

1. Tanto Trabalho! - So Much work!

Tanto trabalho! – So much work!

Entertaining Portuguese friends is a good way to practice your portuguese. Even if you can't speak that well it is a great opportunity to listen.

O jantar – the dinner

O almoço – the lunch

A entrada – the starter

O prato principal – the main meal

A sobremesa – the dessert

O Jantar

Acabaram de jantar e agora estão a tomar um café com a sobremesa

They have just finished dinner and now they are taking (having) coffee with the dessert

Ana: Este inverno está tão frio, mal posso esperar para o verão!

Inga: Eu também. Vais de férias para o Brasil, não vais?

Ana: Vou, ou seja, vamos. Tenho de levar a família, não é?

Mary: Que bom! Nós só vamos à Inglaterra para ver os nossos filhos na primavera.

Ana: Faz muito frio na primavera lá?

Mary: Depende, às vezes em Maio, faz muito calor.

Inga: Eu gosto de ir à Alemanha no outono, por causa das cores.

Ana: Por causa das cores?

Inga: Sim. As cores do Outono. Sabes, as árvores ficam muito bonitas com tons de laranja e vermelha!

Este inverno – this winter

Está tão frio – it is so cold

Mal posso esperar – I can hardly wait

para o verão! – for the summer!

Eu também – me too / me also

Vais de férias para o Brasil, não vais? – you are going on holiday to Brazil, aren't you?

Vou, ou seja, vamos – I am, or rather, we are (Lit. I go, or rather, we go)

Tenho de levar a família, não é? – I have to take the family, don't I?

Que bom! – How great

Nós só vamos à Inglaterra – We are just going to England

para ver os nossos filhos – to see our children

na primavera – in the spring

Faz muito frio na primavera lá? – does it get cold in the spring?

Depende – depends

Às vezes em Maio, faz muito calor – sometime in May it gets very warm

Eu gosto de ir à Alemanha no outono – I like to go to Germany in the Autumn

Por causa das cores? – because of the colours? (without the ‘?’ it is a statement)

Sim – yes

As cores do Outono – the Autumn colours

Sabes, as árvores ficam muito bonitas – you know, the trees look very pretty

com tons de laranja e vermelha! – with orange and red tones

2. Saber ou conhecer? – to know or to know?

We used the verb **Saber** – to know in an earlier lesson and it was also the verb of the day in Lesson 14. The verb **conhecer** – to know was the verb of the day in Lesson 25. There is a big difference between the two.

Saber is more to do with knowledge of something. The word ‘**sabedoria**’ in Portuguese means *wise*. **Um sabichão / uma sabichona** is ‘**a know it all**’.

Saber:

To know how to do something, to have knowledge about something.

Ele sabe jogar golfe – he knows how to play golf

A minha filha sabe nadar muito bem – my daughter knows (how) to swim very well

Eu sei fazer bolos – I know (how) to make cakes

Nós sabemos o que se passou – we know what happened

Sabe que horas abre o banco, se faz favor? – Do you know what time the bank opens, please?

(Note: we do not use the verb **poder** when saying we know how to do something.

Posso fazer um bolo will translate more like ‘I have permission to make a cake’, rather than I know how to make one.

Conhecer:

To know or to be acquainted with.

O senhor conhece o restaurante “Belo Sol”? – do you know the restaurant, ‘Belo Sol’ (are you acquainted with it?)

- Conheces o João? – do you know João?

- Conheço-o muito bem! – I know him very well

Eu não conheço a Bélgica, nunca lá fui – I don’t know Belgium, I have never been there

Conhecem aquele homem? – do you all know that man?

This verb reminds me of the French word *connoisseur* – a wine connoisseur – knows his wine!

3. Adjectives

Nouns are pretty straight forward, they are the names we give to things for the purpose of identifying them. Car, house, boat, table etc. are all nouns. To describe the things we are talking about in a little more detail we use adjectives.

The black car, the large house, the small boat, the round table. However in Portuguese the adjective often comes after the noun.

O carro preto – the black car (m)

A casa grande – the large house (f)

O barco pequeno – the small boat (m)

A mesa redonda – the round table (f)

In English the adjective comes before the noun, but in Portuguese, it comes after. Gender and number also play a part. Remember the poetry?

Uma casa pequena – a small house (f)
but

Um barco pequeno – a small boat (m)

Also nouns in the plural will be accompanied by a plural adjective:

Dois barcos pequenos

Duas casas pequenas

Some adjectives do not change gender, like grande, fácil, difícil – but they will become plural.

As mesas são grandes – the tables are large (big)

As perguntas são fáceis – the questions are easy

We covered this in lesson 3 + 4.

4. Tanto - so much

verb + tanto – so much (invariable)

Invariable means it does not change gender or number.

Ele come *tanto* – he eats so much

Ela fala *tanto* – she talks so much

verb + tanto que...so much that...(invariable)

Invariable means it does not change gender or number.

Ele comeu *tanto que* ficou doente – he ate so much that he became sick

Ela falou *tanto que* perdeu a voz – she talked so much that she lost her voice

tanto/tanta//tantos/tantas + noun – so many (variable)

Variable – means that it will change gender and number.

Eles comeram tantos chocolates – they all ate so many chocolates

Há tanta gente na rua – there are so many people on the street

Nunca vi tantas flores! – I never saw so many flowers!

We could also use the **conjunction** – que with the variable

Eles comeram tantos chocolates *que* ficaram doentes – they ate so many chocolates *that* they became sick

Havia tanta gente na rua *que* não dava para sair de casa – there were so many people on the street that you couldn't leave the house.

Regarding the weather though we would say:

Está tanto calor / frio – it is (so much) hot /cold (not **tão** - so) Calor and frio are both nouns so we are using the variable.

5. Common imperfect past usage of “Saber” – to know

This imperfect past is very widely used, it can take some getting used to, but once you do get used to it, you will see how handy it is. It is better just to learn the context here rather than trying to understand why it is used this way.

Verb saber – to know

Sabias? – did you know? (tu form)

Ela não sabia – she didn’t know

Eu sabia!! – I knew (it)!!

Nós já sabíamos – we already knew

Sabias que ele tinha ido a Espanha? – did you know that he had gone to Spain?

Eu não sabia que ela tinha falado com ele – I didn’t know that she had spoken to him

Eu sabia que não ias comigo – I knew you wouldn’t go with me

When we use saber in the perfect past it takes on a slightly different meaning.

Como é que soube? – how did you find out? (você)

Souberam do incêndio pelas notícias – they heard about the fire on the news

6. Contractions

Prepositions (of / from / to / at etc..) often contract with the article (the /a / an). We have seen lots during this course, this table will serve as a rough guide on how to use them. We can also throw in a few more phrases!

a becomes ao / à /

to		the		to the/at the	
		singular	plural	sing.	pl.
a	o	os	ao	aos	masc.
a	a	as	à	às	fem.

Vire à esquerda – turn to the left

O livro está à direita da estante – the book is to the right of the shelf

Eu vou aos correios – I am going to the post office(s) (post office is plural in Portuguese)

Ela foi ao médico ontem – she went to the doctor yesterday

Este ano vamos às Caraíbas de férias – this year we are going to the Caribbean on holiday

em becomes no / na

in/on	the		in the/on the		
	sing.	pl.	sing.	pl.	
em	o	os	no	nos	masc.
em	a	as	na	nas	fem.

Eu moro em Portugal – I live in Portugal

Estou no aeroporto – I am in the airport

Ela está nos correios – she is in the post office

Há muita gente na loja – there are a lot of people in the shop

Nas lojas na avenida há muitas coisas – in the shops on the avenue there are lots of things

de becomes do / da

of/ from	the		of the/ from the		
	sing.	pl.	sing.	pl.	
de	o	os	do	dos	masc.
de	a	as	da	das	fem.

Quinta do lago – Farm of the lake

Lençol da cama – sheet from the bed (belonging to the bed)

Ele é dos Açores – he is from the Azores

Ela caiu das escadas – she fell from the stairs

We also use this a lot with possession, where in English we would use –'s (apostrophe + s)

A mala é da Joana – the bag is Joana's

O telefone é do John – the phone is John's

Denoting origin

Eles são dos Estados Unidos – They are from the US

Está cadeira é do café – this chair is from the café

em becomes num / numa

in	a/an	in a/an	
em	um	num	masc.
em	uma	numa	fem.

Ontem jantámos num restaurante novo – yesterday we ate in a new restaurant.

Ele mora num apartamento – he lives in an apartment

Ela mora numa casa grande – she lives in a big house

Ele escreveu tudo numa carta – he wrote it all in a letter

Até amanhã!