. Eu não me lembro mais não. Mas eu acho que você esqueceu de fazer seu cálculo com a derivada e não a velocidade bruta.
7. Brasileira: Nossa, não tenho a menor ideia do que você está falando.

ENGLISH

1. Brazilian: Hey, John, are you good at math?
2. American: I don't know everything but I've already taken many math classes. Why?
3. Brazilian: Because I can't get the answer to these questions right. Every time the answer comes out wrong.

CONT'D OVER

4. American: Where?
5. Brazilian: Here. My teacher has already given us the right answer but he wants us to solve the problem too, to show that we followed the steps correctly.
6. American: Wow. I studied this stuff almost like ten years ago. I don't remember much anymore. But I think you forgot to do your calculations with the derivative and not with the gross velocity.
7. Brazilian: Gee, I have no idea what you're talking about.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
matemática	mathematics	Noun	
acertar	to get right	Verb	
conta	calculation	noun	
derivada	derivative	noun	
velocidade	velocity	noun	
bruto	brute, gross	adjective	masculine
Eu acho que	I think that	phrase	
não...não	no...no	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Eu odeio matemática.</p> <p>"I hate math."</p>	<p>Eu não acho que vou acertar não.</p> <p>"I don't think I'll get it right."</p>
<p>Comé que faz essa conta mesmo?</p> <p>"How do ya do this calculation, exactly?"</p>	<p>Eu acho que você esqueceu de fazer sua conta com a derivada.</p> <p>"I think you forgot to do your calculations using the derivative."</p>
<p>Ele tá andando numa velocidade muito alta.</p> <p>"He is walking at a very fast speed."</p>	<p>Essa conta não usa a velocidade bruta.</p> <p>"This calculation doesn't use the brute velocity."</p>
<p>Eu achei que ela viria pra festa.</p> <p>"I thought she would come to the party."</p>	<p>Eu não penso assim, não.</p> <p>"I don't think like that, at all."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

eu acho que ("I think")

Eu acho que literally translates as "I think that." but it means, "I think."

Aspect 1

First, in Brazilian Portuguese, you have to have the *que* at the end of this phrase, even though in English you don't. Take a look at the sentence *Eu acho ela vai vir para a festa*. Brazilians would think you'd said something very strange even though the English translation sounds perfect, "I think she will come to the party."

Aspect 2

This phrase has an arcing intonation pattern. So, in other words, the word *acho* is spoken higher or with a little bit more emphasis than the *eu* or *que*:

eu ACHO que.

For example:

1. *Eu acho que vou chegar lá pelas oito.*
"I think I'll arrive around eight."
2. *Eu acho que isso é muito caro.*
"I think that is very expensive."

Não...não

The phrase *não* (insert something here) *não*. isn't used in English.

In the dialogue, we heard the phrase:

1. *Eu não lembro mais não.*
"I no remember more no."

But, in more natural English, it would be:

1. "I don't remember anymore."

In this sentence, even though there are two instances of *não*, they are not doing the same thing. The first *não* is negating the verb *lembro* which together mean, "don't remember."

The second *não* is only serving to emphasize the "don't remember."

For example:

1. *Ela não vai vir não.*
"She isn't coming."
2. *Eles não gostam de comer assim não.*
"The don't like eating like that."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Use Question Words to Identify Problems

Você é bom em matemática?

"Are you good at math?"

In Brazilian Portuguese to make a yes/no question you simply take a normal statement and then do a rising intonation at the end:

1. *Você conhece a minha irmã.*
"You know my sister."

To turn this into a question just change the intonation, none of the words themselves change.

1. *Você conhece a minha irmã?*
"Do you know my sister?"

Question Words

These question words are specific words in Brazilian Portuguese that are used to make questions or to ask questions. Those question words are:

por que - "why."

onde - "where."

o que - "what."

quando - "when."

quanto - "how much, how many"

quem - "who."

como - "how."

Notice how some of them are words and other ones are short phrases. Also notice how there are more question words in Portuguese than there are in English. Specifically, in Portuguese, the word *como* which means "how" and the word *quanto* which means "how many."

These phrases are used to get information from the person you're asking the question of. And, you usually use these phrases by placing them at the beginning of a phrase, just before the statement that you want to ask about. In the same way you use a regular statement for yes/no questions in Brazilian Portuguese, you still use a regular statement for questions that use question words.

For example:

1. *Você mora em São Paulo.*
"You live in São Paulo."

To ask the question "where do you live in São Paulo?" You simply add the question word *onde* to the beginning of the sentence."

For example:

1. *Onde você mora em São Paulo?*
"Where do you live in São Paulo?"

More examples:

1. *Quando ele vai chegar?*
"When will he arrive?"

Notice how the statement *Ele vai chegar* doesn't change the word order when you use it in the question. You simply add the question word before the statement that it becomes a question.

For example:

1. *Como eu abro esta gaveta?*
"How do I open this drawer?"

The statement *Eu abro esta gaveta* which translates as "I open this drawer" stays exactly the same even in a question.

Language

In English, when you use a question word, you don't need to have the question tone of voice. So, for example the first question we talked about was:

1. *Quando ele vai chegar?*
"When will he arrive?"

Notice how the Portuguese has a rising question intonation on the word *chegar* but the English doesn't. The English sentence has intonation where it starts high and progressively descends all the way to "arrive."

In Portuguese, no matter what type of question, you always use that questioning intonation.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Be Careful Not to Cheat in Brazil

Brazilians tend to be pretty careful about helping other people with work or homework. There's nothing wrong with helping someone with their homework and you should do that if they do need help. Often, when you give them too much help, though, they won't learn and when a test comes around they won't be able to get a good score. And, in Brazil, test scores are very important.

This is pretty much common sense. Americans do the same thing, and probably most other cultures as well. However, Brazilian culture is often very "divided" regarding what would be considered "copying" or "plagiarism" and what would be considered personal work.

Now, don't think that Brazilians are dishonest, because they're not. Brazilians in general are very honest and would not cheat on homework or on a test. However, it's very difficult to know who would or would not cheat. And to avoid participating in something that could be considered dishonest, it's best to speak in indirect ways like in the dialogue.

He didn't say "Well, your velocity is the problem. You should do it this way." This could be considered teaching as well and certainly would help the person with her homework. Instead,

he said, "But I think you forgot to do your calculations with the derivatives and not with the brute velocity."

And you can tell by the response of the Brazilian friend that she really didn't know how to do the problem, and she was probably hoping that her American friend would help them get the answer, or better, the right steps. Because of this, the American friend knows that he really needs to explain how the entire problem works instead of just walking through that one problem.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #18

Eating Well is Easy in Brazil!

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Esposa: O que que você acha?
2. Esposo: Bem, para mim, comida mais saudável é sempre melhor. Mas vai dar muito trabalho para você, amor. Você vai ficar preparando comida todo o dia!
3. Esposa: Vai sim, mas por mim tudo bem. Imagina só quanto dinheiro nós vamos poupar só com o médico!
4. Esposo: Pois é. Mas este livro que você leu realmente fala pra comer tanta carne assim?
5. Esposa: Não é que fala que precisa comer muita carne todo dia. É que a carne e a gordura natural da carne ajudam na digestão de outros alimentos. Então ele fala que deveríamos comer algum tipo de carne em todas as refeições.

ENGLISH

1. Wife: What do you think?
2. Husband: Well, to me, healthier food is always better. But this will be a lot of work for you, honey. You'll be preparing food all day long!
3. Wife: Yes it will, but to me that's fine. Just imagine how much money we'll save just on doctors!
4. Husband: Okay. But does the book you read really say to eat that much meat?

CONT'D OVER

5. Wife:

It isn't that it says you need to eat lots of meat every day. It's that the meat and the meat's natural fats help in the digestion of other foods. So it says that we should eat some kind of meat with every meal.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
alimento	food	noun	masculine
saudável	healthy	adjective	
imaginar	to imagine	verb	
gordura	fat	noun	feminine
refeição	meal	noun	feminine
para mim	to me	phrase	
poupar	to save, to save money	verb	
tanto...assim	as much...as that	phrase	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Somos gratos pelo alimento na nossa mesa.</p> <p>"We are grateful for the food on our table."</p>	<p>Essa comida é muito saudável.</p> <p>"That food is very healthy."</p>
<p>Eu posso imaginar.</p> <p>"I can imagine." or "I'll bet."</p>	<p>Alguns médicos dizem que a gordura faz mal pra saúde.</p> <p>"Some doctors say that fat is bad for your health."</p>

<p>A mulher prepara uma refeição.</p> <p>"The woman prepares a meal."</p>	<p>Para mim, ela sempre será a Luzinha.</p> <p>"To me, she will always be Luzinha."</p>
<p>Meu pai sempre me fala pra poupar dinheiro.</p> <p>"My father always tells me to save money."</p>	<p>Você não deveria comer tanto arroz assim.</p> <p>"You shouldn't eat that much rice."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

para mim vs. por mim

Literally translated, these phrases mean "to me" and "for me." but there's more to it than that.

First, the phrase *para mim*. can be used in sentences like:

1. *Você poderia comprar isso para mim?*
"Could you buy this for me?"

But it can also be used in a sentence like:

1. *Você poderia carregar essa bolsa para mim?*
"Could you carry this bag for me?"

In other words, *para* can mean both "to" and "for."

In contrast, the phrase *por mim* can be used in sentences like:

1. *O meu filho trabalha por mim.*
"My son works for me."

But the meaning is more like

"My son is working in my place" not that "I am my son's boss." The second meaning would be translated as *O meu filho trabalha para mim*.

tanto...assim

This is more of a formula than a straight phrase.

Mas, precisa comer tanta carne assim?

which literally translates as...

"but, you need to eat as much meat as that?"

But the feeling is much more like...

"but do you really need to eat that much meat?"

This is an example where the Brazilian Portuguese has a very different word order from English. However, the meanings are basically the same.

To use this formula you simply insert the thing that you're talking about between the *tanto* or *tanta* and the *assim*.

For example:

1. *Eu não quero viajar por tanto tempo assim.*

"I don't want to travel for as much time as that." or "I don't want to travel that much."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using Fixed Expressions in Brazilian Portuguese

Você vai ficar preparando comida todo o dia.

"You will be preparing food all day long."

Fixed expressions are not idioms. Idioms are phrases that have a lot of cultural meaning but don't make sense based on their superficial grammar. An example of an idiom would be:

1. "It takes two to tango."

There's a lot more meaning in that phrase than just a commentary about dancing techniques.

*As a side note, the equivalent Brazilian expression of "it takes two to tango" is *Quando um não quer, dois não brigam.* ("when one doesn't want to, two don't fight.")

Fixed Expressions

A fixed expression is something that is said frequently in the language and almost always said that way, and it's only rarely restructured, usually for poems or some kind of literary purpose.

1. *todo o dia* ("all day long.")

Literally, it translates to "all the day." So the "long" is something you need to understand by context. This phrase is used in our dialogue. This phrase is nice though because the literal translation kind of makes sense in English.

For example:

1. *Eu estive no trabalho todo o dia.*
"I was at work all day long."
2. *Eu estou esperando todo o dia para esse pacote.*
"I have been waiting for this package all day long."

2. *Todo dia* - "every day." (Literally, "all day.")

Pronunciation of 1 and 2

The phrase *todo o dia* has the *O* in the middle which is held a bit longer than *todo dia*. In fact, it almost sounds like it's kind of "bumped." The second phrase is pronounced faster *todo dia*.

For example:

1. *Eu trabalho todo dia.*
"I work everyday."

imagina só

Literally translated this phrase is "imagine only." But the meaning is a bit fluid in English.

Sometimes it would translate as "just imagine" or "imagine that." In other contexts, a translation of "just imagine it" or "just imagine that" would be more appropriate.

Pronunciation:

Remember that in Portuguese, the letter *i* makes an "ee" sound. Be careful not to let this become like the "i" sound in "it."

For example:

1. *Imagina só Sara, uma promoção dessa nessa época do ano?*
"Imagine that Sara, a sale like this at this time of year?"
2. *Imagina só, eu pilotando um avião pelas nuvens.*
"Just imagine it, me piloting a plane among the clouds."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

An Unusual Type of Brazilian Restaurant

Brazilian food is very different. Some things are the same; for example, you can find McDonald's and Pizza Hut in most of the large Brazilian cities. However, apart from this superficial appearance to fast food, most Brazilian restaurants have a kind of self-service format. So, instead of having pre-made dishes where you get a menu and choose what you want to eat, many Brazilian restaurants are a more buffet-style restaurant.

This is important for people traveling in Brazil, for several reasons. One of those reasons is that these "self-service" restaurants often have homemade food with homemade recipes made in bulk. So, these restaurants are much more typical of Brazilian cuisine than anything you can find besides sitting down for dinner at a Brazilian's home.

These "self-service" restaurants are also very fast because all of the food is already cooked and available for you to put on your plate and eat. So, if you're in a hurry, which travelers usually are, you can walk into a self-service restaurant, put food on your plate, weigh your plate (if you're at a pay-by-weight restaurant), pay for the food, eat your food, leave the restaurant and be back on your way in the less than ten minutes.

In Brazil, eating well, and eating quickly, are both possible at a self-service restaurant.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #19

Running Late for a Brazilian Appointment

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Irmão: Eita! São quatro da tarde! Tá tarde já! E eu preciso mandar esse pacote pelo correio hoje!
2. Irmã: Mas eu preciso do carro às cinco pra ir na minha consulta.
3. Irmão: Relaxa! Vai dar tempo. Eu vou sair agora e volto logo pra você poder ir ao médico.
4. Irmã: Vai rapidinho então porque eu preciso sair às quinze pras cinco para chegar a tempo.
5. Irmão: Já tô no carro. Té mais maninha!
6. Irmã: Até! Vai com cuidado!

ENGLISH

1. Brother: Oh no! Is it four o'clock!? It's already late! And I need to send this package in the mail today!
2. Sister: But I need the car at five to go to my doctor's appointment.
3. Brother: Relax! There'll be more time. I'll leave now and return soon so that you can go to the doctor.
4. Sister: Go quickly then because I need to leave at a quarter to five to arrive on time.
5. Brother: I'm already in the car. See ya later, sis!

CONT'D OVER

6. Sister: See ya. Take care!

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
compromisso	appointment	noun	masculine
tá...já!	It's...already!	phrase	
médico	doctor	noun	masculine
voltar	to return, to go back, to come back	verb	
maninha	sis	noun	feminine
rapidinho	quickly (diminutive form)	adverb	
precisar de	to need	phrase	
quarenta e cinco	forty-five	numeral	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Eu tive um compromisso ontem. "I had an appointment yesterday."	Tá na hora já? "Is it time already?"
Meus pais são médicos. "My parents are doctors."	Ela sempre volta para casa depois da meia-noite. "She always returns home after midnight."

<p>Ei maninha, você pode me ajudar?</p> <p>"Hey sis, could you help me?"</p>	<p>Eu vou cozinhar um bolinho pra você rapidinho, tá?</p> <p>"I will cook a cake for you, quickly, okay?"</p>
<p>Eu vou precisar de você amanhã.</p> <p>"I will need you tomorrow."</p>	<p>Minha mãe vai fazer quarenta e cinco anos.</p> <p>"My mother will turn forty-five."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

tá...já!

tá...já! translates to "it's... already!"

This formula is used by inserting something between the *tá* and the *já*. Brazilian Portuguese usually places adjectives between these two words.

For example:

1. *tá caro já.*
"it is expensive already."
2. *tá quente já.*
"it is hot already."

This phrase can also be switched around to be *já tá*. When they're in this order, the words must be together.

For example:

1. *Já tá caro.*
"It's already expensive."
2. *Já tá quente.*
"It's already hot."

precisar de (substantivo) - vs. precisar (verbo)

Precisar literally translates as "to need." This word is used differently depending on whether a noun follows it or if it's followed by another verb.

When *precisar* is followed by a noun you have to insert the preposition *de* between the verb *precisar* and the noun, whatever it is.

For example:

1. *Eu preciso de mais sapatos.*
"I need more shoes."

In contrast, when you follow the verb *precisar* with another verb, then you don't need the preposition *de*.

For example:

1. *Eu preciso sair.*
"I need to leave."
2. *Ela não precisa viajar para a Europa.*
"She doesn't need to travel to Europe."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Female Speech Versus Male Speech

Vai rapidinho então.

"Go fast then."

In Brazilian Portuguese, everybody uses the same words. So when we talk about "female speech" versus "male speech." We're often not talking about completely different words as if a separate vocabulary existed for each of the two. However, there are some usage variables that can make your speech sound more feminine or more masculine. And remember, this has nothing to do with the masculine and feminine nature of Brazilian words.

1. *Vai rapidinho então.*
"Go fast then."

...is an example of female speech.

Female Speech

Diminutive

Usually, but not always, women use the diminutive form of nouns and adjectives and men do not. The diminutive form is the *-inho* ending that is on the word *rápido*. When you hear that *inho*, the person speaking it sounds like a woman. It's not that the sentence itself has any feminine nature to it, that's just the way that women tend to talk

For example:

1. *Come sua comidinha.*
"Eat your food."

Remember this isn't a rule. Men can use the diminutive too but, if the men were to say the same thing you probably would've said *Vai rápido então* and not used the diminutive.

For example:

1. *Coloque sua botinha.*
"Put on your (little) boots."
2. *Que bonitinho.*
"What a pretty thing."

Fofa/fofo

Brazilian women exclusively also tend to use the word *fofo* or *fofa*.

1. *fofa*
"soft, cute"
2. *Nossa! Que coisinha fofa!*
"My word! What a cute little thing!"

3. *Venha aqui fofinha.*
"Come here sweetie."

Male Speech

Contractions

In general, Brazilian men tend to use contractions more often than women do. By contractions, we don't mean the standard ones like *do* or *na*. We mean shortenings of non-typical words.

A good example in the dialogue was the sentence:

1. *'Té mais maninha.*
"See ya later sis."

Here he makes a contraction of the word *até* to be just *té*. That's why he says *té* and she says *até* in the next line. Men use these kinds of contractions more than women. But, these are just tendencies not exactly rules. You will hear girls say *té* just like the boys, but not as often.

For example:

1. *Comé que 'cê tá? = Como é que você está? = "How's it going?"*
2. *E aí vei? = E aí velho? = "What's up dude?"*

Interjections

Brazilian men also tend to use fewer interjections during a conversation than women. The men use the same interjections as the women, just less often.

For example:

1. Male: *Que coisa linda.*
"What a cute thing."
Female: *Nossa! Que coisinha fofa!*
"My word! What a cute little thing!"
2. Male: *Que graça.*
"What a cutie."
Female: *Ai! que gracinha!*
"Oh! What a cutie!"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Punctuality in Brazil

Often, English speakers are very stressed about time and time frames. If you plan to meet somebody at two o'clock, then you'd better be there at two o'clock. In general, Brazilians feel the same way except that they're much more flexible about these kinds of things. At first, to foreigners, it may seem like Brazilians don't care about being punctual but that is not true.

What's different about most Brazilians is that most of them use the bus to travel about their cities. Since they use public transport, exact timeframes become much more difficult. And for those Brazilian who own cars, it's not that much better because most Brazilian cities have serious problems with traffic and traffic jams are a constant problem to be negotiated.

Because of these and other cultural issues, Brazilians are very forgiving to each other and to other people about being late for meetings or really anything. However, there are some exceptions, two of which are the post office and the bank. These two places, if you arrive late for your scheduled meeting or arrive after the time that the post office was scheduled to close, will almost always refuse you.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #20

Running Into An Old Friend in Brazil

CONTENTS

- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

20

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Daniele: Adriana? É você?
2. Adriana: Dani?
3. Daniele: É você! Adri! Quanto tempo! Como você está?
4. Adriana: Estou ótima! E você?
5. Daniele: Eu estou muito bem. Você está aqui em Curitiba? Eu pensei que você morava em Belém!
6. Adriana: (risada) Eu ainda moro em Belém, mas a minha irmã mais nova vai se casar esse fim de semana. Então eu vim pra celebrar com a família.
7. Daniele: A Naiara vai casar? Mas, ela só tinha doze anos a última vez que a vi!
8. Adriana: Pois é. Agora ela tem vinte e três, já se formou da faculdade, tem a própria advocacia e está casando com um juiz.
9. Daniele: Nossa!

ENGLISH

1. Daniele: Adriana? Is that you?
2. Adriana: Dani?

CONT'D OVER

3. Daniele: It is you! Adri! It's been so long! How are you?
4. Adriana: I'm great! And you?
5. Daniele: I'm very well. Why are you here in Curitiba? I thought you were living in Belem!
6. Adriana: (laughs) I still live in Belem but my youngest sister will get married this weekend so I came to celebrate with the family.
7. Daniele: Naiara is getting married? But, she was only twelve years old last time I saw her!
8. Adriana: I know. Now she's twenty-three, already graduated from college, has her own attorney's office and is getting married to a judge.
9. Daniele: My word!

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
casar-se	to marry	verb	
faculdade	college, faculty	noun	feminine
formar-se	to graduate	verb	
advocacia	attorney's office	noun	feminine
juiz	judge	noun	masculine
irmã mais nova	younger sister	phrase	feminine
fim de semana	weekend	phrase	masculine

Quanto tempo!

It's been so long!

phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Vou me casar em maio! "I'm getting married in May!"	Qual é o nome da sua faculdade? "What's the name of your college?"
Eu vou me formar em dois anos. "I will graduate in two years."	Eu trabalhava numa advocacia. "I used to work at an attorney's office."
O juiz expulsou o jogador do campo de futebol. "The judge expelled the player from the soccer field."	Eu vou viajar no fim de semana. "I'll travel on the weekend."
Ana, quanto tempo! Como você tá? "Ana, it's been so long! How are you?"	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

irmã mais nova

Irmã mais nova literally translates as "sister more new." But it means "younger sister."

You may sometimes hear the phrase *irmã mais jovem* which would translate as "sister more young" and might make more sense to an English speaker as "younger sister." However, this is the less common of the two phrases.

An equivalent phrase is *irmão mais novo* meaning "younger brother."

You can also have the phrases:

1. *irmã mais velha* means "older sister,"

2. *irmão do meio* means "middle brother"
3. *irmão mais velho* means "older brother."

fim de semana vs. final de semana

Fim de semana means "weekend." The interesting part about this phrase is that there is an alternate version which is *final de semana*. Now, technically, the phrase *final de semana* is grammatically correct, although the first form is considered more accurate.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking About the Past Using the Imperfect Tense

Eu pensei que você morava em Belém!

"I thought you were living in Belém!"

The imperfect tense in Portuguese is talking about some kind of action that happened in the past but that happened over a period of time. This period of time is usually not specified or unknown; there is no certainty of when did the action started or ended.

In English, the Imperfective Preterit is usually translated as the progressive form or as "used to."

For example, in the dialogue we have the phrase: *Eu pensei que você morava em Belém!* meaning "I thought you were living in Belém!" The past tense is the "were" and the idea that it was continuously going on. That action happened over this "period of time" and probably is still going on. She was living in Belém and she is still living in Belém.

Conjugation

	<i>AR verbs</i>	<i>ER verbs</i>	<i>IR verbs</i>
Person	<i>cantar</i> "to sing"	<i>obedecer</i> "to obey"	<i>servir</i> "to serve"
<i>Eu ("I")</i>	<i>cantava</i>	<i>obedecia</i>	<i>servia</i>

Tu ("you")	<i>cantavas</i>	<i>obedecias</i>	<i>servias</i>
Ele, ela, você ("he, she, you")	<i>cantava</i>	<i>obedecia</i>	<i>servia</i>
Nós ("we")	<i>cantávamos</i>	<i>obedecíamos</i>	<i>servíamos</i>
Vós ("you'll")	<i>cantáveis</i>	<i>obedecíeis</i>	<i>servíeis</i>
Eles, elas, vocês ("they, you'll")	<i>cantavam</i>	<i>obedeciam</i>	<i>serviam</i>

Sample Sentences

1. *Ela cantava quando era criança.*
"She used to sing when she was little."
2. *O navio flutuava sobre a água.*
"The ship was floating on the water."
3. *Eles dormiam.*
"They were sleeping."
4. *Nós bebíamos água todo dia.*
"We were drinking water every day."
5. *Estava chovendo às duas horas.*
"It was raining at two o'clock."
6. *O motorista dirigia o ônibus.*
"The driver was driving the bus."

Pronunciation Tip

Always remember that the tonic syllable from the singular form is preserved in the plural form.

For example, the verb *falar* becomes *falava* in the singular form and *falávamos* in the plural form.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Weddings in Brazil

Usually, in Brazil, marriage is done in two stages. There is the legal stage and then the religious stage. In Brazil, they say *casamento legal* and *casamento religioso*.

The first one is usually the legal marriage. So, the couple will set a date with the *cartório* or the courthouse to get married legally. This will often be a small ceremony with the couple and maybe the parents and a few witnesses.

The "religious marriage" is usually done at a church and there is some kind of religious figure there. And it really depends on the religion, but since most Brazilians are Catholic, it's usually some kind of Catholic priest.

This is the marriage where you invite lots of people. So, you would invite all of your family that you want to be there and all of your friends and your coworkers, etc. There is also a "reception" or "celebration" that happens right after the marriage. For the "religious marriage" people will often rent large halls or churches where they will have the ceremony at in front, and then all of the guests sitting behind them.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #21

What Have You Been Up To In Brazil?

CONTENTS

- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

21

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Alex: Fernando? Eita cara! Como você tá?
2. Fernando: Alex! Uau! Eu tô bem cara. E você?
3. Alex: Tô bem. Faz... o que? 4 meses que a gente não se vê?
4. Fernando: É, por aí. O que 'cê tem feito esses tempos?
5. Alex: Tô trabalhando numa produtora de rádio. Trabalho com a gravação de áudio deles.
6. Fernando: Que legal. Eu nem sabia que você entendia dessas coisas.
7. Alex: Haha! Nem eu! Mas eu comecei a mexer com isso e fiz algumas coisas que o dono da produtora gostou e daí ele me deu um emprego.
8. Fernando: Que bacana cara.
9. Alex: E você? O que você tá fazendo agora?

ENGLISH

1. Alex: Fernando? Wow, man! How are you?
2. Fernando: Alex! Wow! I'm good, man. And you?
3. Alex: I'm good. It's been, what? Four months since we've seen each other?

CONT'D OVER

4. Fernando: Yeah, something like that. What've you been up to?
5. Alex: I'm working at a radio production agency. I work with their audio recordings.
6. Fernando: That's cool. I didn't even know you knew about that kind of stuff.
7. Alex: Ha! Neither did I! But I just started to mess around with it and I did some things that the owner of the agency liked and then he gave me a job.
8. Fernando: That is so cool, man.
9. Alex: And you? What are you doing now?

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
cara	dude, man	noun	masculine
produtora	production agency	noun	feminine
rádio	radio	noun	masculine
gravação	recording	noun	feminine
mexer	to work with, to use	verb	
O que você tem feito esses tempos? (Brazilian)	What have you been doing recently?	phrase	
me deu emprego	gave me a job	phrase	
bacana	awesome	adjective	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Cara, o que você tá fazendo?</p> <p>"Dude, what are you doing?"</p>	<p>Eu trabalhava numa produtora.</p> <p>"I used to work at a production agency."</p>
<p>Eu não ouço o rádio.</p> <p>"I don't listen to the radio."</p>	<p>Eu acho que vai ter problema com essa gravação.</p> <p>"I think there will be a problem with this recording."</p>
<p>Eu não sei mexer com essas coisas.</p> <p>"I don't know how to use those things."</p>	<p>Marcão, quanto tempo! O que que cê tem feito esses tempos?</p> <p>"Marcao, long time no see! What have you been up to?"</p>
<p>Aí, o cara me deu emprego!</p> <p>"Then, the dude gave me a job!"</p>	<p>Que bacana!</p> <p>"That's so cool!"</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

O que 'cê tem feito esses tempos?

O que 'cê tem feito esses tempos? literally translates as "what that you have made these times?" but it really means "Whachya been up to?"

This is example of casual speech. Often when Brazilians are speaking quickly or casually, they will cut out words and make them smaller. So, the guy said 'cê instead of *você*.

In contrast to this, Brazilians will often insert extra instances of the word *que* when they are speaking casually. For them, this makes things feel more natural. But for language learners, it makes things more difficult.

We don't really know why Brazilians do this, but it's common in all regions of Brazil although it seems to be most pronounced with younger Brazilians from about 15 years old to about 35 and people from the major cities like Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo.

We heard this in this phrase he says *o que 'ce tem feito*. Here, the extra *que* doesn't really have a grammatical purpose and it's very difficult to translate into English. However, without it, this phrase sounds stilted.

bacana

Bacana is a slang term and, as such, has kind of a fluid meaning. Right now, it probably most closely resembles the English term "sweet!" to say that something is very interesting and very fun. There are many other slangs that have the same meaning as *bacana* used throughout the country. It changes from place to place, but some of the most common are:

- *maneiro* (mostly used in Rio)
- *da hora* (mostly used in Sao Paulo)
- *massa* (mostly used in Northeastern region and Paraná State)
- *trilegal* (mostly used in Southern region)
- *ô loco*
- *oxente* (mostly used in Northeastern region)

There are many other slangs meaning "cool" in Brazil. You'll hear and learn many of them when you get there.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Talk about the Near Past

Tô trabalhando numa produtora de rádio.

"I'm working at a radio production agency."

In most textbooks, the different past tenses of Portuguese are taught with some pretty intense

grammatical rules. But probably one of most important things to understand about the past tense in Portuguese is that when you're actually talking to someone you can use any of them. You need to know what each tense means in order to use them properly, but there aren't particular situations where you have to use only the preterite tense or only the imperfect tense. In a typical conversation you will use both tenses and several other verb conjugations all while talking about the past and the present and even the future. In the dialogue several tenses are used.

Present Tense

They ask each other how they are doing right now. That's very present tense. Then, they move ever so slightly to the near past. They explain the context in the sentence:

1. *quatro meses que a gente não se vê*
"four months since we've seen each other"

Now that the context and timeframe have been established, they both begin talking about that context.

Present Tense—Near Past

In the next sentence, Alex says:

Tô trabalhando numa produtora de rádio. Trabalho com a gravação de áudio deles.

There are several verbs here, but they are in the present tense even though he's talking about the past tense. Does that make sense? It's what he was doing and what he continues to be doing now.

Past Tense

Imperfect

Fernando responds with the first real past tense conjugations which are in the phrase:

Eu nem sabia que você entendia dessas coisas.

Here, the verbs *sabia* and *entendia* are in the imperfect past tense. And in this idea he's talking about pretty much all of the past in their whole life he didn't know that Alex knew about these kinds of things.

Preterit

In his response Alex, doesn't use the imperfect tense anymore. He uses a different past tense which is called the preterite past tense.

1. *Mas eu comecei a mexer com isso e fiz algumas coisas que o dono da produtora gostou e ele me deu um emprego.*

"I just started to mess with it and did some things that the owner of the agency liked and he gave me a job."

In this sentence, there are four verbs and all of them are conjugated in the preterit tense, not the imperfect like Fernando had used.

Present Tense

The next response from Fernando is *que massa cara*.

Then, the last line from Alex is:

1. O que você está fazendo agora?
"what are you doing now?"

Here, they are talking about the present tense. They're talking about where he is working, not what is he physically doing right now in this present tense instant.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Job Market for Foreigners in Brazil

Getting a job in Brazil can be quite difficult for foreigners. In most parts of the country, there are lots of jobs, but most of the jobs are for Brazilian citizens. If you want to work in Brazil it's usually much safer and easier to contact the company before you even go to Brazil. That way, your visa can be expedited and, within probably a month of arriving, you'll be getting a paycheck.

However, if you just get on a plane and go to Brazil and start trying to work, it's going to be very difficult for you to find a job and could even be risky. Brazil has very similar laws to most other countries about employing foreigners. If for example, you are on a tourist visa and you get a job at a Brazilian company the company could be fined and you might get deported. It's much better to have some kind of work visa or a work release before you just walk in and start working.

That said, many foreigners who live in Brazil and have lived in Brazil for a long time have their own companies. Not big companies, but they are the owners of their own businesses. For example, there are Portuguese people who run their own supermarkets or Japanese who run their own pastelarias. There are many Americans who live in Brazil and teach private English lessons. There are many Chinese who own and run stores. And, there are many Italian immigrants who have purchased land and own their own farms.

It's extremely rare to find a non-native Brazilian working in any kind of customer service or business position.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #22

Starting a New Business in Brazil

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- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

22

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Daniele: Oi Carol! Como você está?
2. Carolina: Eu estou bem. E você? Como tem passado esses dias?
3. Daniele: Estou muito cansada.
4. Carolina: Ué, por quê?
5. Daniele: Eu estou trabalhando demais. Eu e o meu esposo abrimos uma loja de moda feminina e está dando trabalho pra caramba.
6. Carolina: Ah, coitada de você. E o seu esposo? Ele está sobrevivendo?
7. Daniele: Está sim. Ele está gostando demais e está bem ocupado também, mas está gostando muito.

ENGLISH

1. Danielle: Hi Carol! How are you?
2. Carolina: I'm well. How have you been?
3. Danielle: I'm really tired.
4. Carolina: Oh, why?
5. Danielle: I'm working too much. My husband and I opened a women's clothing store and it's making us work like crazy.

CONT'D OVER

6. Carolina: Oh, you poor thing. And your husband? Is he surviving?
7. Danielle: He is, yes. Actually, he's really liking it. He's very busy too but he's liking it very much.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
cansado	tired	adjective	masculine
pra caramba	a lot, very much	phrase	
ué	wha!	interjection	
feminino	feminine	adjective	masculine
sobreviver	to survive	verb	
ocupado	busy	adjective	masculine
moda	style, fashion	noun	feminine
dar trabalho	to bother, to make work, to cause problems	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Eu estou cansada, e você?</p> <p>"I am tired, are you?"</p>	<p>Você está cansado?</p> <p>"Are you tired?"</p>
<p>Essa maçã tá cara pra caramba.</p> <p>"That apple is crazy expensive."</p>	<p>Ué, o que que é isso?</p> <p>"Wha? What is that?"</p>

<p>Ela tem uma loja de calçados femininos.</p> <p>"She owns a feminine shoes store."</p>	<p>Foi um milagre ele sobreviver o acidente.</p> <p>"It was a miracle for him to survive the accident."</p>
<p>Desculpa, mas o seu tio está muito ocupado.</p> <p>"Sorry, but your uncle is very busy."</p>	<p>Essa calça está na moda.</p> <p>"Those pants are in style."</p>
<p>Esse novo gato tá me dando trabalho!</p> <p>"That new cat is making me work!"</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

pra caramba

The phrase *pra caramba* doesn't really literally translate as anything in English. The word *caramba* isn't even a word that Brazilians can define very easily or why you need to use the preposition *para* before it. This is a fixed phrase that quite simply means "a lot" or "like crazy" or "extremely."

This is an excellent phrase and it's one that, when foreigners use it, almost always makes the Brazilians smile because it's a very fun kind of phrase.

For example:

1. *Dando trabalho pra caramba.*
"making us work like crazy."
2. *Esse voo está caro pra caramba.*
"This flight is extremely expensive."
3. *Seu carro está velho pra caramba cara.*
"Your car is way old, dude."

ué

This word is a kind of interjection you use in Brazilian Portuguese to show disbelief or that you are unsure of what you just heard.

It's kind of like when Americans often say "Wha?" Be aware that *ué* does not have the same feeling as the phrase "Are you joking?" So, even though they both show disbelief, it's not the same kind of usage.

Ué would be much closer to "really?" than "Are you joking?"

For example:

1. *Ué, Por que você está aqui?*
"Wha? What are you here?"
2. *Ué? Eu não quero isso não.*
"Wha? I don't want that at all."
3. *Ué? Onde está o sorvete?*
"Where is the ice cream?"

Dar trabalho

dar trabalho means "give work" but it has the same feeling as "make us work" or "causes work."

This phrase can be translated in many different ways. But the general idea is that whatever it is, it is making you very busy.

For example:

1. *Esse novo emprego está me dando trabalho demais.*
"This new job is making me work too much."
2. *Ter filhos dá trabalho.*
"Having kids is hard work."
3. *Eu comprei um carro ano passado mas só me dava trabalho. Então, vendi.*
"I bought a car last year but it just caused me problems. So, I sold it."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking About the Past in the Present Tense

Como tem passado esses dias?

"How have you been?"

In the lesson 21, we covered talking about the near past or things that happened in the past but are still happening now or things that are recent. This is usually done by specifying some kind of a context. In that lesson, we talked about using the present tense to talk about the past. In this lesson we're going to go into more detail.

Present Tense

The literal translation of *Como tem passado esses dias?* is actually "How have passed these days?" which makes it sound like you're talking about how the days have passed, but in reality, the subject is inferred so more correctly this should be "How have you passed these days?"

Here, just like in lesson 21, this phrase establishes a context, and that context is in the past. This context is even more recent than the dialogue before because this context is *esses dias* instead of "four months ago."

In this dialogue, all of the verbs, except for one, are conjugated to the present tense, but this entire conversation is about the context which is the past few days. So it's all in the past.

Present Progressive

Since it is so recent, the most common verb conjugation is the present progressive which is the *estar* + verb form. So for example, Daniele says:

1. *Eu estou trabalhando demais.*
"I am working a lot."

Now, if we were to understand this as only being in the present tense, then we would have to understand this phrase to mean she is currently working too much. At that moment she is working too much.

However, we know that this is not the case because it's the morning and they're still on their way to work. She hasn't even started working yet today. So we can't interpret the sentence to mean present tense.

It has to mean something other than right now. We know what it means because of this context of "the last few days." So, even though the conjugation and the phrase and everything she says is all present tense, right now, she's actually talking about the past.

Quick Tip

When you need to talk about the past tense or the near past, you can use the present progressive tense after you've established the context.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Owning a Business in Brazil

In Brazil, owning your own business is actually very rewarding but also very difficult. One of the main reasons for this is because the Brazilian government has put in place many taxes and regulations relating to business ownership and running a business that make it very burdensome, difficult, and confusing to do.

Brazilian businesses routinely pay more than 50% of their total income on taxes. This is one of the reasons why many products seem to be about three times more expensive what they are in other countries. At first glance it may seem that the business owners are very greedy and always trying to charge a lot of money for products that are inexpensive.

While there might be people like that, for the most part Brazilian business owners are just as honest as business owners in any other part of the world. The large markup in price is due to these taxes. There is also a large paperwork burden placed on businesses just to follow all of these different laws and pay all of these different taxes.

Brazilians often criticize the government for this and the government is aware of the problem. Over the past five years, the Brazilian government has taken deliberate and productive steps toward reducing the paperwork burden and the tax burden on both businesses and the average Brazilian citizen.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #23

Having A Portuguese Chat

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- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 6 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

23

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Marcos: Olá! Como você está?
2. Sara: Estou bem, obrigada. E você, como vai?
3. Marcos: Vou bem. Como foi a semana?
4. Sara: Foi boa. Trabalhei bastante e me diverti ainda mais.
5. Marcos: (risada) Que bom. O que você fez?
6. Sara: Meu irmão veio do Espírito Santo me visitar. Daí eu fui passear com ele pela cidade.
7. Marcos: Que legal. Aonde vocês foram?
8. Sara: Fomos à praia, ao parque da cidade, para vários restaurantes, e para uma peça de teatro no Teatro Municipal.
9. Marcos: Uau! Qual peça vocês assistiram?
10. Sara: Os Miseráveis.

ENGLISH

1. Marcos: Hello! How are you?
2. Sara: I'm well, thank you. And you, how are you?
3. Marcos: I'm doing well. How was your week?

CONT'D OVER

4. Sara: It was good. I worked a lot and had even more fun.
5. Marcos: (laughs) That's good! What did you do?
6. Sara: My brother came from Espirito Santo to visit me. Then, I went sightseeing with him in the city.
7. Marcos: That's cool. Where did you go?
8. Sara: We went to the beach, to the city park, to many different restaurants, and to a play at the municipal theater.
9. Marcos: Wow! What play did you watch?
10. Sara: Les Miserables.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
visitar	to visit	verb	
me diverti ainda mais	I had even more fun	phrase	
passear	to sightsee	verb	
aonde	to what place, where	adverb	
parque	park	noun	masculine
assistir	to watch	verb	
peça de teatro	a play	phrase	
daí	after that	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Amanhã, vou visitar minha tia.</p> <p>"Tomorrow, I'm going to visit my aunt."</p>	<p>Trabalhei bastante e me diverti ainda mais.</p> <p>"I worked a lot and had even more fun."</p>
<p>Fomos passear pela cidade.</p> <p>"We went sightseeing through the city."</p>	<p>Aonde você vai?</p> <p>"Where are you going?"</p>
<p>O menino está lendo um livro no parque.</p> <p>"The boy is reading a book in the park."</p>	<p>Normalmente eu não assisto nenhum esporte, mas eu fiz uma exceção ontem.</p> <p>"Usually, I don't watch any sports but I made an exception yesterday."</p>
<p>Eu vou alugar filme para assistir à noite.</p> <p>"I will rent a movie to watch at night."</p>	<p>A família está assistindo televisão.</p> <p>"The family is watching television."</p>
<p>Os críticos gostaram muito da nova peça de teatro dela.</p> <p>"Critics are very fond of her new play."</p>	<p>Essa peça de teatro foi muito curta.</p> <p>"That play was very short."</p>
<p>Daí, eu fui para o aeroporto.</p> <p>"After that, I went to the airport."</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

peça de teatro

peça de teatro literally translates to "piece of theater" but it means "a play."

This can be a very difficult thing for foreigners to learn when they are studying Portuguese. Usually, the phrase *peça de teatro* is only learned after having learned so much Portuguese that you could actually attend a play.

Sometimes, when the idea of theater is already understood, this phrase can be shortened to just *uma peça* instead of the full *uma peça de teatro*.

For example:

1. *Minha amiga vai estreiar numa peça de teatro nova.*
"My friend will make her debut in a new play."
2. *Eu sempre quis escrever um livro que virasse uma peça de teatro.*
"I've always wanted to write a book that was turned into a play."

me diverti ainda mais

Me diverti ainda mais. literally translates as "me funned still more."

However, the verb *divertir* means "to have fun" so a better translation would be "I had fun still more."

This is one of the few places where the word *ainda* does not translate as "still." And that's why this is such a difficult phrase to translate. The proper translation for *ainda* in this sentence is "even." So, the full phrase would be:

"I had fun even more"

or better:

"I had even more fun."

For example:

1. *Eu dancei muito e me diverti ainda mais.*
"I danced alot and had even more fun."
2. *Eu me diverti ainda mais do que semana passada.*
"I had even more fun that last week."

daí

Daí is a contraction of the preposition *de* and the direction word *aí*. Literally, this word translates as "of there where you are," or "from there where you are."

However, in daily conversation, this phrase is much more like "then" or "after that."

For example:

1. *Eu fui para o supermercado e daí fui para o cinema.*
"I went to the supermarket and then I went to the movies."

Or

1. "I went to the supermarket and after that I went to the movies."
2. *E daí, eu fui trabalhar. Não tinha muito mais o que fazer.*
"And after that, I went to work. There wasn't much else to do."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Using the Past Tense When Asking and Answering Questions

Trabalhei bastante e me diverti ainda mais.

"I worked a lot and I had even more fun."

The Preterit Tense

In this dialogue there are ten verbs conjugated into the preterite tense. The preterite tense is sometimes called the simple past tense and is one of the most frequently used tenses in Brazilian Portuguese.

Brandon uses the preterite tense to create a context that they can talk about. This is very similar to lessons 21 and 22 except for in those lessons they use the present tense to talk about the past. In this dialogue, Brandon and Celina have a past tense context but they also use the preterite past to talk about the past.

In this lesson, the preterite tense is used in all of its conjugations. We even have two irregular verbs in their past tense forms as well.

3rd Person Singular

Preterite

Brandon is the first one to use the preterite tense in his sentence:

1. *Como foi a semana?*
"How was your week?"

The preterite tense, is usually one of the easiest tenses to translate between Portuguese and English because, most of the time, the meanings are identical.

Question/Answer Verb Pattern

One of the questions asked uses the past tense word *foi*. The pattern we want to look at is the answer that uses the same verb in the same tense. In other words, she says *foi* as well.

A few lines down Brandon asks another question:

1. *Aonde vocês foram?*
"Where did you go?"

Here he uses the past tense word *foram*.

In her answer, Celina says:

1. *Fomos à praia.*
"We went to the beach."

Here, *foram* is the third person plural of the preterite tense for the verb *ir* and *fomos* is the first person plural of the preterite tense for the verb *ir*.

The same verb that's used in the question, is used in the answer. That's the pattern. This isn't a rule and there's even an example in the dialogue of this pattern not being followed. However, this pattern is followed more times than it is not followed.

Sometimes, even though this pattern seems to be broken, it's still being followed. An example of this is in the very last question-and-answer exchange in the last two lines of the dialogue.

Where Brandon asks:

1. *Qual peça vocês assistiram?*
"What play did you watch?"

And then Celina answers:

1. *Os Miseráveis.*
"Les Miserables"

Here, she doesn't use the verb *assistir* in any form or conjugation. However, it is implied. The full sentence would be:

1. *Nós assistimos Os Miseráveis.*
"We watched *Les Miserables*."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Be Prepared to do a Lot of Talking When You Visit Brazilians

Entertaining Brazilian guests is much easier than it probably seems. In general, Brazilians visit people because they want to spend time talking to that person. So, the best way to entertain a Brazilian is to talk to them.

Now, that may seem obvious, and it probably should, but especially if the Brazilian is your friend in some way or another you're probably going to be talking a lot. Possibly quite a bit more than you're used to.

Often, when people visit one another in the US, they do so with a purpose. They want to talk about the football game, or about plans for an upcoming vacation, or about some project that they're working on, some special holiday, etc.

Brazilians, on the other hand, tend to visit each other mostly just to talk to each other. To see how the other person is doing. They may talk about the football game and about plans for an

upcoming vacation or whatever but what they're really interested in is you.

The other interesting variable is that when Brazilians come over to your home, they tend to split and the men will go do something and talk together and the women will go do something and talk together.

No one really knows why this happens. But it happens all the time; if a husband and wife come over to your house usually, the wife will go talk with the host wife and the husband will sit and talk to the host husband. They may even leave and go to different rooms and talk to each other there.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #24

Getting Away For The Weekend in Brazil

CONTENTS

- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Alex: Que tal irmos para a cachoeira esse final de semana? Você já tem alguma coisa programada? Podemos ir para Diamantina.
2. Fernando: Uai, seria bom mas é muito caro.
3. Alex: Eu tenho um cupom de quinze por cento de desconto para duas noites em uma pousada em Diamantina. O que você acha?
4. Fernando: É uma boa ideia, mas eu preciso ver se eu vou trabalhar esse final de semana. Posso te ligar mais tarde, lá pelas cinco?
5. Alex: Pode sim, tudo bem.
6. Fernando: Se eu não for trabalhar, tô dentro.

ENGLISH

1. Alex: What do you think about us going to the waterfall this weekend? You have something planned? We can go to Diamantina.
2. Fernando: Well, that would be nice but it's really expensive.
3. Alex: I have a coupon for fifteen percent off for two nights at an inn in Diamantina. What do you think?
4. Fernando: It's a good idea but I need to see if I still have to work this weekend. Can I call you later, around five?
5. Alex: Sure, that sounds fine.

CONT'D OVER

6. Fernando: If I don't have to work, I'm up for it.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
cachoeira	waterfall	noun	feminine
de desconto	off, discounted	phrase	
programar	to program, to plan, to schedule	verb	
Diamantina	Diamantina, Diamantina city	proper noun	feminine
noite	night	noun	feminine
pousada	inn	noun	feminine
ligar	to call	verb	
tô dentro (Brazilian)	I'm up for it	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>A cachoeira mais alta do mundo está na Venezuela.</p> <p>"The highest waterfall in the world is in Venezuela."</p>	<p>Essa blusa está com 15 por cento de desconto.</p> <p>"This blouse is 15% off."</p>
<p>A reunião está programada para as 5.</p> <p>"The meeting is scheduled until 5."</p>	<p>Eu nunca fui para Diamantina.</p> <p>"I have never been to Diamantina."</p>

<p>Ela sai toda noite.</p> <p>"She goes out every night."</p>	<p>Sábado à noite eu vou assistir um filme.</p> <p>"Saturday night, I am going to watch a movie."</p>
<p>Boa noite!</p> <p>"Good night!"</p>	<p>Vamos passar o final da semana numa pousada.</p> <p>"Let's spend the weekend in an inn."</p>
<p>Não me ligue de novo.</p> <p>"Don't call me again."</p>	<p>Vocês vão pra praia? Tô dentro.</p> <p>"Are you going to the beach? I'm down with that."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

de desconto

De desconto translates to "of discount" but most of the time it can just be translated as "off." As in, "20% off."

The phrasing in Portuguese is a little different from English though. For example, in the dialogue we heard the phrase *um cupom de quinze por cento de desconto* meaning "a coupon of fifteen percent of discount" but it means "a coupon for 15% off."

This also works when you're talking about money directly.

For example:

1. *trinta reais de desconto.*
"thirty reals off."

(Estou) tô dentro

The phrase *tô dentro* is a very slangy phrase and not something you should use in a job interview.

The idea behind this phrase is "I can do that" or "I agree with that" or "I understand." And in practical use, this phrase is very similar in feeling and use to the English slang term "I'm down with that."

Pronunciation:

tô

First, the pronunciation of the first word *tô* might sound a lot like the letter *O* in English but in fact it's called a closed *ô* in Brazilian Portuguese. In other words, it is not a diphthong.

tô - "I am"

dentro

The *E* in *dentro* sounds as if the throat is being constricted. This is because this *E* is being closed and is an *e fechada* or "closed 'e'" in Portuguese.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Suggesting and Discussing Future Plans

Que tal irmos para a cachoeira esse final de semana?

"What do you think about is going to the waterfall this weekend?"

This dialogue has many examples of giving suggestions about the future. Giving suggestions is a very polite thing to do in Portuguese and is often much better received than simply telling somebody what to do or giving your opinion.

Que tal

This phrase literally translates as "that such" but it means "what do you think?" Or "what about?" This is a fixed phrase in Brazilian Portuguese. In other words, you will only rarely see this phrase changed in some way.

This phrase can be used either at the beginning of your suggestion or at the end.

Vamos para a cachoeira esse final de semana, que tal? "Let's go to the waterfall this weekend, what you think?"

Seria bom

Seria bom literally translates as "would be good." But it often means "wouldn't it be good."

For example:

1. *Seria bom ir para o restaurante hoje à noite.*
"It would be good to go to a restaurant tonight."

But the feeling is much closer to the phrase "Wouldn't it be nice to go to a restaurant tonight."

For example:

1. *Um sorvete seria bom.*
"Some ice cream would be good."

This phrase can also be altered slightly to *seria ótimo* which means "it would be great."

For example:

1. *Um sorvete seria ótimo.*
"Some ice cream would be great."

Poder

In the dialogue there was the phrase *Podemos ir para Diamantina.* meaning "We can go to Diamantina."

Here, the verb *poder* is used to offer a suggestion. This phrase has a similar feeling to "we can go to Diamantina."

Another variation is the word *poderíamos.*

For example:

1. *Poderíamos ir para Diamantina.*
"We could go to Diamantina."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Are Brazilians Really Party Animals?

Brazilians often have a reputation for being partiers. As if every single weekend all Brazilians all over the world have parties. For that matter they have parties every day of the week they if we were to believe all of the rumors.

And while it is probably true that Brazilians do have more parties than Americans or British people or even most other countries, they don't have parties all the time. Brazilians, just like everybody else all across the planet, have to go to work, have to clean the house, have to go to school, and have to do many other things that are not parties.

Beyond that, not all parties that Brazilians do throw have 50+ people at them. In the dialogue these two friends have planned a very simple weekend at a nearby area* called "Diamantina." Just because a Brazilian asks "What are we doing this weekend?" You don't necessarily need to start organizing some kind of huge party.

*Diamantina is a fairly common name for cities in Brazil. However, it seems the name was somehow reserved for cities with natural beauty. There are two main ones however, a Diamantina, MG and a Diamantina, BA. Usually, when Brazilians talk about going to Diamantina, they are talking about one of these two places.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S2 #25

Are You Going to Rock in Rio?

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- 2 Brazilian Portuguese
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

1. Namorada: Você comprou os ingressos para o Rock in Rio? Já estou ansiosa para assistir aquele show da Katy Perry!
2. Namorado: Espera aí. Eu pensei que você queria assistir o show da Lady Gaga...
3. Namorada: Não! Eu falei para você que eu queria assistir a Katy Perry. Eu nem gosto da Lady Gaga.
4. Namorado: Então, acho que temos um problema aqui, porque comprei os ingressos errados. Comprei dois ingressos para o primeiro dia e dois para o segundo dia. O problema é que no primeiro dia não vai ter Katy Perry. E no segundo dia, tem o show da Lady Gaga que você aparentemente não gosta.
5. Namorada: Então, o que a gente faz? Será que pode trocar ainda?

ENGLISH

1. Girlfriend: Did you buy the tickets to rock in Rio? I'm getting antsy to watch Katy Perry's show.
2. Boyfriend: Wait a second. I thought you wanted to watch Lady Gaga's show?
3. Girlfriend: No! I told you that I wanted to watch Katy Perry. I don't even like Lady Gaga.

CONT'D OVER

4. **Boyfriend:** Well then, I think we have a problem here because I bought the wrong tickets. I bought two tickets for the first day and two for the second day. The problem is that on the first day there is no Katy Perry and on the second day is Lady Gaga who you don't like.
5. **Girlfriend:** So, what are we going to do? Do you think you can still trade them?

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
ingresso	ticket	noun	masculine
Já tô...	I'm already...	phrase	
ansioso	anxious	adjective	masculine
assistir	to watch	verb	
errado	wrong	adjective	masculine
show	show, concert, gig	noun	masculine
trocar	to change, to exchange	verb	
Eu falei para você	I told you	phrase	
aparentemente	apparently	adverb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Eu tenho três ingressos para o jogo.</p> <p>"I have three tickets for the game."</p>	<p>Se preocupa não mãe, já tô em casa.</p> <p>"Don't worry mom, I'm already home."</p>
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<p>Eu estou tão ansiosa para o show!</p> <p>"I'm so anxious for the show!"</p>	<p>Normalmente eu não assisto nenhum esporte, mas eu fiz uma exceção ontem.</p> <p>"Usually, I don't watch any sports but I made an exception yesterday."</p>
<p>Eu vou alugar filme para assistir à noite.</p> <p>"I will rent a movie to watch at night."</p>	<p>A família está assistindo televisão.</p> <p>"The family is watching television."</p>
<p>Tudo que eu falo tá errado.</p> <p>"Everything I say is wrong."</p>	<p>O show de samba foi muito legal.</p> <p>"The samba show was very cool."</p>
<p>Você espera eu trocar de roupa?</p> <p>"Would you wait for me to change clothes?"</p>	<p>Mas eu falei pra você que não queria aquilo!</p> <p>"But I told you I didn't want that!"</p>

Aparentemente, ela esqueceu.

"Apparently, she forgot."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Eu falei para você - "I told you"- Eu te disse

Eu falei para você looks like it should translate as "I spoke to you" but it means "I told you."

This phrase is interesting because when Brazilians use it, they're usually a little frustrated. The girlfriend in the dialogue says to her boyfriend:

Eu falei para você que eu queria assistir a Katy Petty, which we translated as "I told you I wanted to watch Katy Perry." She was a little frustrated when she said that.

So be careful not to use this unless you're frustrated for some reason or else the person will think that you are when you're not.

For example:

1. *Eu falei para você que não era pra sair de casa depois das cinco!*
"I told you you weren't supposed to leave the house after five."
2. *Eu falei para você, não limpa o chão com pano branco!*
"I told you, don't clean the floor with a white cloth!"

Será que

Será que is a very difficult phrase to translate because it's kind of a fixed expression in Brazilian Portuguese.

Textbooks usually teach *será que* as "I wonder." This can often be confusing because it isn't always used this way. In the dialogue, the girlfriend says:

Será que pode trocar ainda?

but we translated this as

"Do you think you can still trade them?"

Because that's what she's actually asking.

She's not wondering if it's possible, she's actually asking his opinion. She also uses this to make the sentence less direct and less accusatory. In other words, she uses this phrase to sound a bit more polite.

For example:

1. *Será que ela vai chegar a tempo?*
"Do you think she'll get here on time?"
2. *Será que é caro?*
"Do you think it's expensive?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking about Likes and Dislikes

Eu nem gosto da Lady Gaga.
"I don't even like Lady Gaga."

Talking about likes and dislikes in Brazilian Portuguese can sometimes be a bit frustrating. Usually when textbooks teach about likes and dislikes, they only use the verb *gostar de* and then teach you how to make it negative in the phrase *não gostar de*.

In reality, there are many ways to express likes and dislikes in Brazilian Portuguese. In this lesson we're going to look at a few phrases to express other aspects of likes and dislikes.

Estou ansiosa para

This phrase is an introductory phrase. For example:

1. *Já estou ansiosa para assistir aquele show da Katy Perry.*
"I'm getting antsy to watch Katie Perry's show."

So, you would say this phrase, and then insert something afterwards. Literally the phrase *estou ansiosa para...* translates as "I am anxious for" or "I am excited for" and then you insert what you're excited about.

Pensei que você queria

This phrase is another introductory phrase.

Pensei que você queria... means "I thought you wanted..."

Here, the phrase is talking about a misunderstanding about likes and dislikes. An example would be:

1. *Eu pensei que você queria viajar para Brasília.*
"I thought you wanted to travel to Brasília."

Referring back to lessons 21, 22, and 23, notice how we have both of the preterite past tense and the imperfect past tense in the same sentence. This is very normal and very natural.

Eu nem gosto de...

This phrase translates as "I don't even like..." This is an interesting use of the word *nem* which is usually translated as "nor" but in this sense we translated as "don't even."

nem - "don't even"

This is a very normal and common way to use the word *nem* and you will see it written as "don't even" in many different contexts.

For example:

1. *Eu nem gosto de chocolate.*
"I don't even even like chocolate."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Brazilian Festival

In general, Rock in Rio isn't particularly complex. It's basically a large music event or music festival where lots of rock bands come and play a series of shows across several different days all happening in Rio de Janeiro*. Even though it's called Rock in Rio it has all kinds of music. Everything from heavy metal to classic Brazilian country music and even sometimes rhythm and blues.

Rock in Rio is also interesting because it isn't an annual event nor does it really have any kind of fixed interval for when it happens. The first rock in Rio happened in 1985 and then there was another one in 1991 and then the next one was in 2001.

One of the most unique aspects of Rock in Rio is that there are very few events in the world where so many music artists get together in one venue to play practically anything the crowds ask for. People travel from all over the world to come see Rock in Rio. Compared to others roughly similar kinds of events, the tickets to get into the rock in Rio are quite cheap. They get

more expensive every time but people usually spend more to get to the event than they do to get in to the event.

*Even though "Rock in Rio" is originally from Brazil, there were Spain and Portugal versions as well. Oddly enough, they were also called "Rock in Rio." Currently, there is a Buenos Aires version planned for 2014.