

Robinson Crusoé

Chapter 1: Começo da Vida

Start in Life



LANGUAGE

Portuguese 🇵🇹



TRANSLATION

English 🇬🇧



LEVEL

A1 - Beginner



Portuguese

1. **O meu nome** é Robinson Crusoe. **Nasci** em 1632 em York, Inglaterra. **O meu pai** veio **da Alemanha**. **Era** comerciante. **Ganhava** bom dinheiro. Depois parou de trabalhar. **Vivia** em York. Casou com **a minha mãe** lá. O nome de família dela **era** Robinson.

English

1. My name is Robinson Crusoe. I was born in 1632 in York, England. My father came from Germany. He was a merchant. He earned good money. Then he stopped working. He lived in York. He married my mother there. Her family name was Robinson.

Portuguese	English
o meu nome	my name
é	is
robinson crusoé	robinson crusoe
nasci	i was born
em	in
1632	1632
york	york
inglaterra	england

Portuguese	English
o meu pai	my father
veio	came
da alemanha	from germany
era	was
comerciante	a merchant
ganhava	he earned
bom dinheiro	good money
depois	then

Portuguese	English
parou de	he stopped
trabalhar	working
vivia	he lived
casou com	he married
a minha mãe	my mother
lá	there
o nome de família dela	her family name
robinson	robinson



Language tips

Possessives - O meu vs My (Related words: **O meu nome, O meu pai, a minha mãe**)

In Portuguese, possessives include the article 'o/a'. 'O meu' means 'my' (masculine), while 'a minha' means 'my' (feminine).

- o meu livro → my book
- a minha casa → my house
- os meus amigos → my friends

Subject Pronouns - Often Omitted (Related words: **Nasci, Era, Ganhava, Vivia**)

Portuguese often drops subject pronouns because the verb ending tells us who is doing the action. 'Nasci' already means 'I was born'.

- Trabalho → I work
- Estudas → You study
- Comemos → We eat

Contraction - da (Related words: **da Alemanha**)

Portuguese 'da' is a contraction of 'de + a' (from/of + the). English keeps these separate as 'from the' or just 'from'.

- do Brasil → from Brazil
- das montanhas → from the mountains
- dos Estados Unidos → from the United States

Imperfect Tense - Era/Vivia/Ganhava (Related words: **Era, Ganhava, Vivia**)

Portuguese uses the imperfect tense for ongoing past actions. 'Era' means 'he was' (continuously), 'vivia' means 'he lived' (habitually).

- era feliz → was happy
- trabalhava muito → worked a lot
- morava aqui → lived here



Portuguese 🇵🇹

2. Eu tinha dois irmãos mais velhos. Um irmão **era** soldado. Morreu **numa guerra** em Flandres. **Nunca soube** o que aconteceu **ao meu outro irmão**. Os meus pais nunca souberam o que me aconteceu também. Eu **era** o terceiro filho. O meu pai não me ensinou um ofício.

English 🇬🇧

2. I had two older brothers. One brother was a soldier. He died in a war in Flanders. I never knew what happened to my other brother. My parents never knew what happened to me either. I was the third child. My father didn't teach me a trade.

Portuguese	English
eu	i
tinha	had
dois irmãos mais velhos	two older brothers
um irmão	one brother
soldado	a soldier
morreu	he died
numa guerra	in a war

Portuguese	English
em flandres	in flanders
nunca soube	i never knew
o que	what
aconteceu	happened
ao meu outro irmão	to my other brother
os meus pais	my parents
nunca souberam	never knew

Portuguese	English
me aconteceu	happened to me
também	either
o terceiro filho	the third child
não me ensinou	didn't teach me
um ofício	a trade



Language tips

Contraction - Numa (Related words: **numa guerra, in a war**)

Portuguese 'numa' combines 'em + uma' (in + a). English keeps these separate as 'in a'.

- num dia → on a day
- numa casa → in a house
- numas férias → on a vacation

Contraction - Ao (Related words: **ao meu outro irmão, to my other brother**)

Portuguese 'ao' is a contraction of 'a + o' (to + the). English says 'to' and sometimes adds 'the' or 'my'.

- ao parque → to the park
- à escola → to school
- aos amigos → to the friends

Past Tenses - Era vs Foi (Related words: **era, was**)

Portuguese 'era' (imperfect) describes ongoing past states. 'Foi' would be a completed action. Both translate to 'was' in English.

- era soldado → was a soldier
- foi soldado → was a soldier (but no longer)
- era feliz → was happy (ongoing)

Double Negation - Nunca (Related words: **Nunca soube, I never knew**)

Portuguese uses 'nunca soube' (never knew). English doesn't need double negatives like Portuguese sometimes does.

- nunca vi → I never saw
- não vejo nada → I don't see anything
- não conheço ninguém → I don't know anyone



Portuguese

3. **Comecei a** sonhar com aventuras. **Pensava em** viajar o tempo todo. O meu pai era velho. **Mandou-me** para a escola. Queria **que eu fosse** advogado. Mas eu só queria uma coisa. Queria ir para o mar.

English

3. I started to dream about adventures. I thought about traveling all the time. My father was old. He sent me to school. He wanted me to be a lawyer. But I only wanted one thing. I wanted to go to sea.

Portuguese	English
comecei a	i started to
sonhar com	dream about
aventuras	adventures
pensava em	i thought about
viajar	traveling
o tempo todo	all the time

Portuguese	English
velho	old
mandou-me	he sent me
para a escola	to school
queria	i wanted
que eu fosse	me to be
advogado	a lawyer

Portuguese	English
mas	but
só	only
uma coisa	one thing
ir	to go
para o mar	to sea



Language tips

Começar a + Infinitive (Related words: **Comecei a, I started to**)

Portuguese uses 'começar a' + infinitive (started to dream). English uses 'start to' or 'start -ing' forms.

- começou a chover → it started raining
- começo a trabalhar → I start working
- começámos a estudar → we started studying

Pensar em vs Think about (Related words: **Pensava em, I thought about**)

Portuguese uses 'pensar em' (think in) where English says 'think about'. The prepositions are different.

- penso em ti → I think about you
- sonhar com → dream about
- falar de → talk about

Object Pronouns - Mandou-me (Related words: **Mandou-me, He sent me**)

Portuguese attaches object pronouns to verbs with a hyphen: 'mandou-me' (sent-me). English keeps them separate: 'sent me'.

- viu-me → saw me
- ajudou-nos → helped us
- chamou-te → called you

Subjunctive - Que eu fosse (Related words: **que eu fosse, me to be**)

Portuguese uses subjunctive 'que eu fosse' after 'queria' (wanted that I be). English simplifies this to 'wanted me to be'.

- quero que venhas → I want you to come
- espero que estejas bem → I hope you are well
- pedi que fizesse → I asked him to do

Portuguese

English



4. O meu pai **ficou** **zangado** com isto. A minha mãe **ficou** **zangada** também. Todos os meus amigos disseram-me para ficar em casa. Mas algo dentro de mim queria ir. Não conseguia parar de pensar em navios e no oceano. Não sabia que este desejo **me traria** problemas terríveis.

4. My father was angry about this. My mother was angry too. All my friends told me to stay at home. But something inside me wanted to go. I couldn't stop thinking about ships and the ocean. I didn't know that this desire would bring me terrible problems.

Portuguese	English
ficou	was
zangado	angry
com isto	about this
zangada	angry
também	too
todos os meus amigos	all my friends
disseram-me	told me

Portuguese	English
para ficar	to stay
em casa	at home
algo	something
dentro de mim	inside me
não conseguia parar de	i couldn't stop
pensar em	thinking about
navios	ships

Portuguese	English
e	and
no oceano	the ocean
não sabia	i didn't know
que	that
este desejo	this desire
me traria	would bring me
problemas terríveis	terrible problems



Language tips

Ficar - Become/Get/Stay (Related words: **ficou, was**)

Portuguese 'ficar' has many meanings. Here 'ficou zangado' means 'became angry' or 'got angry', not 'stayed angry'.

- ficar triste → become sad
- ficar em casa → stay at home
- ficar feliz → become happy

Gender Agreement - Zangado/Zangada (Related words: **zangado, zangada, angry**)

Portuguese adjectives change based on gender: 'zangado' (masculine) vs 'zangada' (feminine). English 'angry' doesn't change.

- pai feliz → happy father
- mãe feliz → happy mother
- menino cansado → tired boy
- menina cansada → tired girl

Parar de + Infinitive (Related words: **parar de, stop**)

Portuguese uses 'parar de' + infinitive (stop of thinking). English uses 'stop' + -ing form (stop thinking).

- parar de falar → stop talking
- continuar a estudar → continue studying
- deixar de fumar → quit smoking

Conditional - Traria (Related words: **me traria, would bring me**)

Portuguese 'traria' is conditional tense (would bring). It expresses hypothetical or future-in-the-past situations.

- seria → would be
- faria → would do
- poderia → could/would be able



Portuguese

5. Um dia o meu pai **chamou-me** **ao seu quarto.**
Estava doente com gota. Não conseguia andar. Queria falar seriamente comigo. "Porque queres **ir embora?**" perguntou. "Tens tudo aqui. Podes ter uma vida boa. Podes ganhar dinheiro."

English

5. One day my father called me to his room. He was sick with gout. He couldn't walk. He wanted to talk seriously with me. "Why do you want to go away?" he asked. "You have everything here. You can have a good life. You can earn money."

Portuguese	English
um dia	one day
chamou-me	called me
ao seu quarto	to his room
estava	he was
doente	sick
com gota	with gout
não conseguia	he couldn't
andar	walk

Portuguese	English
falar	to talk
seriamente	seriously
comigo	with me
porque	why
queres	do you want
ir embora	to go away
perguntou	he asked
tens	you have

Portuguese	English
tudo	everything
aqui	here
podes	you can
ter	have
uma vida boa	a good life
ganhar	earn
dinheiro	money



Language tips

Reflexive Pronoun - Chamou-me (Related words: **chamou-me, called me**)

Portuguese 'chamou-me' means 'he called me'. The pronoun 'me' is attached to the verb with a hyphen, while English keeps them separate.

- viu-me → he saw me
- disse-te → he told you
- deu-nos → he gave us

Contraction - Ao (Related words: **ao seu quarto, to his room**)

Portuguese 'ao' is a contraction of 'a + o' meaning 'to the'. English keeps these words separate.

- ao parque → to the park
- à escola → to the school
- aos amigos → to the friends

Imperfect Tense - Estava (Related words: **Estava, He was**)

Portuguese 'estava' describes a continuous past state. English uses 'was' or 'was being' to express this ongoing condition.

- estava cansado → he was tired
- estava feliz → he was happy
- estávamos juntos → we were together

Ir Embora - Go Away (Related words: **ir embora, go away**)

Portuguese uses 'ir embora' (literally 'go away') as a fixed expression. English just says 'go away' or 'leave'.

- vou embora → I'm leaving
- foi embora → he left
- vamos embora → let's go

Portuguese

English



6. **Sentou-se na cama.** O seu rosto estava sério. "Ouve-me, filho. Homens pobres vão para o mar. **Precisam de comer.** Homens ricos vão para o mar para ficarem famosos. Mas tu **não és** pobre. **Não és** rico. **Estás** no meio."

6. He sat on the bed. His face was serious. "Listen to me, son. Poor men go to sea. They need to eat. Rich men go to sea to become famous. But you are not poor. You are not rich. You are in the middle."

Portuguese	English
sentou-se	he sat
na cama	on the bed
o seu rosto	his face
estava	was
sério	serious
ouve-me	listen to me
filho	son

Portuguese	English
homens pobres	poor men
vão	go
precisam	they need
de comer	to eat
homens ricos	rich men
para ficarem	to become
famosos	famous

Portuguese	English
tu	you
não és	you are not
pobre	poor
rico	rich
estás	you are
no meio	in the middle



Language tips

Reflexive Verb - Sentou-se (Related words: **Sentou-se, He sat**)

Portuguese 'sentou-se' means 'he sat down'. The reflexive pronoun 'se' shows the action is done to oneself. English often drops this reflexive element.

- levantou-se → he got up
- deitou-se → he lay down
- vestiu-se → he got dressed

Contraction - Na (Related words: **na cama, on the bed**)

Portuguese 'na' is a contraction of 'em + a' meaning 'in/on the'. English keeps these as separate words.

- na mesa → on the table
- no chão → on the floor
- nas cadeiras → on the chairs

Precisar de - Need to (Related words: **Precisam, de comer**)

Portuguese 'precisar' requires 'de' before infinitives or nouns. English 'need' doesn't require a preposition before infinitives.

- preciso de ajuda → I need help
- precisas de dormir → you need to sleep
- precisamos de tempo → we need time

Ser vs Estar - Two Ways to Be (Related words: **não és, Estás**)

Portuguese uses 'ser' (és) for permanent characteristics and 'estar' (estás) for temporary states or locations. English uses 'be' for both.

- és alto → you are tall (permanent)
- estás cansado → you are tired (temporary)
- és médico → you are a doctor



7. "A vida **do meio** é perfeita," o meu pai continuou. "Pessoas pobres trabalham demais. Os seus corpos **partem-se**. **Nunca têm** comida suficiente. Pessoas ricas têm outros problemas. **Preocupam-se** com o seu dinheiro. Têm inimigos."

7. "The middle life is perfect," my father continued. "Poor people work too much. Their bodies break. They never have enough food. Rich people have other problems. They worry about their money. They have enemies."

Portuguese	English
a vida	the life
do meio	of the middle
perfeita	perfect
continuou	continued
pessoas pobres	poor people
trabalham	work

Portuguese	English
demais	too much
os seus corpos	their bodies
partem-se	break
nunca têm	they never have
comida suficiente	enough food
pessoas ricas	rich people

Portuguese	English
têm	they have
outros problemas	other problems
preocupam-se	they worry
com o seu dinheiro	about their money
inimigos	enemies



Language tips

Contraction - Do (Related words: **do meio, of the middle**)

Portuguese 'do' is a contraction of 'de + o' meaning 'of the'. English keeps these words separate.

- da cidade → of the city
- dos livros → of the books
- das casas → of the houses

Reflexive Verb - Partem-se (Related words: **partem-se, break**)

Portuguese 'partem-se' means 'they break' (themselves). The reflexive 'se' shows the bodies break on their own. English doesn't use a reflexive here.

- quebra-se → it breaks
- abre-se → it opens
- fecha-se → it closes

Word Order - Nunca têm (Related words: **Nunca têm, They never have**)

Portuguese can put 'nunca' (never) before the verb. English uses 'never' between the subject and verb or uses 'don't/doesn't' with 'ever'.

- nunca vou → I never go
- nunca come → he never eats
- nunca dormem → they never sleep

Preocupar-se com - Worry about (Related words: **Preocupam-se, com**)

Portuguese 'preocupar-se com' means 'to worry about'. Portuguese uses 'com' (with) while English uses 'about'.

- preocupo-me com → I worry about
- sonhar com → to dream about
- falar com → to talk with



8. Mas as pessoas do meio? **Têm** o suficiente. São saudáveis. Dormem bem à noite. Até os reis desejam ter nascido **na classe média**. Os sábios antigos também **diziam** isto. **Queriam** apenas o suficiente. É isso que **tu tens**, meu filho.

8. But the people in the middle? They have enough. They are healthy. They sleep well at night. Even kings wish they had been born in the middle class. The ancient wise men also said this. They wanted only enough. That's what you have, my son.

Portuguese	English
as pessoas	the people
do meio	in the middle
o suficiente	enough
são	they are
saudáveis	healthy
dormem	they sleep
bem	well
à noite	at night

Portuguese	English
até	even
os reis	kings
desejam	wish
ter nascido	they had been born
na classe média	in the middle class
os sábios antigos	the ancient wise men
também	also
diziam	said

Portuguese	English
isto	this
queriam	they wanted
apenas	only
é	it is
isso	that
tens	have
meu filho	my son



Language tips

Subject Pronouns - Often Omitted (Related words: **Têm, They have**)

Portuguese often drops subject pronouns because the verb ending tells you who's doing the action. 'Têm' means 'they have' even without saying 'eles'.

- trabalho → I work
- comes → you eat
- vivem → they live

Contraction - Na (Related words: **na classe média, in the middle class**)

Portuguese 'na' is a contraction of 'em + a' (in + the). English keeps these separate as 'in the'.

- no jardim → in the garden
- nas casas → in the houses
- nos livros → in the books

Past Imperfect - Diziam/Queriam (Related words: **diziam, said, Queriam, They wanted**)

The imperfect tense describes what people used to do or were doing. 'Diziam' and 'queriam' show ongoing past actions.

- falava → I was speaking
- comíamos → we used to eat
- viviam → they were living

Tu vs Você - Informal You (Related words: **tu, tens, you, have**)

'Tu' is the informal 'you' in European Portuguese. The verb changes to match: 'tu tens' (you have).

- tu és → you are
- tu falas → you speak
- tu vais → you go



9. O meu pai continuou a falar. "Na classe média **podes ter** paz. **Podes ter** amigos. **Podes** **desfrutar de** prazeres simples. **Trabalhas** mas não demais. **Tens** dinheiro mas não demasiado. **Não** **precisas de** lutar por pão. **Podes** viver honestamente e morrer em paz."

9. My father continued to speak. "In the middle class you can have peace. You can have friends. You can enjoy simple pleasures. You work but not too much. You have money but not too much. You don't need to fight for bread. You can live honestly and die in peace."

Portuguese	English
a falar	to speak
paz	peace
amigos	friends
desfrutar de	enjoy
prazeres simples	simple pleasures
trabalhas	you work

Portuguese	English
não demais	not too much
não demasiado	not too much
não precisas de	you don't need
lutar	to fight
por	for
pão	bread

Portuguese	English
viver	live
honestamente	honestly
morrer	die
em paz	in peace



Language tips

Infinitive After Modal Verbs (Related words: **podes, ter**)

After modal verbs like 'podes' (can), Portuguese uses the infinitive form just like English. Both say 'can have', 'can enjoy'.

- posso ir → I can go
- deve estudar → he/she should study
- quero comer → I want to eat

Desfrutar de vs Enjoy (Related words: **desfrutar de, enjoy**)

Portuguese 'desfrutar' needs 'de' after it, but English 'enjoy' doesn't need any preposition. It's similar to 'gostar de'.

- desfrutar de férias → enjoy vacation
- desfrutar da vida → enjoy life
- desfrutar do tempo → enjoy the time

Precisar de vs Need (Related words: **Não precisas de, don't need**)

Portuguese 'precisar' requires 'de' before the object or infinitive. English 'need' doesn't require any preposition.

- preciso de ajuda → I need help
- precisamos de tempo → we need time
- não precisa de nada → doesn't need anything

Subject Pronouns Often Omitted (Related words: **Trabalhas, Tens**)

Portuguese often omits pronouns like 'tu' because the verb ending shows who's doing the action. 'Trabalhas' already means 'you work'.

- Como? → How do I eat?
- Falas português? → Do you speak Portuguese?
- Vivem aqui → They live here

Portuguese 

English 



10. Depois a sua voz **ficou** mais dura. "Mas **se** **fores** para o mar? Só **encontrarás** miséria. **Aviso-te** agora. **Se** partires, vais sofrer. **Ficarás** sozinho. **Terás** fome. **Enfrentarás** tempestades e doenças."

10. Then his voice became harder. "But if you go to sea? You will only find misery. I warn you now. If you leave, you will suffer. You will be alone. You will be hungry. You will face storms and diseases."

Portuguese	English
a sua voz	his voice
ficou	became
mais dura	harder
se	if
fores	you go
encontrarás	you will find
miséria	misery

Portuguese	English
aviso-te	i warn you
agora	now
partires	you leave
vais	you will
sofrer	suffer
ficarás	you will be
sozinho	alone

Portuguese	English
terás	you will have
fome	hunger
enfrentarás	you will face
tempestades	storms
doenças	diseases



Language tips

Future Subjunctive - Se fores (Related words: **se, fores**)

Portuguese uses future subjunctive after 'se' (if) for future possibilities. English just uses present tense: 'if you go'.

- se quiseres → if you want
- quando chegares → when you arrive
- se puderes → if you can

Ficar - Multiple Meanings (Related words: **ficou, Ficarás**)

'Ficar' can mean 'to become', 'to stay', or 'to be' depending on context. Here 'ficou mais dura' means 'became harder'.

- fico em casa → I stay home
- ficou feliz → became happy
- fica aqui → it's here

Future Tense Endings (Related words: **encontrarás, Terás, Enfrentarás**)

Portuguese future tense adds endings to the infinitive: -ás for 'tu'. English uses 'will' + verb: 'you will find'.

- falarei → I will speak
- comerás → you will eat
- viverá → he/she will live

Pronoun Attached to Verb - Aviso-te (Related words: **Aviso-te**)

Portuguese can attach pronouns to verbs with a hyphen. 'Aviso-te' means 'I warn you'. The '-te' means 'you'.

- amo-te → I love you
- vejo-o → I see him
- dou-lhe → I give him/her

Portuguese 

English 



11. Começou a chorar quando falou **do meu irmão** que morreu. "O teu irmão também não me ouviu. **Queria** ser soldado. **Queria** glória. Agora está morto **num país estrangeiro**. Também queres morrer longe de casa?" O meu pai **não conseguiu** **falar** mais.

11. He started to cry when he spoke about my brother who died. "Your brother also didn't listen to me. He wanted to be a soldier. He wanted glory. Now he is dead in a foreign country. Do you also want to die far from home?" My father couldn't speak anymore.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
começou	he started	o teu irmão	your brother	morrer	to die
a chorar	to cry	não me ouviu	didn't listen to me	longe de	far from
quando	when	ser	to be	casa	home
falou	he spoke	glória	glory	não conseguiu	couldn't
do meu irmão	about my brother	está	he is	falar	speak
que	who	morto	dead	mais	anymore
morreu	died	num país estrangeiro	in a foreign country		



Language tips

Contraction - Do (Related words: **do meu irmão**)

'Do' is a contraction of 'de + o' meaning 'of/about the'. It cannot be split into separate words in Portuguese.

- da minha mãe → about my mother
- dos livros → of the books
- das casas → from the houses

Imperfect Past - Queria (Related words: **Queria**)

The imperfect past describes ongoing or repeated actions in the past. 'Queria' means 'he wanted' (continuously in the past).

- falava → was speaking
- comia → was eating
- vivia → was living

Conseguir + Infinitive (Related words: **não conseguiu, falar**)

'Conseguir' means 'to manage/be able to'. It's followed by an infinitive, just like English 'couldn't speak'.

- consigo ver → I can see
- consegue entender → you can understand
- não conseguimos ir → we couldn't go

Num - Another Contraction (Related words: **num país estrangeiro**)

'Num' is a contraction of 'em + um' meaning 'in a'. Portuguese uses many of these contracted forms.

- numa casa → in a house
- nuns dias → in some days
- numas horas → in a few hours



12. **Fiquei** comovido com o que ele disse. Que filho não ficaria? Decidi ficar em casa. **Esqueceria** o mar. Faria **o meu pai** feliz. Mas a minha decisão não durou. Depois de alguns dias **queria** partir outra vez.

12. I was moved by what he said. What son wouldn't be? I decided to stay at home. I would forget the sea. I would make my father happy. But my decision didn't last. After some days I wanted to leave again.

Portuguese	English
fiquei	i was
comovido	moved
com o que	by what
ele	he
disse	said
que	what
não ficaria	wouldn't be

Portuguese	English
decidi	i decided
ficar	to stay
esqueceria	i would forget
o mar	the sea
faria	i would make
feliz	happy
a minha decisão	my decision

Portuguese	English
não durou	didn't last
depois de	after
alguns	some
dias	days
partir	to leave
outra vez	again



Language tips

Ficar - Multiple Meanings (Related words: **Fiquei, I was**)

Portuguese 'ficar' can mean 'to stay', 'to be', or 'to become'. Context determines which meaning applies. Here 'fiquei comovido' means 'I was moved'.

- ficar em casa → stay at home
- ficar feliz → become happy
- ficar comovido → be moved

Conditional Tense - Would (Related words: **Esqueceria, I would forget**)

Portuguese conditional endings (-ia, -ias, -ia) express 'would' in English. 'Esqueceria' means 'I would forget'.

- falaria → I would speak
- comeria → I would eat
- viveria → I would live

Possessive Articles - O meu/A minha (Related words: **o meu pai, my father**)

Portuguese uses articles before possessives: 'o meu pai' (the my father). English just says 'my father'.

- a minha casa → my house
- o teu livro → your book
- as nossas ideias → our ideas

Imperfect Past - Queria (Related words: **queria, I wanted**)

Portuguese 'queria' (imperfect past) shows ongoing past desire. English uses simple past 'wanted' for the same meaning.

- pensava → I thought
- sabia → I knew
- tinha → I had

Portuguese 🇵🇹

English 🇬🇧



13. Esperei algumas semanas. Depois **falei com** a minha mãe. Pensei que ela seria mais fácil de convencer que o meu pai. "Mãe," disse, "**tenho** dezoito anos agora. **Não consigo parar de** pensar em viajar. **Se ficar** aqui serei infeliz para sempre."

13. I waited some weeks. Then I spoke with my mother. I thought that she would be easier to convince than my father. "Mother," I said, "I'm eighteen years old now. I can't stop thinking about traveling. If I stay here I will be unhappy forever."

Portuguese	English
esperei	i waited
algumas	some
semanas	weeks
falei com	i spoke with
pensei	i thought
ela	she
seria	would be

Portuguese	English
mais fácil	easier
de convencer	to convince
que	than
mãe	mother
disse	i said
tenho	i'm
dezoito	eighteen

Portuguese	English
anos	years old
não consigo parar de	i can't stop
ficar	i stay
serei	i will be
infeliz	unhappy
para sempre	forever



Language tips

Falar com vs Speak with/to (Related words: **falei com, I spoke with**)

Portuguese uses 'falar com' (speak with). English can use either 'speak with' or 'speak to'.

- conversar com → talk with
- concordar com → agree with
- casar com → marry

Ter + Age Expression (Related words: **tenho, I'm**)

Portuguese uses 'ter' (to have) for age: 'tenho dezoito anos' (I have eighteen years). English uses 'to be': 'I'm eighteen years old'.

- tens vinte anos → you're twenty
- ele tem cinco anos → he's five
- temos a mesma idade → we're the same age

Conseguir - Can/Be able to (Related words: **Não consigo parar de, I can't stop**)

Portuguese 'conseguir' means 'to be able to' or 'can'. It's often used where English uses 'can' for ability.

- consigo ver → I can see
- não consigo dormir → can't sleep
- conseguimos entender → we can understand

Future Subjunctive - Se ficar (Related words: **Se, ficar, If, I stay**)

After 'se' (if), Portuguese uses future subjunctive for future possibilities. English just uses present simple: 'if I stay'.

- se quiser → if you want
- se puder → if I can
- quando chegar → when I arrive



14. "Por favor fala com o Pai," continuei. **"Pede-lhe** para me deixar fazer apenas uma viagem. Se não gostar volto para casa. Prometo. **Trabalharei** duas vezes mais **para compensar** o tempo perdido." Mas a minha mãe **ficou** muito **zangada**.

14. "Please speak with Father," I continued. "Ask him to let me make just one trip. If I don't like it I'll come back home. I promise. I'll work twice as hard to make up for the lost time." But my mother became very angry.

Portuguese	English
por favor	please
fala com	speak with
o pai	father
continuei	i continued
pede-lhe	ask him
para me deixar	to let me

Portuguese	English
fazer	make
apenas	just
uma viagem	one trip
não gostar	i don't like it
volto	i'll come back
para casa	home

Portuguese	English
prometo	i promise
trabalharei	i'll work
duas vezes mais	twice as hard
para compensar	to make up for
o tempo perdido	the lost time
muito	very



Language tips

Imperative with Pronouns - Pede-lhe (Related words: **Pede-lhe, Ask him**)

In Portuguese imperatives, pronouns attach to the verb with a hyphen: 'pede-lhe' (ask him). English keeps them separate.

- dá-me → give me
- diz-nos → tell us
- faz-lhe → do it for him

Para + Infinitive - Purpose (Related words: **para compensar, to make up for**)

Portuguese uses 'para' + infinitive to express purpose. English uses 'to' + verb: 'para compensar' = 'to make up for'.

- para comer → to eat
- para estudar → to study
- para viajar → to travel

Future Tense - Trabalharei (Related words: **Trabalharei, I'll work**)

Portuguese future tense adds endings to the infinitive: 'trabalharei' (I will work). English uses 'will' + verb.

- falarei → I'll speak
- comerás → you'll eat
- viverá → he'll live

Ficar + Adjective - Became (Related words: **ficou, zangada, became, angry**)

Portuguese 'ficar' + adjective means 'to become': 'ficou zangada' = 'became angry'. It shows a change of state.

- ficar triste → become sad
- ficar doente → get sick
- ficar rico → become rich



15. "Como podes pedir isto?" disse ela. "O teu pai **ama-te**. Quer o melhor para ti. **Nunca** **concordará** com este plano tolo. E eu **não lhe pedirei**. Não te ajudarei a destruir a tua vida!"

15. "How can you ask this?" she said. "Your father loves you. He wants the best for you. He will never agree with this foolish plan. And I won't ask him. I won't help you destroy your life!"

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
como	how	quer	he wants	com este plano tolo	with this foolish plan
podes	can you	o melhor	the best	não lhe pedirei	won't ask him
pedir	ask	para ti	for you	não te ajudarei	i won't help you
o teu pai	your father	nunca	never	a destruir	to destroy
ama-te	loves you	concordará	will he agree	a tua vida	your life



Language tips

Object Pronouns - Te and Lhe (Related words: **ama-te, loves you, lhe pedirei, ask him**)

Portuguese attaches pronouns to verbs with hyphens like 'ama-te' (loves you). 'Lhe' means 'to him/her'. English keeps pronouns separate.

- vejo-te → I see you
- dou-lhe → I give him/her
- ajudo-te → I help you

Future Tense - Will/Won't (Related words: **concordará, will he agree, não lhe pedirei, won't ask him**)

Portuguese future tense adds endings to the infinitive: 'concordará' (will agree), 'pedirei' (will ask). English uses 'will' or 'won't' before the verb.

- falarei → I will speak
- comerás → you will eat
- virão → they will come

Possessives - Teu/Tua (Related words: **teu pai, Your father, tua vida, your life**)

Portuguese possessives change with gender: 'teu pai' (masculine), 'tua vida' (feminine). English always uses 'your'.

- meu livro → my book
- minha casa → my house
- seu carro → his/her car

Double Negation - Nunca/Não (Related words: **Nunca, Never, não lhe pedirei, won't ask him**)

Portuguese uses 'nunca' (never) alone for negation. When 'não' appears with other verbs, it creates strong negation. English uses simpler negative forms.

- nunca vou → I never go
- não faço nada → I don't do anything
- não vejo ninguém → I don't see anyone

Portuguese 

English 



16. Mas a minha mãe **contou** **ao meu pai** sobre a nossa conversa. Mais tarde soube o que ele **disse**. Suspirou profundamente. **Disse-lhe**, **"Se** esse rapaz **ficar** em casa pode ser feliz. Mas **se** for para o mar será a pessoa mais miserável na terra. Não posso dar a minha permissão."

16. But my mother told my father about our conversation. Later I found out what he said. He sighed deeply. He told her, "If this boy stays at home he can be happy. But if he goes to sea he will be the most miserable person on earth. I cannot give my permission."

Portuguese	English
contou	told
ao meu pai	my father
sobre	about
a nossa conversa	our conversation
mais tarde	later
soube	i found out
suspirou	he sighed

Portuguese	English
profundamente	deeply
disse-lhe	he told her
esse rapaz	this boy
ficar	stays
pode	he can
ser	be
for	he goes

Portuguese	English
será	he will be
a pessoa mais miserável	the most miserable person
na terra	on earth
não posso dar	i cannot give
a minha permissão	my permission



Language tips

Contraction - Ao (Related words: **ao meu pai, my father**)

Portuguese 'ao' is a contraction of 'a + o' (to + the). English keeps these separate or just uses 'to' without an article.

- ao menino → to the boy
- à menina → to the girl
- aos amigos → to the friends

Past Tense - Pretérito Perfeito (Related words: **contou, disse, told, said**)

Portuguese 'contou' and 'disse' are in the Pretérito Perfeito, showing completed past actions. English uses simple past: 'told', 'said'.

- falei → I spoke
- comeu → he ate
- bebemos → we drank

Disse-lhe - Object Pronouns (Related words: **Disse-lhe, He told her**)

Portuguese attaches object pronouns to verbs with a hyphen: 'disse-lhe' (told her). English puts the pronoun after: 'told her'.

- dou-te → I give you
- vejo-o → I see him
- amo-a → I love her

Future Subjunctive - Se...ficar (Related words: **Se, ficar, If, stays**)

Portuguese uses Future Subjunctive after 'se' (if) for future possibilities. English uses present simple in these 'if' clauses.

- se ele vier → if he comes
- se tu quiseres → if you want
- se nós pudermos → if we can



Portuguese

17. Esperei quase um ano. Durante este tempo os meus pais tentaram tudo. **Queriam** que eu aprendesse um ofício. **Queriam** que eu trabalhasse **numa loja**. Mas recusei. Só conseguia pensar em navios e aventuras. Nada mais me interessava.

English

17. I waited almost a year. During this time my parents tried everything. They wanted me to learn a trade. They wanted me to work in a shop. But I refused. I could only think about ships and adventures. Nothing else interested me.

Portuguese	English
quase	almost
um ano	a year
durante	during
este tempo	this time

Portuguese	English
tentaram	tried
eu aprendesse	i learn
eu trabalhasse	i work
numa loja	in a shop

Portuguese	English
recusei	i refused
só conseguia pensar em	i could only think about
nada mais	nothing else
me interessava	interested me



Language tips

Pretérito Imperfeito - Ongoing Past (Related words: **queriam, conseguia, wanted, could**)

Portuguese 'queriam' and 'conseguia' use Pretérito Imperfeito for ongoing or repeated past actions. English often uses 'was/were + -ing' or 'would/could'.

- falava → I was speaking
- comíamos → we were eating
- vivias → you used to live

Subjunctive After Querer (Related words: **queriam que eu aprendesse, wanted me to learn**)

After 'queriam que' (they wanted that), Portuguese uses subjunctive mood: 'aprendesse'. English just uses infinitive: 'to learn'.

- quero que fales → I want you to speak
- espera que venha → he hopes she comes
- pedem que ajude → they ask me to help

Contraction - Numa (Related words: **numa loja, in a shop**)

Portuguese 'numa' contracts 'em + uma' (in + a). English says 'in a' as two separate words.

- num dia → on a day
- numa casa → in a house
- numa férias → on a vacation

Pensar em vs Think about (Related words: **pensar em, think about**)

Portuguese uses 'pensar em' (literally 'think in'). English uses 'think about'. The preposition changes between languages.

- sonhar com → dream about
- falar de → talk about
- precisar de → need

Portuguese

English



18. Depois um dia fui a Hull. Não tinha plano de fugir. **Estava** apenas **a visitar**. Mas em Hull encontrei um amigo. **O pai dele** tinha um navio que ia para Londres. **"Vem"** comigo!" disse o meu amigo.

18. Then one day I went to Hull. I had no plan to run away. I was just visiting. But in Hull I met a friend. His father had a ship that was going to London. "Come with me!" said my friend.

Portuguese	English
fui	i went
a hull	to hull
não tinha plano de	i had no plan to
fugir	run away
estava	i was

Portuguese	English
a visitar	visiting
em hull	in hull
encontrei	i met
um amigo	a friend
o pai dele	his father

Portuguese	English
um navio	a ship
ia	was going
para londres	to london
vem	come
o meu amigo	my friend



Language tips

Negative Without Double Negation (Related words: **Não tinha plano, had no plan**)

Portuguese 'Não tinha plano' shows simple negation. When there's no second negative word (nada/nunca), it translates directly: 'had no plan'.

- não tenho tempo → I have no time
- não vejo razão → I see no reason
- não há problema → there's no problem

Continuous Past - Estava a + Infinitive (Related words: **estava, a visitar, was, visiting**)

Portuguese 'estava a visitar' uses 'estar a' + infinitive for ongoing past actions. English uses past continuous: 'was visiting'.

- estava a comer → was eating
- estavam a dormir → were sleeping
- estávamos a trabalhar → we were working

Dele vs His (Related words: **O pai dele, His father**)

Portuguese 'dele' (of him) means 'his' for possession. Portuguese literally says 'the father of him', English says 'his father'.

- o livro dela → her book
- a casa deles → their house
- o carro dele → his car

Imperative - Vem! (Related words: **Vem, Come**)

Portuguese 'Vem!' is the imperative form for giving commands to 'tu' (informal you). English uses the base verb: 'Come!'

- fala! → speak!
- come! → eat!
- espera! → wait!

Portuguese

19. "Não te custará nada," continuou. "O navio **do meu pai** tem espaço. Londres é emocionante. **Vais adorar!"** Devia ter dito não. Devia ter ido para casa. Mas **não pensei**. Não rezei.

English

19. "It won't cost you anything," he continued. "My father's ship has space. London is exciting. You'll love it!" I should have said no. I should have gone home. But I didn't think. I didn't pray.



Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
não te custará nada	it won't cost you anything	espaço	space	ter dito	have said
continuou	he continued	londres	london	não	no
o navio	the ship	emocionante	exciting	ter ido	have gone
do meu pai	of my father	vais adorar	you'll love it	não pensei	i didn't think
tem	has	devia	i should	não rezei	i didn't pray



Language tips

Future with 'Ir' - Vais (Related words: **Vais adorar, You'll love it**)

Portuguese 'vais' (you go/will) is often used to express future actions, like 'vais adorar' (you'll love). English typically uses 'will' for future.

- vou comer → I'm going to eat
- vai chover → it's going to rain
- vamos viajar → we're going to travel

Modal Verb 'Dever' - Should (Related words: **Devia ter dito, should have said**)

Portuguese 'devia' expresses what someone should have done. It's followed by the infinitive 'ter' plus past participle for past actions.

- devia estudar → I should study
- devias comer → you should eat
- devíamos ir → we should go

Contraction 'Do' - Of the (Related words: **do meu pai, of my father**)

Portuguese 'do' is a contraction of 'de + o' (of + the). English keeps these words separate as 'of the' or 'of my'.

- da casa → of the house
- dos amigos → of the friends
- das meninas → of the girls

Negative Past - Não + Verb (Related words: **não pensei, didn't think**)

Portuguese negation uses 'não' before the verb. In past tense like 'não pensei', English uses 'didn't' plus infinitive: 'didn't think'.

- não comi → I didn't eat
- não foi → he didn't go
- não viram → they didn't see

Portuguese

20. No dia 1 de setembro de 1651, entrei **naquele navio**. Não escrevi **aos meus pais**. **Não pedi** a bênção do meu pai. **Foi** o começo de todos os meus problemas. O navio deixou Hull e entrou no mar aberto.

English

20. On the 1st of September 1651, I entered that ship. I didn't write to my parents. I didn't ask for my father's blessing. It was the beginning of all my problems. The ship left Hull and entered the open sea.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
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no dia 1 de setembro de 1651	on the 1st of september 1651	não pedi	i didn't ask for	deixou	left
entrei	i entered	a bênção	the blessing	hull	hull
naquele navio	that ship	foi	it was	entrou	entered
não escrevi	i didn't write	o começo	the beginning	no mar aberto	the open sea
aos meus pais	to my parents	de todos os meus problemas	of all my problems		



Language tips

Contraction 'Naquele' - In/On That (Related words: **naquele navio, that ship**)

Portuguese 'naquele' combines 'em + aquele' (in/on + that). English keeps these separate as 'in that' or 'on that'.

- naquela casa → in that house
- neste livro → in this book
- nessa rua → on that street

Contraction 'Aos' - To the (Related words: **aos meus pais, to my parents**)

Portuguese 'aos' is a contraction of 'a + os' (to + the plural). It means 'to the' when referring to plural masculine nouns.

- às meninas → to the girls
- ao pai → to the father
- às casas → to the houses

Verb 'Pedir' - Ask For (Related words: **Não pedi, didn't ask for**)

Portuguese 'pedir' means 'to ask for' or 'to request'. English often needs 'for' after 'ask', which Portuguese doesn't use.

- peço café → I ask for coffee
- pediu ajuda → he asked for help
- pedimos comida → we ask for food

Past Tense 'Foi' - Was (Related words: **Foi, It was**)

Portuguese 'foi' is the past tense of 'ser' (to be). It can mean 'was' or 'went' depending on context. Here it means 'it was'.

- foi difícil → it was difficult
- ele foi → he went/was
- foi ontem → it was yesterday

Portuguese

21. Imediatamente o vento começou a soprar. As ondas ficaram cada vez maiores. **Nunca tinha estado num navio** antes. Fiquei terrivelmente enjoado. O meu estômago **revirava**. A minha cabeça **rodava**. Mas pior que o enjoo era o medo.

English

21. Immediately the wind began to blow. The waves became bigger and bigger. I had never been on a ship before. I became terribly seasick. My stomach was churning. My head was spinning. But worse than the seasickness was the fear.

Portuguese	English
imediatamente	immediately
o vento	the wind
começou a	began to

Portuguese	English
nunca tinha estado	i had never been
num navio	on a ship
antes	before

Portuguese	English
a minha cabeça	my head
rodava	was spinning
pior	worse



soprar	blow	fiquei	i became	que o enjoo	than the seasickness
as ondas	the waves	terrivelmente enjoado	terribly seasick	o medo	the fear
ficaram	became	o meu estômago	my stomach		
cada vez maiores	bigger and bigger	revirava	was churning		



Language tips

Começar a + Infinitive (Related words: **começou a soprar, began to blow**)

Portuguese uses 'começar a' (begin to) followed by an infinitive verb. English uses 'began to' plus infinitive in the same way.

- começo a trabalhar → I begin to work
- começaram a correr → they began to run
- comecei a estudar → I began to study

Past Perfect - Tinha Estado (Related words: **Nunca tinha estado, had never been**)

Portuguese 'tinha estado' (had been) uses 'ter' in imperfect plus past participle. It describes an action before another past action.

- tinha comido → I had eaten
- tinhas visto → you had seen
- tínhamos chegado → we had arrived

Contraction 'Num' - In/On A (Related words: **num navio, on a ship**)

Portuguese 'num' combines 'em + um' (in/on + a). English keeps these separate as 'on a' or 'in a'.

- numa casa → in a house
- num dia → on a day
- numa cidade → in a city

Imperfect Tense - Continuous Past (Related words: **revirava, was churning, rodava, was spinning**)

Portuguese imperfect tense (revirava, rodava) describes ongoing past actions. English often uses 'was/were + -ing' for this.

- cantava → I was singing
- corriam → they were running
- estudávamos → we were studying

Portuguese

22. A tempestade **ficou** mais forte. O navio **subia** ondas gigantes. Depois **caía** em vales profundos de água. Cada vez que descíamos **pensava** que nunca **subiríamos** outra vez. Tinha a certeza que todos **morreríamos**. As ondas **seriam** o meu túmulo.

English

22. The storm became stronger. The ship climbed giant waves. Then it fell into deep valleys of water. Every time we went down I thought that we would never go up again. I was certain that we would all die. The waves would be my tomb.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
a tempestade	the storm	de água	of water	a certeza	the certainty



mais forte	stronger	cada vez que	every time that	todos	all
subia	climbed	descíamos	we went down	morreríamos	we would die
ondas gigantes	giant waves	pensava	i thought	seriam	would be
caía	it fell	subiríamos	we would go up	o meu túmulo	my tomb
em vales profundos	into deep valleys	tinha	i had		



Language tips

Ficar - Multiple Meanings (Related words: **ficou, became**)

Portuguese 'ficar' can mean 'to stay', 'to become', or 'to be located'. Here 'ficou mais forte' means 'became stronger'. English uses different verbs for these meanings.

- fico em casa → I stay at home
- fica longe → it's far away
- ficou feliz → he became happy

Imperfect Tense - Ongoing Past Actions (Related words: **subia, caía, climbed, fell**)

Portuguese 'subia' and 'caía' describe repeated or continuous actions in the past. English often uses 'was/were + -ing' or simple past for this.

- ele corria → he was running
- nós comíamos → we were eating
- elas estudavam → they were studying

Subject Pronouns - Often Omitted (Related words: **pensava, I thought**)

Portuguese often omits subject pronouns because the verb ending shows who's doing the action. 'Pensava' means 'I thought' - the -ava ending indicates 'I'.

- falo → I speak
- comes → you eat
- dormimos → we sleep

Conditional Tense - Would (Related words: **subiríamos, morreríamos, seriam, would**)

Portuguese uses special verb endings (-ia, -ias, -ia, -íamos, -íeis, -iam) for 'would'. 'Subiríamos' means 'we would go up'.

- compraria → I would buy
- falaríamos → we would speak
- viveriam → they would live

Portuguese

23. "Oh Deus!" rezei. **"Salva-me! Se me deixares viver"** volto para casa. **Ouvirei** o meu pai. Nunca mais irei para o mar. Prometo! Vejo agora que ele **tinha razão**. A vida do meio é a melhor!"

English

23. "Oh God!" I prayed. "Save me! If you let me live I'll go back home. I'll listen to my father. I'll never go to sea again. I promise! I see now that he was right. The middle life is the best!"

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
oh deus	oh god	ouvirei	i'll listen to	razão	right
rezei	i prayed	nunca mais	never again	a vida do meio	the middle life
salva-me	save me	irei	will i go	a melhor	the best



me deixares viver	you let me live	vejo	i see		
volto	i'll go back	tinha	was		



Language tips

Future Subjunctive - Se Deixares (Related words: **Se, me deixares viver, If, you let me live**)

Portuguese uses future subjunctive after 'se' (if). English just uses present simple 'if you let'.

- se fizeres → if you do
- se puderes → if you can
- se quiseses → if you want

Reflexive Pronoun - Me (Related words: **Salva-me, me deixares, Save me, let me**)

Portuguese 'me' can mean 'me' or 'myself'. Here 'Salva-me' means 'Save me' and 'me deixares' means 'let me'.

- ajuda-me → help me
- dá-me → give me
- deixa-me → let me

Future Tense - Ouvirei (Related words: **Ouvirei, I'll listen**)

Portuguese future tense adds endings to the infinitive. 'Ouvirei' means 'I will listen'. English uses 'will' + verb.

- falarei → I will speak
- comerei → I will eat
- dormirei → I will sleep

Ter Razão - To Be Right (Related words: **tinha, razão, was, right**)

Portuguese uses 'ter razão' (literally 'have reason') to mean 'be right'. English just says 'be right'.

- tenho razão → I'm right
- tens razão → you're right
- ele tem razão → he's right

Portuguese

24. Pensei **nas lágrimas** do meu pai. **Lembrei-me dos avisos da minha mãe.** A minha consciência doía-me. Tinha sido um mau filho. Parti sem permissão. **Parti-lhes** o coração. E agora Deus **estava a castigar-me.**

English

24. I thought about my father's tears. I remembered my mother's warnings. My conscience hurt. I had been a bad son. I left without permission. I broke their hearts. And now God was punishing me.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
nas lágrimas	about the tears	doía-me	hurt	permissão	permission
lembrei-me	i remembered	tinha sido	i had been	parti-lhes	i broke
dos avisos	the warnings	um mau filho	a bad son	o coração	their hearts
da minha mãe	of my mother	parti	i left	deus	god
a minha consciência	my conscience	sem	without	estava a castigar-me	was punishing me



Language tips

Contractions - Nas, Dos, Da (Related words: **nas lágrimas, dos avisos, da minha mãe**)

Portuguese combines prepositions with articles: 'nas' = em+as (in the), 'dos' = de+os (of the), 'da' = de+a (of the).

- no livro → in the book
- pela porta → through the door
- aos amigos → to the friends

Reflexive Verb - Lembrei-me (Related words: **Lembrei-me, I remembered**)

Portuguese 'lembrar-se' is reflexive (literally 'I reminded myself'). English just says 'I remembered'.

- esqueci-me → I forgot
- sinto-me → I feel
- levanto-me → I get up

Indirect Object Pronoun - Lhes (Related words: **Parti-lhes, I broke, their**)

Portuguese 'lhes' means 'to them/their'. 'Parti-lhes o coração' literally means 'I broke to them the heart'.

- dou-lhes → I give them
- disse-lhes → I told them
- mostrei-lhes → I showed them

Past Continuous - Estava a (Related words: **estava a castigar-me, was punishing me**)

Portuguese uses 'estar a + infinitive' for continuous actions. English uses 'was/were + -ing'.

- estava a comer → was eating
- estavam a dormir → were sleeping
- estávamos a falar → we were talking

Portuguese

25. Toda a noite a tempestade continuou. Fiz promessa após promessa a Deus. **Seria** bom. **Obedeceria** sempre **aos meus pais**. Apenas por favor, por favor, **deixa-me** viver! Cada onda parecia pronta **para nos matar**.

English

25. All night the storm continued. I made promise after promise to God. I would be good. I would always obey my parents. Just please, please, let me live! Each wave seemed ready to kill us.

Portuguese	English
toda a noite	all night
fiz	i made
promessa após promessa	promise after promise
a deus	to god
seria	i would be

Portuguese	English
bom	good
obedeceria	i would obey
sempre	always
aos meus pais	my parents
deixa-me	let me

Portuguese	English
cada	each
onda	wave
parecia	seemed
pronta	ready
para nos matar	to kill us



Language tips



Conditional Tense - **Seria, Obedeceria** (Related words: **Seria, Obedeceria, I would be, I would obey**)

Portuguese conditional uses endings on the infinitive. 'Seria' means 'I would be'. English uses 'would' + verb.

- comeria → I would eat
- falaria → I would speak
- viveria → I would live

Contraction - **Aos** (Related words: **aos meus pais, my parents**)

Portuguese 'aos' is a contraction of 'a + os' meaning 'to the'. Here 'aos meus pais' means 'to my parents'.

- às meninas → to the girls
- ao professor → to the teacher
- aos alunos → to the students

Imperative with Pronoun - **Deixa-me** (Related words: **deixa-me, let me**)

In commands, Portuguese attaches pronouns with a hyphen: 'deixa-me' (let me). English keeps them separate.

- ajuda-me → help me
- diz-me → tell me
- espera-me → wait for me

Para + Infinitive - **Purpose** (Related words: **para nos matar, to kill us**)

Portuguese uses 'para' + infinitive to express purpose. 'Para nos matar' means 'to kill us'.

- para comer → to eat
- para dormir → to sleep
- para estudar → to study

Portuguese 🇵🇹

26. Mas na manhã seguinte algo **mudou**. O vento **ficou** mais calmo. As ondas **ficaram** menores. O sol **apareceu**. E de repente o oceano não parecia tão terrível. **Era na verdade** bastante bonito. O meu enjoo **passou**. O meu medo desapareceu também.

English 🇬🇧

26. But the next morning something changed. The wind became calmer. The waves became smaller. The sun appeared. And suddenly the ocean didn't seem so terrible. It was actually quite beautiful. My seasickness passed. My fear disappeared too.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
na manhã seguinte	the next morning	de repente	suddenly	bastante bonito	quite beautiful
mudou	changed	o oceano	the ocean	o meu enjoo	my seasickness
mais calmo	calmer	não parecia	didn't seem	passou	passed
menores	smaller	tão terrível	so terrible	o meu medo	my fear
o sol	the sun	era	it was	desapareceu	disappeared
apareceu	appeared	na verdade	actually		



Language tips

Ficar - To Become/Stay (Related words: **ficou, ficaram, became**)

Portuguese 'ficar' can mean 'to become', 'to stay', or 'to remain' depending on context. Here it means 'became' because it describes a change in state.



- ficou feliz → became happy
- ficou em casa → stayed home
- ficou doente → got sick

Past Tense - Pretérito Perfeito (Related words: **mudou, apareceu, passou**)

The Pretérito Perfeito describes completed actions in the past. It's like English simple past: 'changed', 'appeared', 'passed'.

- comi → I ate
- bebeu → he drank
- falaram → they spoke

Imperfect Tense - Parecia/Era (Related words: **parecia, Era**)

The Pretérito Imperfeito describes ongoing states in the past. 'Parecia' (seemed) and 'era' (was) describe how things were, not single actions.

- estava feliz → was happy
- tinha medo → had fear
- sabia nadar → knew how to swim

Na verdade - Actually/In fact (Related words: **na verdade, actually**)

Portuguese 'na verdade' (literally 'in the truth') means 'actually' or 'in fact'. It's used to correct or emphasize information.

- na realidade → in reality
- de facto → in fact
- realmente → really

Portuguese

27. O meu amigo **encontrou-me** **no convés**. Riu e **bateu-me** **no ombro**. "Estavas assustado ontem à noite, não estavas? Pensaste que aquele ventinho nos mataria?" Não conseguia acreditar nas suas palavras. **"Ventinho?"** disse. "Foi uma tempestade terrível!"

English

27. My friend found me on deck. He laughed and hit me on the shoulder. "You were scared last night, weren't you? You thought that little wind would kill us?" I couldn't believe his words. "Little wind?" I said. "It was a terrible storm!"

Portuguese	English
encontrou-me	found me
no convés	on deck
riu	he laughed
bateu-me	hit me
no ombro	on the shoulder
estavas	you were

Portuguese	English
assustado	scared
ontem à noite	last night
não estavas	weren't you
pensaste	you thought
aquele ventinho	that little wind
nos mataria	would kill us

Portuguese	English
não conseguia acreditar	i couldn't believe
nas suas palavras	his words
ventinho	little wind
uma tempestade terrível	a terrible storm



Language tips

Object Pronouns - Me (Related words: **encontrou-me, bateu-me**)

Portuguese object pronouns can attach to verbs with hyphens: 'encontrou-me' (found me), 'bateu-me' (hit me). English keeps them separate.



- viu-me → saw me
- ajudou-te → helped you
- chamou-nos → called us

Conditional - Mataria (Related words: **mataria, would kill**)

The conditional tense 'mataria' expresses what would happen. Portuguese uses one word where English uses 'would' + verb.

- comeria → would eat
- dormiria → would sleep
- falaria → would speak

Diminutives - Ventinho (Related words: **ventinho, little wind**)

'Ventinho' is the diminutive of 'vento' (wind). The '-inho' ending makes things smaller or shows affection, like 'little wind' in English.

- casinha → little house
- gatinho → kitten
- cafezinho → little coffee

Contraction - No (Related words: **no convés, no ombro**)

'No' is a contraction of 'em + o' (in/on + the). Here 'no convés' means 'on the deck', 'no ombro' means 'on the shoulder'.

- na mesa → on the table
- nos livros → in the books
- nas ruas → in the streets

Portuguese

28. Riu ainda mais. "Aquilo não foi nada! **Espera** até **veres** uma tempestade verdadeira. És apenas um marinheiro novo. Vais aprender. **Vem**, vamos beber ponche. Vamos celebrar a tua primeira vez no mar!" **Fomos** para baixo do convés beber.

English

28. He laughed even more. "That was nothing! Wait until you see a real storm. You're just a new sailor. You will learn. Come, let's drink punch. Let's celebrate your first time at sea!" We went below deck to drink.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
ainda mais	even more	uma tempestade verdadeira	a real storm	ponche	punch
aquilo	that	és	you're	celebrar	celebrate
não foi nada	was nothing	um marinheiro novo	a new sailor	a tua primeira vez	your first time
espera	wait	aprender	learn	no mar	at sea
até	until	vamos	let's	fomos	we went
veres	you see	beber	to drink	para baixo do convés	below deck



Language tips

Personal Infinitive - Veres (Related words: **veres, you see**)



Portuguese has a unique Personal Infinitive that changes with person. 'Até veres' means 'until you see' - the infinitive is conjugated!

- para eu fazer → for me to do
- antes de eles chegarem → before they arrive
- sem tu saberes → without you knowing

Imperative Mood - Commands (Related words: **Espera, Vem**)

Commands like 'Espera' (Wait) and 'Vem' (Come) use the imperative mood. Portuguese drops the subject pronoun in commands.

- Come! → Come!
- Fala! → Speak!
- Escuta! → Listen!

Vamos - Let's (Related words: **vamos beber, let's drink**)

'Vamos' + infinitive means 'let's' do something. It's the 'we' form of 'ir' (to go) used to make suggestions.

- vamos comer → let's eat
- vamos dormir → let's sleep
- vamos estudar → let's study

Ir Verb - Two Past Forms (Related words: **Foi, Fomos**)

The verb 'ir' (to go) has the same past forms as 'ser' (to be): 'foi' can mean 'was' or 'went', 'fomos' can mean 'we were' or 'we went'.

- ele foi feliz → he was happy
- ele foi ao parque → he went to the park
- nós fomos amigos → we were friends

Portuguese

29. Bebemos. Rimos. E **numa noite** **esqueci** todas **as minhas promessas** a Deus. **Esqueci** **o meu medo**. **Esqueci** a sabedoria **do meu pai**. O oceano **estava** calmo. A minha consciência também. Afastei todos os pensamentos sérios. Quando tentavam voltar bebia mais ponche.

English

29. We drink. We laugh. And one night I forgot all my promises to God. I forgot my fear. I forgot my father's wisdom. The ocean was calm. My conscience too. I pushed away all serious thoughts. When they tried to return I drank more punch.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
bebemos	we drink	as minhas promessas	my promises	tentavam	they tried
rimos	we laugh	a sabedoria	the wisdom	voltar	to return
numa noite	one night	calmo	calm	bebia	i drank
esqueci	i forgot	afastei	i pushed away	mais ponche	more punch
todas	all	os pensamentos sérios	serious thoughts		



Language tips



Contraction - Numa (Related words: **numa noite, one night**)

Portuguese 'numa' is a contraction of 'em + uma' (in + a). English keeps these separate as 'in a' or uses 'one' for emphasis.

- num dia → one day
- numa casa → in a house
- numas férias → on a vacation

Past Tenses - Pretérito Perfeito vs Imperfeito (Related words: **esqueci, estava**)

Portuguese uses 'esqueci' (completed action) and 'estava' (ongoing state). English uses Simple Past and Past Continuous to show this difference.

- comi → I ate
- comia → I was eating
- falei → I spoke
- falava → I was speaking

Possessives - Article Usage (Related words: **as minhas promessas, o meu medo**)

Portuguese uses articles with possessives: 'as minhas promessas', 'o meu medo'. English doesn't: 'my promises', 'my fear'.

- o meu livro → my book
- a tua casa → your house
- os nossos amigos → our friends

Contraction - Do (Related words: **do meu pai, of my father**)

Portuguese 'do' contracts 'de + o' (of + the). English keeps these separate as 'of the' or uses possessive 's'.

- da mãe → of the mother
- dos amigos → of the friends
- das crianças → of the children

Portuguese

30. Em cinco ou seis dias **senti-me** como um verdadeiro marinheiro. Tinha orgulho em mim. Sobrevivi **à minha primeira tempestade**. Não era um covarde. **Teria** aventuras. **Veria** o mundo. O que **sabia** o meu pai sobre a vida?

English

30. In five or six days I felt like a real sailor. I had pride in myself. I survived my first storm. I wasn't a coward. I would have adventures. I would see the world. What did my father know about life?

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
em cinco ou seis dias	in five or six days	em mim	in myself	teria	i would have
senti-me	i felt	sobrevivi	i survived	veria	i would see
como	like	à minha primeira tempestade	my first storm	o mundo	the world
um verdadeiro marinheiro	a real sailor	não era	i wasn't	sabia	did know
orgulho	pride	um covarde	a coward	a vida	life



Language tips



Reflexive Pronoun - Senti-me (Related words: senti-me, I felt)

Portuguese 'senti-me' uses a reflexive pronoun attached to the verb. English expresses this as 'I felt' without the reflexive.

- lembro-me → I remember
- chamo-me → my name is
- levantei-me → I got up

Contraction - À (Related words: à minha primeira tempestade, my first storm)

Portuguese 'à' is a contraction of 'a + a' (to + the). It shows direction or indirect object with feminine nouns.

- à escola → to school
- ao parque → to the park
- às casas → to the houses

Conditional Tense - Teria/Veria (Related words: Teria, Veria, I would have, I would see)

Portuguese conditional is formed with -ia endings. English uses 'would' + verb for the same meaning.

- compraria → would buy
- falaria → would speak
- iria → would go

Imperfect Past - Sabia (Related words: sabia, did know)

Portuguese 'sabia' shows ongoing past action. English often uses simple past 'knew' or past continuous 'was knowing'.

- tinha → had/was having
- era → was/used to be
- vivia → lived/was living

Portuguese

31. Mas **eu era** um tolo. Deus **tinha-me dado** um aviso. A tempestade era uma oportunidade para voltar. **Devia ter ouvido.** A próxima tempestade seria muito, muito pior. Quase **me mataria.**

English

31. But I was a fool. God had given me a warning. The storm was an opportunity to go back. I should have listened. The next storm would be much, much worse. It would almost kill me.

Portuguese	English
eu era	i was
um tolo	a fool
tinha-me dado	had given me
um aviso	a warning

Portuguese	English
uma oportunidade	an opportunity
para voltar	to go back
devia ter ouvido	i should have listened
a próxima tempestade	the next storm

Portuguese	English
muito, muito pior	much, much worse
me mataria	would kill me



Language tips

Compound Past - Tinha dado (Related words: tinha-me dado, had given me)

Portuguese 'tinha dado' is the past perfect tense. English uses 'had given' - same structure with auxiliary + past participle.

- tinha visto → had seen
- tinha comido → had eaten
- tinha falado → had spoken



Modal + Infinitive - Devia ter (Related words: Devia ter ouvido, should have listened)

Portuguese 'devia ter ouvido' means 'should have listened'. Both languages use modal + perfect infinitive for past obligation.

- podia ter ido → could have gone
- devia ter feito → should have done
- teria querido → would have wanted

Pronoun Position - Me mataria (Related words: me mataria, would kill me)

Portuguese can place object pronouns before the verb. 'Me mataria' becomes 'would kill me' in English with pronoun after.

- te vejo → I see you
- nos ajuda → helps us
- lhe disse → told him/her

Ser vs Estar - Era (Related words: eu era, I was)

Portuguese uses 'ser' (era) for permanent characteristics. English just has 'was' for both temporary and permanent states.

- era alto → was tall
- estava cansado → was tired
- era professor → was a teacher

Portuguese

32. Seis dias depois de deixar Hull **chegámos** a Yarmouth Roads. Era um lugar onde os navios **esperavam** por bom vento. O vento **estava** contra nós. A nossa viagem era lenta. Muitos navios de Newcastle também estavam lá. Lançámos a nossa âncora e esperámos. Ficámos lá sete ou oito dias.

English

32. Six days after leaving Hull we arrived at Yarmouth Roads. It was a place where ships waited for good wind. The wind was against us. Our journey was slow. Many ships from Newcastle were also there. We dropped our anchor and waited. We stayed there seven or eight days.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
seis dias depois de	six days after	esperavam	waited	estavam	were
deixar	leaving	bom vento	good wind	lançámos	we dropped
chegámos	we arrived	contra nós	against us	a nossa âncora	our anchor
a yarmouth roads	at yarmouth roads	a nossa viagem	our journey	esperámos	waited
um lugar	a place	lenta	slow	ficámos	we stayed
onde	where	muitos navios	many ships	sete ou oito dias	seven or eight days
os navios	ships	de newcastle	from newcastle		



Language tips

Depois de + Infinitive (Related words: depois de deixar, after leaving)

Portuguese uses 'depois de' + infinitive where English uses 'after' + gerund (-ing form).

- antes de comer → before eating
- depois de chegar → after arriving
- ao sair → upon leaving



Imperfect for Habitual Past - Esperavam (Related words: **esperavam, waited**)

Portuguese imperfect 'esperavam' shows ongoing past action. English uses simple past 'waited' or 'were waiting'.

- trabalhava → worked/was working
- vivia → lived/was living
- comia → ate/was eating

Estar for Temporary States (Related words: **estava, was**)

Portuguese uses 'estar' (estava) for temporary conditions like weather. English uses 'was' for both permanent and temporary.

- estava frio → it was cold
- estava chovendo → it was raining
- estava nublado → it was cloudy

Subject Pronouns - Chegámos (Related words: **chegámos, we arrived**)

Portuguese often omits subject pronouns. 'Chegámos' already means 'we arrived' - the -ámos ending shows it's 'we'.

- falamos → we speak
- comemos → we eat
- vivemos → we live

Portuguese

33. O vento ainda **estava** mau. **Soprava** **do sudoeste**. Não podíamos navegar rio acima. Depois de quatro dias o vento **ficou** mais forte. Muito mais forte. Mas os nossos marinheiros não estavam preocupados. Diziam que Yarmouth Roads **era** seguro.

English

33. The wind was still bad. It was blowing from the southwest. We couldn't sail upriver. After four days the wind became stronger. Much stronger. But our sailors weren't worried. They said that Yarmouth Roads was safe.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
ainda	still	rio acima	upriver	diziam	they said
mau	bad	quatro dias	four days	yarmouth roads	yarmouth roads
soprava	it was blowing	muito mais forte	much stronger	seguro	safe
do sudoeste	from the southwest	os nossos marinheiros	our sailors		
não podíamos navegar	we couldn't sail	não estavam preocupados	weren't worried		



Language tips

Contraction - Do (Related words: **do sudoeste, from the southwest**)

Portuguese 'do' combines 'de + o' (from/of + the). English keeps these separate or uses 'from the'.

- do norte → from the north
- da cidade → from the city
- dos barcos → from the boats

Pretérito Imperfeito - Past Continuous (Related words: **estava, Soprava**)

Portuguese 'estava' and 'soprava' describe ongoing actions in the past. English uses 'was/were + -ing' form.



- comia → was eating
- corria → was running
- dormiam → were sleeping

Ficar - Multiple Meanings (Related words: **ficou, became**)

Portuguese 'ficar' can mean 'to stay', 'to become', or 'to be located'. Here 'ficou' means 'became'.

- fica aqui → stays here
- fica triste → becomes sad
- fica em Lisboa → is located in Lisbon

Ser vs Estar - Era vs Estava (Related words: **estava, era**)

Both mean 'was' in English. 'Era' (from ser) describes permanent qualities; 'estava' (from estar) describes temporary states.

- era alto → was tall (permanent)
- estava cansado → was tired (temporary)
- era professor → was a teacher

Portuguese

34. A nossa âncora era forte. O nosso navio era bom.
Por isso os homens bebiam e riam. **Contavam**
 histórias. **Jogavam** cartas. **Tentei agir** como eles.
Queria ser um verdadeiro marinheiro. Tudo parecia
 bem.

English

34. Our anchor was strong. Our ship was good. That's
 why the men were drinking and laughing. They were
 telling stories. They were playing cards. I tried to act
 like them. I wanted to be a real sailor. Everything
 seemed fine.

Portuguese	English
forte	strong
o nosso navio	our ship
por isso	that's why
os homens	the men
bebiam	were drinking

Portuguese	English
riam	laughing
contavam	they were telling
histórias	stories
jogavam	they were playing
cartas	cards

Portuguese	English
tentei	i tried
agir	to act
como eles	like them
bem	fine



Language tips

Por isso - Fixed Expression (Related words: **Por isso, That's why**)

Portuguese 'por isso' literally means 'for this', but translates to 'that's why' or 'therefore' in English.

- por isso chegou tarde → that's why he arrived late
- por isso não vim → that's why I didn't come
- por isso estou feliz → that's why I'm happy

Subject Pronouns Omitted (Related words: **Contavam, Jogavam**)

Portuguese often omits subject pronouns. 'Contavam' and 'Jogavam' don't need 'eles' (they) - the verb ending shows who's doing it.

- Falo português → I speak Portuguese
- Comemos pizza → We eat pizza
- Estudas muito → You study a lot



Pretérito Perfeito vs Imperfeito (Related words: **Tentei, Queria**)

'Tentei' (simple past) shows a completed action. 'Queria' (imperfect) shows an ongoing feeling in the past.

- comi → I ate (completed)
- comia → I was eating (ongoing)
- falei → I spoke
- falava → I was speaking

Infinitive After Conjugated Verb (Related words: **Tentei, agir, Queria, ser**)

After conjugated verbs like 'tentei' and 'queria', Portuguese uses the infinitive: 'agir' (to act), 'ser' (to be).

- posso falar → I can speak
- quero comer → I want to eat
- preciso estudar → I need to study

Portuguese 🇵🇹

35. Mas **na oitava manhã** tudo mudou. O vento ficou selvagem. O capitão ordenou a todos os homens **para trabalhar**. **"Baixem** os mastros!" gritou. **"Amarrem** tudo! **Preparem-se** para uma tempestade!" Os marinheiros saltaram **para obedecer**. Sabiam que isto era sério.

English 🇬🇧

35. But on the eighth morning everything changed. The wind became wild. The captain ordered all the men to work. "Lower the masts!" he shouted. "Tie everything down! Prepare for a storm!" The sailors jumped to obey. They knew that this was serious.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
na oitava manhã	on the eighth morning	baixem	lower	para uma tempestade	for a storm
selvagem	wild	os mastros	the masts	os marinheiros	the sailors
o capitão	the captain	gritou	he shouted	saltaram	jumped
ordenou	ordered	amarrem	tie	para obedecer	to obey
a todos os homens	all the men	tudo	everything down	sabiam	they knew
para trabalhar	to work	preparem-se	prepare		



Language tips

Contraction - Na (Related words: **na oitava manhã, on the eighth morning**)

Portuguese 'na' combines 'em + a' (in/on + the feminine). English uses 'on the' or 'in the'.

- na casa → in the house
- no dia → on the day
- nas ruas → in the streets

Imperative Mood - Commands (Related words: **Baixem, Amarrem, Preparem-se**)

Commands like 'Baixem', 'Amarrem', and 'Preparem-se' use the imperative. Portuguese has different forms for tu/você/vocês.

- fala! → speak! (tu)
- fale! → speak! (você)
- falem! → speak! (vocês)



Reflexive Commands - Preparem-se (Related words: **Preparem-se**)

'Preparem-se' means 'prepare yourselves'. The '-se' attaches to the verb in commands, unlike regular sentences.

- levanta-te → get up (tu)
- sente-se → sit down (você)
- vistam-se → get dressed (vocês)

Para + Infinitive - Purpose (Related words: **para trabalhar, para obedecer**)

Portuguese uses 'para' + infinitive to show purpose: 'para trabalhar' (to work), 'para obedecer' (to obey).

- vim para ajudar → I came to help
- estudo para aprender → I study to learn
- corro para emagrecer → I run to lose weight

Portuguese 🇵🇹

36. Ao meio-dia as ondas eram como montanhas. O nosso navio **subia** e **descia**, **subia** e **descia**. A água caía sobre o convés. Uma vez, duas vezes, pensámos que a nossa âncora **se tinha soltado**. O capitão **ordenou** que **lançassem** outra âncora. Agora tínhamos duas âncoras a segurar-nos.

English 🇬🇧

36. At noon the waves were like mountains. Our ship went up and down, up and down. The water fell on the deck. Once, twice, we thought that our anchor had come loose. The captain ordered them to throw another anchor. Now we had two anchors holding us.

Portuguese	English
ao meio-dia	at noon
eram	were
montanhas	mountains
subia	went up
descia	went down
a água	the water

Portuguese	English
caía	fell
sobre	on
o convés	the deck
uma vez	once
duas vezes	twice
pensámos	we thought

Portuguese	English
se tinha soltado	had come loose
lançassem	they throw
outra âncora	another anchor
tínhamos	we had
duas âncoras	two anchors
a segurar-nos	holding us



Language tips

Pretérito Imperfeito - Continuous Past (Related words: **subia, descia, went up, went down**)

Portuguese uses 'imperfeito' for ongoing past actions. 'Subia e descia' shows the ship continuously going up and down, like English past continuous.

- ela cantava → she was singing
- eles corriam → they were running
- eu lia → I was reading

Reflexive Pronoun - Se (Related words: **se tinha soltado, had come loose**)

In 'se tinha soltado', the 'se' shows the anchor came loose by itself. English doesn't use a reflexive here, just saying 'had come loose'.

- se abriu → opened
- se fechou → closed
- se quebrou → broke



Past Perfect - Tinha + Past Participle (Related words: **tinha soltado, had come loose**)

Portuguese forms past perfect with 'ter' in the imperfect + past participle. 'Tinha soltado' becomes 'had come loose' in English.

- tinha comido → had eaten
- tinham visto → they had seen
- tínhamos chegado → we had arrived

Subjunctive After Ordenar (Related words: **ordenou, lançassem, ordered, throw**)

After 'ordenou que' (ordered that), Portuguese uses subjunctive 'lançassem'. English just uses the infinitive structure 'ordered them to throw'.

- pediu que fizesse → asked him to do
- queria que fosse → wanted her to go
- disse que viessem → told them to come

Portuguese

37. Depois a verdadeira tempestade chegou. Não tenho palavras para descrever quão terrível foi. Até os marinheiros velhos tinham medo. Vi medo nos seus olhos. O capitão passou **pela minha cabine** muitas vezes. **Ouvi-o** sussurrar, "Senhor tem piedade de nós!"

English

37. Then the real storm arrived. I don't have words to describe how terrible it was. Even the old sailors were afraid. I saw fear in their eyes. The captain passed by my cabin many times. I heard him whisper, "Lord have mercy on us!"

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
a verdadeira tempestade	the real storm	tinham	were	ouvi-o	i heard him
chegou	arrived	medo	fear	sussurrar	whisper
não tenho palavras	i don't have words	vi	i saw	senhor	lord
para descrever	to describe	nos seus olhos	in their eyes	tem	have
quão terrível	how terrible	pela minha cabine	by my cabin	piedade	mercy
os marinheiros velhos	the old sailors	muitas vezes	many times	de nós	on us



Language tips

Adjective Position - Marinheiros Velhos (Related words: **marinheiros velhos, old sailors**)

In Portuguese, 'velhos' (old) comes after 'marinheiros' (sailors). English always puts adjectives before nouns: 'old sailors'.

- homens jovens → young men
- casa grande → big house
- livro novo → new book

Contraction - Pela (Related words: **pela minha cabine, by my cabin**)

Portuguese 'pela' is a contraction of 'por + a' (through/by + the). English keeps these separate as 'by the'.

- pelo caminho → by the way
- pelas ruas → through the streets
- pelos jardins → through the gardens



Object Pronoun - Ouvi-o (Related words: **Ouvi-o, I heard him**)

Portuguese attaches object pronouns to verbs with a hyphen: 'ouvi-o' (heard-him). English puts the pronoun after: 'heard him'.

- vi-a → I saw her
- conheci-os → I met them
- ajudei-te → I helped you

Ter Medo - To Be Afraid (Related words: **tinham medo, were afraid**)

Portuguese uses 'ter medo' (literally 'have fear') where English says 'be afraid'. The verb changes but the meaning is the same.

- tenho medo → I am afraid
- tens medo → you are afraid
- temos medo → we are afraid

Portuguese

38. **"Estamos** todos perdidos!" o capitão continuou a sussurrar. **"Somos** todos **homens mortos!"** Quando o capitão disse essas palavras a minha coragem morreu. Este homem **tinha navegado** durante trinta anos. Se ele tinha medo estávamos condenados. Fiquei **na minha cabine.** Estava paralisado de medo.

English

38. "We are all lost!" the captain continued to whisper. "We are all dead men!" When the captain said those words my courage died. This man had sailed for thirty years. If he was afraid we were doomed. I stayed in my cabin. I was paralyzed with fear.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
estamos	we are	a minha coragem	my courage	condenados	doomed
perdidos	lost	este homem	this man	fiquei	i stayed
a sussurrar	to whisper	tinha navegado	had sailed	na minha cabine	in my cabin
somos	we are	durante	for	paralisado	paralyzed
homens mortos	dead men	trinta anos	thirty years	de medo	with fear
essas palavras	those words	estávamos	we were		



Language tips

Ser vs Estar - Somos/Estamos (Related words: **Somos, Estamos**)

Portuguese has two verbs for 'to be': 'ser' (permanent) and 'estar' (temporary). 'Somos mortos' (we are dead - permanent) vs 'Estamos perdidos' (we are lost - temporary).

- sou professor → I am a teacher
- estou cansado → I am tired
- é bonito → it is beautiful

Contraction - Na (Related words: **na minha cabine, in my cabin**)

Portuguese 'na' is a contraction of 'em + a' (in + the). English keeps these separate as 'in the' or 'in my'.

- no quarto → in the room
- nas casas → in the houses
- nos livros → in the books



Past Perfect - Tinha Navegado (Related words: **tinha navegado, had sailed**)

Portuguese forms the past perfect with 'ter' (imperfect) + past participle: 'tinha navegado'. English uses 'had' + past participle: 'had sailed'.

- tinha comido → had eaten
- tinhas visto → you had seen
- tínhamos chegado → we had arrived

Adjective Position - Homens Mortos (Related words: **homens mortos, dead men**)

In Portuguese, 'mortos' (dead) comes after 'homens' (men). English puts the adjective before: 'dead men'.

- mulher bonita → beautiful woman
- carro novo → new car
- árvore alta → tall tree

Portuguese

39. Não conseguia mover-me. Não conseguia pensar.
Tinha-me rido da primeira tempestade. Bebi
 ponche e esqueci as minhas promessas a Deus. Agora
 Deus estava mesmo zangado. Esta tempestade
matar-nos-ia a todos. **Não havia escapatória**
 desta vez.

English

39. I couldn't move. I couldn't think. I had laughed at
 the first storm. I drank punch and forgot my promises to
 God. Now God was really angry. This storm would kill us
 all. There was no escape this time.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
não conseguia mover-me	i couldn't move	bebi	i drank	matar-nos-ia	would kill us
não conseguia pensar	i couldn't think	esqueci	forgot	a todos	all
tinha-me rido	i had laughed	mesmo	really	não havia escapatória	there was no escape
da primeira tempestade	at the first storm	esta tempestade	this storm	desta vez	this time



Language tips

Reflexive Past Perfect - Tinha-me Rido (Related words: **Tinha-me rido, I had laughed**)

Portuguese can place reflexive pronouns between auxiliary and main verb: 'tinha-me rido'. English says 'I had laughed' - the reflexive meaning is understood.

- tinha-me levantado → I had gotten up
- tinhas-te esquecido → you had forgotten
- tínhamo-nos perdido → we had gotten lost

Conditional with Pronoun - Matar-nos-ia (Related words: **matar-nos-ia, would kill us**)

Portuguese inserts object pronouns into conditional verbs: 'matar-nos-ia' (kill-us-would). English keeps it simple: 'would kill us'.

- ajudar-me-ia → would help me
- ver-te-ia → would see you
- dar-lhe-ia → would give him/her



Contraction - Da (Related words: **da primeira tempestade, at the first storm**)

Portuguese 'da' is a contraction of 'de + a' (of/from + the). Here it means 'at' in the expression 'laugh at'.

- do problema → of the problem
- das pessoas → of the people
- dos livros → of the books

Haver - There to be (Related words: **Não havia escapatória, There was no escape**)

Portuguese 'haver' means 'there is/are' when used impersonally. 'Não havia' means 'there was no' or 'there wasn't'.

- há um problema → there is a problem
- havia muitas pessoas → there were many people
- não há tempo → there is no time

Portuguese

40. Finalmente **forcei-me** a ir **ao convés**. O que vi ainda me dá pesadelos. O mar **estava** preto e branco com espuma. **Ondas altas** como igrejas caíam sobre nós. O vento gritava como mil demónios. Agarrei-me forte ou seria levado.

English

40. Finally I forced myself to go to the deck. What I saw still gives me nightmares. The sea was black and white with foam. Waves tall as churches were falling on us. The wind was screaming like a thousand demons. I held on tight or I would be taken.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
finalmente	finally	branco	white	como mil demónios	like a thousand demons
forcei-me	i forced myself	com espuma	with foam	agarrei-me	i held on
a ir	to go	ondas altas	waves tall	forte	tight
ao convés	to the deck	como igrejas	as churches	ou	or
me dá	gives me	caíam	were falling	levado	taken
pesadelos	nightmares	sobre nós	on us		
preto	black	gritava	was screaming		



Language tips

Reflexive Verbs - Forcei-me (Related words: **forcei-me, I forced myself**)

Portuguese 'forcei-me' means 'I forced myself'. The '-me' attaches to the verb after it. In English, we use a separate word 'myself'.

- levantei-me → I got up
- sentei-me → I sat down
- perdi-me → I got lost

Contraction - Ao (Related words: **ao convés, to the deck**)

Portuguese 'ao' is a contraction of 'a + o' (to + the). English keeps these separate as 'to the'.

- ao mar → to the sea
- à praia → to the beach
- aos barcos → to the boats



Past Continuous - Estava (Related words: **estava, was**)

Portuguese 'estava' shows ongoing action in the past. English uses 'was' + verb-ing for the same meaning.

- estava chovendo → it was raining
- estávamos comendo → we were eating
- estavam dormindo → they were sleeping

Adjective Position - Ondas altas (Related words: **Ondas altas, Waves tall**)

In Portuguese, 'altas' (tall) comes after 'ondas' (waves). In English, adjectives come before: 'tall waves'.

- mar bravo → rough sea
- vento forte → strong wind
- noite escura → dark night

Portuguese 🇵🇹

41. Olhei à volta. Dois navios perto de nós **tinham cortado** os seus mastros. Outro navio a cerca de uma milha **estava a afundar**. **Vi-o** desaparecer sob as ondas. Todos aqueles homens estavam a afogar-se na água fria e preta. Mais dois navios **tinham-se soltado** das suas âncoras.

English 🇬🇧

41. I looked around. Two ships near us had cut their masts. Another ship about a mile away was sinking. I saw it disappear under the waves. All those men were drowning in the cold and black water. Two more ships had broken free from their anchors.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
olhei	i looked	a cerca de	about	estavam a afogar-se	were drowning
à volta	around	uma milha	a mile	na água fria	in the cold water
dois navios	two ships	estava a afundar	was sinking	preta	black
perto de nós	near us	vi-o	i saw it	mais dois navios	two more ships
tinham cortado	had cut	desaparecer	disappear	tinham-se soltado	had broken free
os seus mastros	their masts	sob as ondas	under the waves	das suas âncoras	from their anchors
outro navio	another ship	todos aqueles homens	all those men		



Language tips

Past Perfect - Tinham cortado (Related words: **tinham cortado, had cut**)

Portuguese 'tinham cortado' means 'had cut' - an action completed before another past action. It uses 'ter' + past participle.

- tinha visto → had seen
- tínhamos comido → we had eaten
- tinhas chegado → you had arrived

Progressive Form - Estava a afundar (Related words: **estava a afundar, was sinking**)

European Portuguese uses 'estar a' + infinitive for ongoing actions. English uses 'was/were' + -ing form.

- estou a ler → I am reading
- estavam a correr → they were running
- está a chover → it is raining



Object Pronoun - Vi-o (Related words: Vi-o, I saw it)

Portuguese attaches object pronouns to verbs with a hyphen: 'vi-o' (I saw it). English keeps them separate.

- conheci-a → I met her
- comprei-os → I bought them
- levou-nos → he took us

Reflexive with Past Perfect - Tinham-se soltado (Related words: tinham-se soltado, had broken free)

Portuguese reflexive pronouns go between auxiliary and participle: 'tinham-se soltado'. English says 'had broken free'.

- tinha-me levantado → I had gotten up
- tinhas-te perdido → you had gotten lost
- tínhamo-nos encontrado → we had met

Portuguese

42. Naquela noite a nossa tripulação implorou ao capitão para cortar os nossos mastros. Ele não queria **fazê-lo**. Um navio sem mastros **fica** indefeso. Mas o contramestre disse, "Se **não os cortarmos** o navio afunda!" O capitão finalmente concordou. **Tinham de** salvar o navio.

English

42. That night our crew begged the captain to cut our masts. He didn't want to do it. A ship without masts is helpless. But the boatswain said, "If we don't cut them the ship sinks!" The captain finally agreed. They had to save the ship.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
naquela noite	that night	não queria	didn't want	não os cortarmos	we don't cut them
a nossa tripulação	our crew	fazê-lo	to do it	afunda	sinks
implorou	begged	sem mastros	without masts	concordou	agreed
ao capitão	the captain	fica	is	tinham de	they had to
para cortar	to cut	indefeso	helpless	salvar	save
os nossos mastros	our masts	o contramestre	the boatswain		



Language tips

Contraction with Infinitive - Fazê-lo (Related words: fazê-lo, to do it)

Portuguese contracts 'fazer + o' to 'fazê-lo' (to do it). The pronoun attaches to the infinitive with a hyphen.

- vê-la → to see her
- comprá-los → to buy them
- comê-lo → to eat it

Ficar - Multiple Meanings (Related words: fica, is)

Portuguese 'ficar' can mean 'to be', 'to stay', or 'to become' depending on context. Here it means 'is' (becomes).

- fico em casa → I stay home
- fica feliz → becomes happy
- fica longe → is far

Future Subjunctive - Se não cortarmos (Related words: não os cortarmos, we don't cut them)

Portuguese uses future subjunctive after 'se' (if) for hypothetical situations. English uses present tense here.



- se eu for → if I go
- se eles vierem → if they come
- se tu quiseses → if you want

Ter de - Obligation (Related words: **Tinham de, They had to**)

Portuguese 'ter de' expresses obligation like English 'have to'. It's stronger than 'precisar' (need).

- tenho de ir → I have to go
- tens de estudar → you have to study
- temos de sair → we have to leave

Portuguese

43. **Por isso** **cortaram** o mastro da frente. CRACK! Caiu **no mar**. Mas agora o mastro principal **abanava** terrivelmente. Ia partir o navio. **Tiveram de** cortar esse também. Agora não tínhamos mastros. Éramos como uma rolha na água.

English

43. That's why they cut the front mast. CRACK! It fell into the sea. But now the main mast was shaking terribly. It was going to break the ship. They had to cut that one too. Now we didn't have masts. We were like a cork in the water.

Portuguese	English
cortaram	they cut
o mastro	the mast
da frente	front
crack	crack
caiu	it fell
no mar	into the sea

Portuguese	English
o mastro principal	the main mast
abanava	was shaking
terrivelmente	terribly
ia	it was going to
partir	break
tiveram de	they had to

Portuguese	English
cortar	cut
esse	that one
não tínhamos mastros	we didn't have masts
éramos	we were
uma rolha	a cork
na água	in the water



Language tips

Por isso - That's why (Related words: **Por isso, That's why**)

Portuguese 'por isso' (literally 'for that') translates to 'that's why' or 'therefore' in English. It's a common way to show cause and effect.

- por isso → that's why
- por causa disso → because of that
- então → so/then

Contraction - No (Related words: **no mar, into the sea**)

Portuguese 'no' is a contraction of 'em + o' (in + the). English keeps these separate as 'in the' or uses 'into the' for movement.

- na casa → in the house
- nos livros → in the books
- no jardim → in the garden

Ter de - Have to (Related words: **Tiveram de, They had to**)



Portuguese uses 'ter de' or 'ter que' to express obligation. English uses 'have to' or 'must'. The 'de' is absorbed into the verb phrase.

- tenho de ir → I have to go
- teve de estudar → he had to study
- temos de trabalhar → we have to work

Past Tenses - Imperfeito vs Perfeito (Related words: **abanava, cortaram**)

Portuguese has two main past tenses. 'Abanava' (imperfeito) describes ongoing action 'was shaking', while 'cortaram' (perfeito) describes completed action 'cut'.

- ele comia → he was eating
- ele comeu → he ate
- eles falavam → they were speaking

Portuguese 🇵🇹

44. Não consigo descrever o meu terror. Era jovem. Nunca **tinha visto** a morte tão perto. Mas pior que o medo **da morte** era a minha culpa. Quebrei as minhas promessas a Deus. **Ri-me** do Seu primeiro aviso. Agora Ele **matar-me-ia**.

English 🇬🇧

44. I can't describe my terror. I was young. I had never seen death so close. But worse than the fear of death was my guilt. I broke my promises to God. I laughed at His first warning. Now He would kill me.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
não consigo	i can't	tinha visto	had seen	quebrei	i broke
descrever	describe	a morte	death	ri-me	i laughed
o meu terror	my terror	tão perto	so close	do seu primeiro aviso	at his first warning
era	i was	da morte	of death	matar-me-ia	would kill me
jovem	young	a minha culpa	my guilt		



Language tips

Contraction - Da (Related words: **da morte, of death**)

Portuguese 'da' is a contraction of 'de + a' (of + the). English keeps these separate as 'of the' or sometimes just 'of'.

- do livro → of the book
- das casas → of the houses
- dos meninos → of the boys

Past Perfect - Tinha Visto (Related words: **tinha visto, had seen**)

Portuguese 'tinha visto' uses the imperfect of 'ter' plus past participle. It translates to English 'had seen' - same structure!

- tinha comido → had eaten
- tinhas falado → you had spoken
- tínhamos chegado → we had arrived

Reflexive Verbs - Ri-me (Related words: **Ri-me, I laughed**)

Portuguese 'ri-me' (literally 'I laughed myself') becomes just 'I laughed' in English. The reflexive pronoun doesn't translate.



- sento-me → I sit down
- levantou-se → he got up
- chamam-se → they are called

Conditional with Pronouns (Related words: **matar-me-ia, would kill me**)

Portuguese can insert object pronouns into the conditional: 'matar-me-ia'. English says 'would kill me' with the pronoun after.

- ver-te-ia → would see you
- ajudar-nos-iam → would help us
- dar-lhe-ia → would give him/her

Portuguese 🇵🇹

45. As palavras do meu pai voltaram. Ele **tinha** **razão**. Estava amaldiçoado. A tempestade piorou. Até os marinheiros velhos **diziam** que nunca tinham visto nada assim. O nosso navio estava pesado com carga. Balançava terrivelmente. A cada poucos minutos um marinheiro gritava, **"Vai afundar!"**

English 🇬🇧

45. My father's words came back. He was right. I was cursed. The storm got worse. Even the old sailors said they had never seen anything like this. Our ship was heavy with cargo. It swayed terribly. Every few minutes a sailor shouted, "It's going to sink!"

Portuguese	English
as palavras	the words
voltaram	came back
amaldiçoado	cursed
piorou	got worse
nunca tinham visto	had never seen

Portuguese	English
nada assim	anything like this
pesado	heavy
com carga	with cargo
balançava	it swayed
a cada poucos minutos	every few minutes

Portuguese	English
um marinheiro	a sailor
gritava	shouted
vai	it's going to
afundar	sink



Language tips

Ter Razão - To Be Right (Related words: **tinha, razão**)

Portuguese uses 'ter razão' (literally 'to have reason') to mean 'to be right'. English uses 'to be' not 'to have'.

- tenho razão → I am right
- tens razão → you are right
- ele tem razão → he is right

Adjective Position - Marinheiros Velhos (Related words: **marinheiros velhos, old sailors**)

Portuguese usually puts adjectives after nouns: 'marinheiros velhos'. English reverses this: 'old sailors'.

- homem velho → old man
- casa nova → new house
- dias difíceis → difficult days

Imperfect Tense - Continuous Action (Related words: **diziam, said**)

Portuguese imperfect 'diziam' describes repeated past actions. English often uses simple past 'said' for this.

- falava → spoke/was speaking
- comíamos → we ate/were eating
- dormiam → they slept/were sleeping



Future with Ir - Vai Afundar (Related words: **Vai, afundar, It's going to, sink**)

Portuguese 'vai afundar' (literally 'goes to sink') expresses near future. English says 'is going to sink'.

- vou comer → I'm going to eat
- vais dormir → you're going to sleep
- vamos partir → we're going to leave

Portuguese

46. **Não sabia** o que "afundar" significava até alguém explicar. Quando um navio "afunda" ou "naufraga" **enche-se** de água e vai para o fundo do mar. **Todos** se afogam. Agora compreendia. **Todos** morreríamos nesta água fria e escura. Os nossos corpos nunca seriam encontrados.

English

46. I didn't know what "sink" meant until someone explained. When a ship "sinks" or "is wrecked" it fills with water and goes to the bottom of the sea. Everyone drowns. Now I understood. We would all die in this cold, dark water. Our bodies would never be found.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
significava	meant	vai	goes	morreríamos	die
alguém	someone	para o fundo	to the bottom	nesta água fria e escura	in this cold, dark water
explicar	explained	do mar	of the sea	os nossos corpos	our bodies
naufraga	is wrecked	todos	we would all	nunca seriam encontrados	would never be found
enche-se	it fills	se afogam	drowns		
de água	with water	compreendia	i understood		



Language tips

Negative with Saber - Não Sabia (Related words: **Não sabia, didn't know**)

Portuguese 'não sabia' becomes 'didn't know' in English. English needs the auxiliary 'did' for past negatives.

- não tinha → didn't have
- não comeu → didn't eat
- não foram → didn't go

Reflexive Verbs - Enche-se (Related words: **enche-se, it fills**)

Portuguese 'enche-se' (fills itself) becomes just 'it fills' in English. The reflexive pronoun often doesn't translate.

- move-se → it moves
- abre-se → it opens
- fecha-se → it closes

Passive Voice - Seriam Encontrados (Related words: **seriam encontrados, would be found**)

Portuguese 'seriam encontrados' (would be found) uses 'ser' + past participle for passive voice, just like English 'be' + past participle.

- foi visto → was seen
- será feito → will be done
- eram conhecidos → were known



Todos as Subject (Related words: **Todos, Everyone**)

Portuguese 'todos' can mean 'everyone' or 'all'. When it's the subject, it often translates to 'everyone' in English.

- todos sabem → everyone knows
- todas gostam → everyone likes
- todos vieram → everyone came

Portuguese 🇵🇹

47. Depois vi algo que **me gelou** o sangue. O capitão **estava a rezar**. O contramestre **estava a rezar**. Estes homens duros que **não temiam nada** estavam **de joelhos** a implorar a Deus por misericórdia. Se eles estavam a rezar estávamos verdadeiramente perdidos. Caí **de joelhos** também.

English 🇬🇧

47. Then I saw something that froze my blood. The captain was praying. The first mate was praying. These tough men who feared nothing were on their knees begging God for mercy. If they were praying, we were truly lost. I fell to my knees too.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
me gelou	froze my	não temiam nada	feared nothing	eles	they
o sangue	blood	de joelhos	to my knees	estavam a rezar	were praying
estava a rezar	was praying	a implorar	begging	verdadeiramente	truly
o contramestre	the first mate	a deus	god	caí	i fell
estes homens duros	these tough men	por misericórdia	for mercy		



Language tips

Reflexive Pronoun - Me gelou (Related words: **me gelou, froze my**)

Portuguese 'me gelou' means 'froze my (blood)'. The pronoun 'me' shows the action affects the speaker. English uses 'my' instead of a reflexive pronoun.

- me assustou → scared me
- te preocupa → worries you
- nos ajuda → helps us

Past Continuous - Estava a rezar (Related words: **estava a rezar, was praying**)

Portuguese uses 'estar a + infinitive' for ongoing past actions. English uses 'was/were + -ing'. Both show the action was in progress.

- estava a correr → was running
- estavam a falar → were talking
- estávamos a comer → we were eating

Double Negation - Não temiam nada (Related words: **não temiam nada, feared nothing**)

Portuguese uses double negation 'não...nada' (literally 'not...nothing'). English uses single negation 'didn't...anything' or positive 'feared nothing'.

- não vejo nada → I see nothing
- não tenho nada → I have nothing
- não sei nada → I know nothing



Preposition - De joelhos (Related words: **de joelhos, on their knees**)

Portuguese uses 'de joelhos' (of knees) while English says 'on their knees'. Prepositions often differ between the two languages.

- de pé → standing/on foot
- de carro → by car
- de manhã → in the morning

Portuguese

48. No meio da noite piorou. Um marinheiro veio a correr de baixo. "Temos uma fuga!" **gritou.** "Quatro pés de água **no porão!**" O capitão saltou. "Todos **às bombas!**" **gritou.** Esta era a nossa última oportunidade.

English

48. In the middle of the night it got worse. A sailor came running from below. "We have a leak!" he shouted. "Four feet of water in the hold!" The captain jumped. "Everyone to the pumps!" he shouted. This was our last chance.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
no meio da noite	in the middle of the night	temos	we have	saltou	jumped
piorou	it got worse	uma fuga	a leak	às bombas	to the pumps
a correr	running	quatro pés	four feet	esta	this
de baixo	from below	no porão	in the hold	a nossa última oportunidade	our last chance



Language tips

Contraction - No porão (Related words: **no porão, in the hold**)

Portuguese 'no' is a contraction of 'em + o' (in + the). It combines the preposition with the article. English keeps them separate as 'in the'.

- na sala → in the room
- nos barcos → in the boats
- nas casas → in the houses

Infinitive After Motion Verb (Related words: **veio a correr, came running**)

Portuguese uses 'a + infinitive' after motion verbs: 'veio a correr' (came running). English uses the -ing form directly.

- saiu a gritar → left shouting
- chegou a rir → arrived laughing
- foi a cantar → went singing

Às - Contraction (Related words: **às bombas, to the pumps**)

'Às' is a contraction of 'a + as' (to + the feminine plural). Here 'às bombas' means 'to the pumps'. English doesn't contract these.

- às cinco → at five o'clock
- às pessoas → to the people
- às portas → to the doors

Subject Pronoun Omission (Related words: **gritou, he shouted**)



Portuguese often omits subject pronouns. 'Gritou' means 'he/she shouted' - the subject is understood from context. English always includes the pronoun.

- falou → he/she spoke
- correu → he/she ran
- chegou → he/she arrived

Portuguese

49. O meu coração parou. Caí **na minha cama**. Não conseguia mover-me. A água estava a entrar. **Afundaríamos**. Morreria aqui no mar frio e escuro. Mas os marinheiros **levantaram-me**. "Tu também!" disseram. "Todos devem bombear ou todos morremos!"

English

49. My heart stopped. I fell on my bed. I couldn't move. The water was coming in. We would sink. I would die here in the cold, dark sea. But the sailors lifted me up. "You too!" they said. "Everyone must pump or we all die!"

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
o meu coração	my heart	no mar	in the sea	devem	must
parou	stopped	frio	cold	bombear	pump
na minha cama	on my bed	escuro	dark	todos	we all
estava a entrar	was coming in	levantaram-me	lifted me up	morremos	die
afundaríamos	we would sink	tu também	you too		
morreria	i would die	disseram	they said		



Language tips

Contraction - Na minha (Related words: **na minha cama, on my bed**)

'Na' combines 'em + a' (in/on + the feminine). 'Na minha cama' means 'on my bed'. English doesn't combine these words.

- no meu quarto → in my room
- na tua casa → in your house
- nos nossos livros → in our books

Conditional Tense - Afundaríamos (Related words: **Afundaríamos, We would sink**)

The conditional tense (-ria, -rias, -ríamos) expresses what 'would' happen. Portuguese uses one word where English uses 'would + verb'.

- compraria → I would buy
- falaríamos → we would speak
- viveriam → they would live

Reflexive Pronoun Position (Related words: **levantaram-me, lifted me up**)

In 'levantaram-me', the pronoun 'me' attaches to the verb end with a hyphen. This means 'they lifted me'. English puts the pronoun after the verb.

- viram-nos → they saw us
- ajudou-te → he helped you
- encontrei-o → I found him

Modal Verb - Devem (Related words: **devem bombear, must pump**)

'Devem' means 'must' or 'should'. It's followed by the infinitive 'bombear'. English uses 'must + base verb' the same way.



- devo estudar → I must study
- devemos ir → we must go
- deve comer → he/she must eat

Portuguese

50. **Por isso** fui às bombas. Trabalhei mais do que alguma vez **tinha trabalhado** na minha vida. Todos **trabalhávamos**. As nossas mãos sangravam. As nossas costas partiam. Mas continuámos a bombear. A água continuava a entrar. **Estávamos a perder** a batalha. O navio estava a morrer.

English

50. That's why I went to the pumps. I worked more than I had ever worked in my life. We all worked. Our hands bled. Our backs broke. But we continued pumping. The water kept coming in. We were losing the battle. The ship was dying.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
trabalhei	i worked	trabalhávamos	worked	continuámos a bombear	we continued pumping
mais do que	more than	as nossas mãos	our hands	continuava a entrar	kept coming in
alguma vez	ever	sangravam	bled	estávamos a perder	we were losing
tinha trabalhado	had worked	as nossas costas	our backs	a batalha	the battle
na minha vida	in my life	partiam	broke	estava a morrer	was dying



Language tips

Por isso - Fixed Expression (Related words: **Por isso, That's why**)

Portuguese 'por isso' means 'that's why' or 'therefore'. It's a fixed expression showing cause and effect, similar to English 'so' or 'because of that'.

- por isso → that's why
- por causa disso → because of that
- então → so/then

Past Perfect - Tinha Trabalhado (Related words: **tinha trabalhado, had worked**)

Portuguese 'tinha trabalhado' (had worked) uses the auxiliary 'ter' plus past participle. It describes an action that happened before another past action.

- tinha comido → had eaten
- tinhas visto → you had seen
- tínhamos chegado → we had arrived

Imperfect vs Simple Past (Related words: **trabalhávamos, continuámos**)

Portuguese uses 'trabalhávamos' (imperfect) for ongoing past actions and 'continuámos' (simple past) for completed actions. English often uses both as simple past.

- falava → was speaking
- falei → spoke
- comia → was eating

Progressive - Estar a + Infinitive (Related words: **Estávamos a perder, We were losing**)



Portuguese uses 'estar a' + infinitive for continuous actions (European Portuguese). 'Estávamos a perder' means 'we were losing'. Brazilian Portuguese uses 'estar' + gerund.

- estou a comer → I am eating
- estava a dormir → was sleeping
- estão a trabalhar → they are working

Portuguese

51. O capitão disparou canhões para pedir ajuda. BUM! BUM! Nunca **tinha ouvido** canhões de navio antes. Pensei que **estávamos a partir-nos**. Desmaiei de medo. Caí **no convés**. Outro marinheiro **deu-me um pontapé** para o lado e tomou o meu lugar na bomba.

English

51. The captain fired cannons to ask for help. BOOM! BOOM! I had never heard ship cannons before. I thought we were breaking apart. I fainted from fear. I fell on the deck. Another sailor kicked me to the side and took my place at the pump.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
disparou	fired	canhões de navio	ship cannons	deu-me um pontapé	kicked me
canhões	cannons	estávamos a partir-nos	we were breaking apart	para o lado	to the side
para pedir	to ask for	desmaiei	i fainted	tomou	took
ajuda	help	de medo	from fear	o meu lugar	my place
bum	boom	no convés	on the deck	na bomba	at the pump
tinha ouvido	had heard	outro marinheiro	another sailor		



Language tips

Past Perfect - Tinha Ouvido (Related words: **tinha ouvido, had heard**)

Portuguese 'tinha ouvido' means 'had heard'. This tense shows something happened before another past action.

- tinha visto → had seen
- tinha comido → had eaten
- tinha falado → had spoken

Continuous Past - Estar a + Infinitive (Related words: **estávamos a partir-nos, we were breaking apart**)

Portuguese uses 'estar a' + verb for continuous actions. 'Estávamos a partir-nos' means 'we were breaking apart'.

- estava a comer → was eating
- estavam a correr → they were running
- estava a dormir → was sleeping

Contraction - No (Related words: **no convés, on the deck**)

Portuguese 'no' combines 'em + o' (in + the). English keeps these separate as 'on the' or 'in the'.

- na mesa → on the table
- nos barcos → in the boats
- nas ruas → in the streets

Indirect Object Pronoun - Me (Related words: **deu-me um pontapé, kicked me**)

In 'deu-me', the pronoun 'me' attaches to the verb with a hyphen. In English, we say 'kicked me' with the pronoun separate.



- disse-me → told me
- mostrou-lhe → showed him/her
- deram-nos → gave us

Portuguese

52. Quando acordei as coisas estavam piores. A água estava a ganhar. Não conseguíamos bombear rápido o suficiente. O navio **ia afundar**. **Nada podia salvar-nos** Mas depois – um milagre! Um pequeno navio **perto de nós** mandou um barco.

English

52. When I woke up things were worse. The water was winning. We couldn't pump fast enough. The ship was going to sink. Nothing could save us. But then – a miracle! A small ship near us sent a boat.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
acordei	i woke up	não conseguíamos bombear	we couldn't pump	um milagre	a miracle
as coisas	things	rápido o suficiente	fast enough	um pequeno navio	a small ship
piores	worse	ia afundar	was going to sink	mandou	sent
estava a ganhar	was winning	nada podia salvar-nos	nothing could save us	um barco	a boat



Language tips

Ir + Infinitive - Future in the Past (Related words: **ia afundar, was going to sink**)

Portuguese 'ia afundar' means 'was going to sink'. This shows something that would happen in the future from a past perspective.

- ia comer → was going to eat
- iam partir → they were going to leave
- íamos viajar → we were going to travel

Double Negation - Nada Podia (Related words: **Nada podia salvar-nos, Nothing could save us**)

Portuguese can place 'nada' (nothing) before the verb. English says 'nothing could' with the same word order.

- ninguém veio → nobody came
- nunca disse → never said
- nada aconteceu → nothing happened

Object Pronoun - Nos (Related words: **salvar-nos, save us**)

In 'salvar-nos', the pronoun 'nos' (us) attaches to the infinitive. English keeps it separate: 'save us'.

- ajudar-te → help you
- ver-me → see me
- encontrar-vos → find you (plural)

Perto de - Near (Related words: **perto de nós, near us**)

Portuguese uses 'perto de' (literally 'close of'). English just says 'near' without a preposition.

- longe de casa → far from home
- perto do mar → near the sea
- longe de ti → far from you



Portuguese

53. Aqueles homens corajosos arriscaram as suas vidas **para nos alcançar**. As ondas atiravam o seu barquinho como um brinquedo. Mas **continuaram a vir**. Os nossos marinheiros **atiraram-lhes** uma corda. Depois de muito perigo **apanharam-na**. Puxaram o seu barco perto do nosso navio. "Saltem!" gritaram.

English

53. Those brave men risked their lives to reach us. The waves threw their little boat like a toy. But they kept coming. Our sailors threw them a rope. After much danger they caught it. They pulled their boat close to our ship. "Jump!" they shouted.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
aqueles homens corajosos	those brave men	um brinquedo	a toy	puxaram	they pulled
arriscaram	risked	continuaram a vir	they kept coming	o seu barco	their boat
as suas vidas	their lives	atiraram-lhes	threw them	perto do nosso navio	close to our ship
para nos alcançar	to reach us	uma corda	a rope	saltem	jump
atiravam	threw	muito perigo	much danger	gritaram	they shouted
o seu barquinho	their little boat	apanharam-na	they caught it		



Language tips

Infinitive with Purpose - Para (Related words: **para nos alcançar, to reach us**)

Portuguese uses 'para' + infinitive to show purpose: 'para nos alcançar' means 'to reach us'. Same structure in English.

- para comer → to eat
- para estudar → to study
- para ajudar → to help

Continuar a + Infinitive (Related words: **continuaram a vir, they kept coming**)

Portuguese uses 'continuar a' + verb for ongoing actions. English uses 'keep' + -ing form: 'kept coming'.

- começou a chover → it started raining
- parou de falar → stopped talking
- continuei a andar → I kept walking

Indirect Object - Lhes (Related words: **atiraram-lhes, threw them**)

In 'atiraram-lhes', the pronoun 'lhes' (them) attaches to the verb. English says 'threw them' with the pronoun separate.

- dei-lhe → I gave him/her
- disseram-nos → they told us
- mostrei-te → I showed you

Direct Object - Na (Related words: **apanharam-na, they caught it**)

In 'apanharam-na', 'na' means 'it' (feminine). The pronoun refers back to 'corda' (rope), which is feminine in Portuguese.

- vi-o → I saw it/him
- encontrei-a → I found it/her
- comprámo-lo → we bought it

Portuguese

English



54. Um por um saltámos para o barco deles. **Estava** tão assustado que mal conseguia **mover-me**. Os marinheiros **tiveram de** me atirar como um saco de batatas. Aterrei com força e fiquei ali **a tremer**. O pequeno barco **estava** cheio de homens. A água **entrava** pelos lados.

54. One by one we jumped into their boat. I was so scared that I could hardly move. The sailors had to throw me like a sack of potatoes. I landed hard and stayed there trembling. The small boat was full of men. Water was coming in from the sides.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
um por um	one by one	me atirar	throw me	cheio	full
saltámos	we jumped	um saco de batatas	a sack of potatoes	de homens	of men
para o barco deles	into their boat	aterrei	i landed	a água	water
tão assustado	so scared	com força	hard	entrava	was coming in
mal conseguia	i could hardly	ali	there	pelos lados	from the sides
mover-me	move	a tremer	trembling		
tiveram de	had to	o pequeno barco	the small boat		



Language tips

Reflexive Pronoun - Mover-me (Related words: **mover-me, move**)

Portuguese 'mover-me' means 'to move myself'. The '-me' attaches to the infinitive. English just says 'move' without the reflexive.

- levantar-me → to get up
- sentar-me → to sit down
- deitar-me → to lie down

Ter de - Had to (Related words: **tiveram de, had to**)

Portuguese uses 'ter de' or 'ter que' to express obligation. English uses 'have to' or 'had to' in the past.

- tenho de ir → I have to go
- teve de esperar → he had to wait
- temos de estudar → we have to study

Pretérito Imperfeito - Was/Were + -ing (Related words: **estava, entrava, was, was coming in**)

Portuguese 'estava' and 'entrava' are in the imperfect past. This often translates to 'was/were + -ing' in English for ongoing past actions.

- falava → was speaking
- corria → was running
- chovia → it was raining

A tremer - Trembling (Related words: **a tremer, trembling**)

Portuguese uses 'a + infinitive' to show continuous action. 'A tremer' means 'trembling'. English uses the -ing form.

- a correr → running
- a chorar → crying
- a rir → laughing



55. Quinze minutos depois olhei para trás. O nosso navio **estava a ir** para baixo **das ondas**. O mar **engoliu-o** inteiro. Agora compreendia o que "afundar" significava. Toda a nossa carga, todos os nossos bens, tudo – foi para o fundo do mar. Tivemos sorte de estar vivos.

55. Fifteen minutes later I looked back. Our ship was going under the waves. The sea swallowed it whole. Now I understood what 'to sink' meant. All our cargo, all our goods, everything – went to the bottom of the sea. We were lucky to be alive.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
quinze minutos depois	fifteen minutes later	inteiro	whole	tivemos	we had
para trás	back	afundar	to sink	sorte	luck
estava a ir	was going	toda a nossa carga	all our cargo	de estar	to be
para baixo	under	todos os nossos bens	all our goods	vivos	alive
das ondas	the waves	foi	went		
engoliu-o	swallowed it	para o fundo do mar	to the bottom of the sea		



Language tips

Estar a + Infinitive (Related words: **estava a ir, was going**)

Portuguese uses 'estar a + infinitive' for continuous actions. 'Estava a ir' means 'was going'. Brazilian Portuguese uses 'estar + gerund' instead.

- estou a comer → I am eating
- estavam a dormir → they were sleeping
- está a chover → it's raining

Object Pronoun - Engoliu-o (Related words: **engoliu-o, swallowed it**)

Portuguese attaches object pronouns to verbs with a hyphen. 'Engoliu-o' means 'swallowed it'. The '-o' refers to the ship.

- vi-a → I saw her
- comprei-os → I bought them
- conhece-me → he knows me

Contraction - Das (Related words: **das ondas, the waves**)

Portuguese 'das' is a contraction of 'de + as' (of/from + the). It combines with feminine plural nouns like 'ondas' (waves).

- dos meninos → of the boys
- da casa → from the house
- das flores → of the flowers

Ter Sorte - To Be Lucky (Related words: **Tivemos sorte, We were lucky**)

Portuguese uses 'ter sorte' (literally 'have luck') where English says 'to be lucky'. Many Portuguese expressions use 'ter' where English uses 'to be'.

- tenho fome → I am hungry
- tem medo → he is afraid
- temos frio → we are cold



Portuguese

56. **Não conseguíamos** alcançar o navio de resgate. A tempestade era demasiado forte. **Por isso** remámos para a costa. **Demorou** horas. Cada onda tentava virar o nosso barco. Cada rajada de vento tentava afogar-nos. Pessoas na praia **viram-nos** a chegar. Correram para ajudar.

English

56. We couldn't reach the rescue ship. The storm was too strong. So we rowed towards the coast. It took hours. Each wave tried to turn our boat over. Each gust of wind tried to drown us. People on the beach saw us coming. They ran to help.

Portuguese	English
não conseguíamos	we couldn't
alcançar	reach
o navio de resgate	the rescue ship
demasiado forte	too strong
por isso	so
remámos	we rowed
para a costa	towards the coast
demorou	it took

Portuguese	English
horas	hours
cada onda	each wave
tentava	tried
virar	to turn
o nosso barco	our boat over
cada rajada	each gust
de vento	of wind
afogar-nos	to drown us

Portuguese	English
peessoas	people
na praia	on the beach
viram-nos	saw us
a chegar	coming
correram	they ran
para ajudar	to help



Language tips

Negative with Conseguir (Related words: **Não conseguíamos, We couldn't**)

Portuguese 'não conseguíamos' means 'we couldn't'. The negative 'não' comes before the verb, just like English 'not' in 'could not'.

- não posso → I can't
- não quero → I don't want
- não sei → I don't know

Por isso - Therefore/So (Related words: **Por isso, So**)

Portuguese 'por isso' means 'therefore' or 'so'. It literally translates as 'for this', showing cause and effect.

- por isso mesmo → that's exactly why
- e por isso → and so
- foi por isso que → that's why

Object Pronoun - Viram-nos (Related words: **viram-nos, saw us**)

In 'viram-nos', the '-nos' means 'us'. Portuguese attaches object pronouns to the verb. 'A chegar' shows what they saw us doing.

- ajudem-me → help me
- encontrou-te → found you
- conhece-los → knows them

Impersonal Use of Demorar (Related words: **Demorou, It took**)

Portuguese 'demorou' can mean 'it took' when talking about time. The subject 'it' is implied, not stated.

- custa 5 euros → it costs 5 euros
- vale a pena → it's worth it
- basta → it's enough



Portuguese

57. Finalmente, finalmente, **alcançámos** a costa. Homens puxaram o nosso barco para a areia. Estávamos salvos. Vivos. Caí **na praia** e não consegui levantar-me. Estava vivo mas **sentia-me** morto por dentro. Deus **salvou-me** mas porquê? Não merecia.

English

57. Finally, finally, we reached the coast. Men pulled our boat onto the sand. We were saved. Alive. I fell on the beach and couldn't get up. I was alive but I felt dead inside. God saved me but why? I didn't deserve it.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
alcançámos	we reached	para a areia	onto the sand	por dentro	inside
a costa	the coast	salvos	saved	salvou-me	saved me
homens	men	não consegui levantar-me	couldn't get up	porquê	why
puxaram	pulled	vivo	alive	não merecia	i didn't deserve it
o nosso barco	our boat	sentia-me	i felt		



Language tips

Past Tense - Alcançámos (Related words: **alcançámos, we reached**)

Portuguese 'alcançámos' means 'we reached'. The -ámos ending shows past tense for 'we'. English needs the pronoun 'we' plus the past verb 'reached'.

- falámos → we spoke
- chegámos → we arrived
- comprámos → we bought

Contraction - Na (Related words: **na praia, on the beach**)

Portuguese 'na' is a contraction of 'em + a' (in/on + the). English keeps these separate as 'on the'.

- no mar → in the sea
- nas ruas → in the streets
- na casa → in the house

Reflexive Verb - Sentia-me (Related words: **sentia-me, I felt**)

Portuguese 'sentia-me' (literally 'felt myself') translates to 'I felt' in English. The '-me' shows the action affects the speaker.

- levanto-me → I get up
- chamo-me → my name is
- sinto-me → I feel

Object Pronoun - Salvou-me (Related words: **salvou-me, saved me**)

In 'salvou-me', the '-me' means 'me'. Portuguese attaches object pronouns to the verb. English puts them after: 'saved me'.

- viu-me → saw me
- ajudou-te → helped you
- encontrou-nos → found us

Portuguese

English



58. As pessoas de Yarmouth foram muito bondosas. **Deram-nos** comida e roupas quentes. **Deram-nos** lugares para dormir. Os oficiais **da cidade** **deram-nos** dinheiro. **Podíamos** ir para Londres ou voltar para Hull. Trataram-nos como heróis mas eu **sentia-me** um tolo.

58. The people from Yarmouth were very kind. They gave us food and warm clothes. They gave us places to sleep. The city officials gave us money. We could go to London or return to Hull. They treated us like heroes but I felt like a fool.

Portuguese	English
as pessoas de yarmouth	the people from yarmouth
foram	were
muito bondosas	very kind
deram-nos	gave us
comida	food
roupas quentes	warm clothes

Portuguese	English
lugares	places
para dormir	to sleep
os oficiais	the officials
da cidade	from the city
podíamos	we could
ir	go

Portuguese	English
voltar	return
para hull	to hull
trataram-nos	they treated us
como heróis	like heroes
sentia-me	felt
um tolo	like a fool



Language tips

Contraction - Da cidade (Related words: **da cidade, from the city**)

'Da' is a contraction of 'de + a' (from + the). Portuguese contracts prepositions with articles, while English keeps them separate.

- do parque → from the park
- das casas → from the houses
- dos meninos → from the boys

Object Pronoun - Deram-nos (Related words: **Deram-nos, They gave us**)

Portuguese attaches 'nos' (us) to the verb. English puts the pronoun after the verb as a separate word.

- viram-me → they saw me
- ajudou-te → he helped you
- encontrámos-vos → we found you

Reflexive Verb - Sentia-me (Related words: **sentia-me, felt**)

Portuguese 'sentia-me' (literally 'I felt myself') translates to just 'I felt' in English. The reflexive pronoun changes the meaning.

- levanto-me → I get up
- chamo-me → my name is
- sinto-me → I feel

Imperfect vs Simple Past (Related words: **Podíamos, Deram-nos**)

'Podíamos' (imperfect) shows ongoing possibility in the past. 'Deram' (simple past) shows completed actions.

- eu falava → I was speaking
- eu falei → I spoke
- ele comia → he was eating



59. Agora era a minha oportunidade. **Devia** ir **para casa**. **Devia** cair aos pés **do meu pai** e pedir perdão. Ele **receber-me-ia** de volta. Como o filho pródigo na Bíblia ele mataria o bezerro gordo para mim. Pensava que eu estava morto. Que alegria ver-me vivo!

59. Now was my opportunity. I should go home. I should fall at my father's feet and ask for forgiveness. He would receive me back. Like the prodigal son in the Bible he would kill the fat calf for me. He thought that I was dead. What joy to see me alive!

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
a minha oportunidade	my opportunity	receber-me-ia	would receive me	o bezerro gordo	the fat calf
cair	fall	de volta	back	para mim	for me
aos pés	at the feet	o filho pródigo	the prodigal son	pensava	he thought
pedir	ask for	na bíblia	in the bible	que alegria	what joy
perdão	forgiveness	mataria	would kill	ver-me	to see me



Language tips

Contraction - Do meu pai (Related words: **do meu pai, of my father**)

'Do' combines 'de + o' (of + the). Portuguese always contracts these, while English keeps them separate.

- da minha mãe → of my mother
- dos nossos amigos → of our friends
- das suas ideias → of his/her ideas

Conditional - Receber-me-ia (Related words: **receber-me-ia, would receive me**)

The '-ia' ending shows conditional mood (would do). The pronoun 'me' is inserted between the verb stem and ending.

- ajudar-te-ia → would help you
- ver-nos-iam → they would see us
- dar-lhe-ia → would give him/her

Para casa vs Home (Related words: **para casa, home**)

Portuguese uses 'para casa' (literally 'to house') where English just says 'home' for going home.

- vou para casa → I'm going home
- em casa → at home
- de casa → from home

Subject Pronoun Omission (Related words: **Devia, I should**)

Portuguese often omits subject pronouns. 'Devia' alone means 'I should' - the verb ending tells us who.

- falo → I speak
- comes → you eat
- vivemos → we live

Portuguese 

English 



60. Mas **não fui** para casa. Porquê? **Não consigo** explicar. Algo escuro empurrava-me para a frente. A minha mente dizia **"Vai"** para casa!" Mas os meus pés não obedeciam. **Era** o destino? **Era** o Diabo? **Estava** amaldiçoado? Não sei. Só sei que **não fui** para casa.

60. But I didn't go home. Why? I can't explain. Something dark pushed me forward. My mind said "Go home!" But my feet didn't obey. Was it destiny? Was it the Devil? Was I cursed? I don't know. I only know that I didn't go home.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
não fui	i didn't go	dizia	said	o diabo	the devil
explicar	explain	vai	go	estava	was i
algo escuro	something dark	os meus pés	my feet	não sei	i don't know
empurrava-me	pushed me	não obedeciam	didn't obey	sei	i know
para a frente	forward	era	was it		
a minha mente	my mind	o destino	destiny		



Language tips

Negative Past - Não fui (Related words: **não fui, I didn't go**)

To make past tense negative in Portuguese, just add 'não' before the verb. English uses 'didn't' + base verb.

- não comi → I didn't eat
- não falou → he didn't speak
- não viemos → we didn't come

Imperative - Vai! (Related words: **Vai, Go**)

Portuguese 'vai' is a command form meaning 'go!' The imperative mood is used for giving orders or advice.

- come! → eat!
- fala! → speak!
- espera! → wait!

Ser vs Estar - Past Forms (Related words: **Era, Estava**)

'Era' (from ser) asks about permanent nature/destiny. 'Estava' (from estar) asks about temporary state of being cursed.

- era feliz → was happy (by nature)
- estava feliz → was happy (at that moment)
- era professor → was a teacher

Conseguir - Can/Manage (Related words: **Não consigo, I can't**)

'Conseguir' means 'to manage' or 'can' in the sense of being able to accomplish something, not permission.

- consigo nadar → I can swim
- não consegue dormir → can't sleep
- conseguimos terminar → we managed to finish



61. Depois **ficou** zangado. O filho dele **tinha-lhe contado** a minha história. "Que tipo de tolo foge de um bom pai? Que tipo de tolo deita fora uma vida confortável? Não navegaria **contigo** outra vez por mil libras! **Trazes** má sorte! **Causas** morte!"

61. Then he became angry. His son had told him my story. "What kind of fool runs away from a good father? What kind of fool throws away a comfortable life? I wouldn't sail with you again for a thousand pounds! You bring bad luck! You cause death!"

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
ficou	he became	foge	runs away	por mil libras	for a thousand pounds
o filho dele	his son	de um bom pai	from a good father	trazes	you bring
tinha-lhe contado	had told him	deita fora	throws away	má sorte	bad luck
a minha história	my story	uma vida confortável	a comfortable life	causas	you cause
que tipo de	what kind of	não navegaria	i wouldn't sail	morte	death
tolo	fool	contigo	with you		



Language tips

Ficar - Meaning 'Become' (Related words: **ficou, he became**)

Portuguese 'ficar' has many meanings. Here 'ficou zangado' means 'became angry', not 'stayed angry'. Context determines the meaning.

- ficou triste → became sad
- ficou em casa → stayed at home
- ficou feliz → became happy

Object Pronouns - Lhe (Related words: **tinha-lhe contado, had told him**)

Portuguese 'lhe' means 'to him/her'. It's attached with a hyphen in 'tinha-lhe contado' (had told him). English keeps these separate.

- disse-lhe → told him/her
- deu-me → gave me
- mostrou-nos → showed us

Contigo - Combined Pronoun (Related words: **contigo, with you**)

'Contigo' is a special Portuguese form meaning 'with you'. English uses two separate words, but Portuguese combines them.

- comigo → with me
- consigo → with him/her
- conosco → with us

Subject Omission - Trazes/Causas (Related words: **Trazes, You bring, Causas, You cause**)

Portuguese often omits subject pronouns. 'Trazes' and 'Causas' both mean 'You bring/cause' - the 'you' is understood from the verb ending.

- Falas → You speak
- Comes → You eat
- Vives → You live



Portuguese

62. As suas palavras **magoaram-me**. Mas **não disse nada**. **Tinha** demasiado orgulho para admitir que ele **tinha razão**. Continuou a falar. "Marca as minhas palavras. **Se não fores** para casa enfrentarás desastre após desastre. A maldição do teu pai seguir-te-á. Sofrerás até desejares estar morto."

English

62. His words hurt me. But I didn't say anything. I had too much pride to admit that he was right. He continued to speak. "Mark my words. If you don't go home you will face disaster after disaster. Your father's curse will follow you. You will suffer until you wish you were dead."

Portuguese	English
as suas palavras	his words
magoaram-me	hurt me
não disse nada	i didn't say anything
demasiado orgulho	too much pride
para admitir	to admit

Portuguese	English
marca	mark
as minhas palavras	my words
não fores	you don't go
desastre após desastre	disaster after disaster
a maldição	the curse

Portuguese	English
do teu pai	of your father
seguir-te-á	will follow you
sofrerás	you will suffer
desejares	you wish
estar	to be



Language tips

Reflexive Pronoun - Magoaram-me (Related words: **magoaram-me, hurt me**)

Portuguese 'magoaram-me' means 'hurt me'. The '-me' attaches to the verb, while English puts 'me' as a separate word after.

- ajudou-me → helped me
- viu-te → saw you
- encontraram-nos → found us

Double Negative - Não disse nada (Related words: **não disse nada, didn't say anything**)

Portuguese uses double negatives: 'não disse nada' (literally 'not said nothing'). English changes to 'didn't say anything'.

- não vejo ninguém → I don't see anyone
- não quero nada → I don't want anything
- não vou nunca → I never go

Ter Razão - To Be Right (Related words: **tinha, razão, was, right**)

Portuguese uses 'ter razão' (literally 'to have reason') to mean 'to be right'. English uses the verb 'to be' instead.

- tenho razão → I am right
- tens razão → you are right
- ele tem razão → he is right

Future Subjunctive - Se não fores (Related words: **Se, não fores, If, you don't go**)

Portuguese uses future subjunctive 'fores' after 'se' (if) for future possibilities. English just uses simple present 'don't go'.

- se puderes → if you can
- quando chegares → when you arrive
- se quiseres → if you want

Portuguese

English



63. **Separámo-nos.** Nunca mais os vi. Tinha dinheiro **no bolso** das pessoas bondosas de Yarmouth. **Podia** ir para casa para York. Ou **podia** ir para Londres e encontrar outro navio. A escolha era **minha.** Mas a vergonha tomou a minha decisão por mim.

63. We separated. I never saw them again. I had money in my pocket from the kind people of Yarmouth. I could go home to York. Or I could go to London and find another ship. The choice was mine. But shame made my decision for me.

Portuguese	English
separámo-nos	we separated
os vi	i saw them
no bolso	in my pocket
das pessoas bondosas	from the kind people
de yarmouth	of yarmouth

Portuguese	English
podia	i could
para york	to york
encontrar	find
a escolha	the choice
minha	mine

Portuguese	English
a vergonha	shame
tomou	made
por mim	for me



Language tips

Reflexive Verb - Separámo-nos (Related words: **Separámo-nos, We separated**)

Portuguese 'separámo-nos' means 'we separated'. The '-nos' (ourselves) attaches to the verb in Portuguese but is often omitted in English.

- levantámo-nos → we got up
- sentámo-nos → we sat down
- divertimo-nos → we had fun

Contraction - No bolso (Related words: **no bolso, in my pocket**)

Portuguese 'no' combines 'em + o' (in + the). English keeps these as separate words: 'in my pocket'.

- na mesa → on the table
- nos livros → in the books
- nas casas → in the houses

Imperfect Tense - Podia (Related words: **Podia, I could**)

Portuguese 'podia' expresses past ability or possibility. It translates to English 'could' or 'was able to'.

- podia falar → I could speak
- podias ir → you could go
- podíamos ver → we could see

Possessive Pronoun - Minha (Related words: **minha, mine**)

Portuguese 'minha' means 'mine' when used alone, or 'my' with a noun. It changes form based on gender: meu/minha.

- o meu → mine (masculine)
- a minha → mine (feminine)
- os meus → mine (plural)

Portuguese 

English 



64. Como podia ir para casa? Todos **rir-se-iam** de mim. "Ali está o rapaz **que** fugiu para o mar!" diriam. "Uma tempestade e veio **a chorar** para casa!" Não conseguia enfrentar **essa vergonha**. O meu orgulho era **mais forte que** o meu bom senso. Esta é a loucura da juventude.

64. How could I go home? Everyone would laugh at me. "There's the boy who ran away to sea!" they would say. "One storm and he came crying home!" I couldn't face that shame. My pride was stronger than my common sense. This is the folly of youth.

Portuguese	English
podia	could i
rir-se-iam	would laugh
de mim	at me
ali está	there's
o rapaz	the boy
fugiu	ran away

Portuguese	English
diriam	they would say
uma tempestade	one storm
veio	he came
a chorar	crying
não conseguia	i couldn't
enfrentar	face

Portuguese	English
essa vergonha	that shame
o meu orgulho	my pride
o meu bom senso	my common sense
a loucura	the folly
da juventude	of youth



Language tips

Conditional Tense - Rir-se-iam (Related words: **rir-se-iam, would laugh**)

Portuguese 'rir-se-iam' means 'they would laugh'. The reflexive pronoun 'se' goes in the middle of the conditional verb form.

- far-se-ia → it would be done
- dir-se-ia → one would say
- ver-se-ia → it would be seen

Infinitive After Verb - A chorar (Related words: **a chorar, crying**)

Portuguese uses 'a + infinitive' to express continuous action: 'veio a chorar' (came crying). English uses the -ing form.

- está a correr → is running
- veio a gritar → came shouting
- saiu a rir → left laughing

Demonstrative - Essa (Related words: **essa vergonha, that shame**)

Portuguese 'essa' means 'that' (near the listener). English doesn't distinguish between different types of 'that' like Portuguese does.

- este → this (near me)
- esse → that (near you)
- aquele → that (over there)

Comparative - Mais forte que (Related words: **mais forte, que, stronger, than**)

Portuguese uses 'mais + adjective + que' for comparisons. English uses 'adjective + -er + than' or 'more + adjective + than'.

- mais alto que → taller than
- mais bonito que → prettier than
- mais difícil que → more difficult than



65. Não temos vergonha de fazer mal. Mas temos vergonha de corrigir. Não temos vergonha de ser tolos. Mas temos vergonha de nos tornarmos sábios. **Por isso** fui para Londres. **Na estrada** lutei **comigo mesmo**. Mas o orgulho ganhou todos os argumentos.

65. We are not ashamed to do wrong. But we are ashamed to correct it. We are not ashamed to be foolish. But we are ashamed to become wise. That's why I went to London. On the road I fought with myself. But pride won all the arguments.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
não temos vergonha	we are not ashamed	de ser tolos	to be foolish	o orgulho	pride
de fazer mal	to do wrong	de nos tornarmos sábios	to become wise	ganhou	won
temos	we are	na estrada	on the road	todos os argumentos	all the arguments
vergonha	ashamed	lutei	i fought		
de corrigir	to correct it	comigo mesmo	with myself		



Language tips

Ter Vergonha - To Be Ashamed (Related words: **temos vergonha, we are ashamed**)

Portuguese uses 'ter vergonha' (literally 'have shame') where English says 'be ashamed'. This is a common pattern with emotions.

- tenho medo → I am afraid
- tem razão → you are right
- temos fome → we are hungry

Por Isso - Fixed Expression (Related words: **Por isso, That's why**)

Portuguese 'por isso' means 'that's why' or 'therefore'. It's always kept together as a fixed expression.

- por isso fui → that's why I went
- por isso disse → that's why I said
- por isso voltei → that's why I returned

Contraction - Na (Related words: **Na estrada, On the road**)

Portuguese 'na' is a contraction of 'em + a' (in/on + the). English keeps these separate as 'on the'.

- no carro → in the car
- na mesa → on the table
- nas ruas → in the streets

Reflexive - Comigo Mesmo (Related words: **comigo mesmo, with myself**)

Portuguese 'comigo mesmo' means 'with myself'. 'Comigo' is a special form that combines 'com' (with) + 'me' (me).

- contigo mesmo → with yourself
- consigo mesmo → with himself
- conosco → with us



66. Em Londres **fiquei** algum tempo. A memória **da tempestade** começou a desvanecer. O meu medo **ficou** mais fraco. O meu desejo de aventura **ficou** mais forte. **Pensei** menos **em casa**. **Pensei** menos **nas lágrimas** do meu pai. **Pensei** menos **nos avisos** de Deus.

66. In London I stayed some time. The memory of the storm began to fade. My fear became weaker. My desire for adventure became stronger. I thought less about home. I thought less about my father's tears. I thought less about God's warnings.

Portuguese	English
em londres	in london
algum tempo	some time
a memória	the memory
da tempestade	of the storm
começou	began

Portuguese	English
a desvanecer	to fade
mais fraco	weaker
o meu desejo	my desire
de aventura	for adventure
menos	less

Portuguese	English
em casa	about home
nos avisos	about the warnings
de deus	of god



Language tips

Contraction - Da (Related words: **da tempestade, of the storm**)

Portuguese 'da' is a contraction of 'de + a' (of/from + the). English keeps these separate as 'of the'.

- do livro → of the book
- das casas → from the houses
- dos meninos → of the boys

Ficar - Multiple Meanings (Related words: **fiquei, ficou**)

Portuguese 'ficar' can mean 'stay' or 'become' depending on context. Here it means both: 'I stayed' and 'became weaker'.

- fico em casa → I stay at home
- fico feliz → I become happy
- fica quieto → stay quiet

Pensar Em - Think About (Related words: **Pensei, em casa**)

Portuguese uses 'pensar em' (think in) where English says 'think about'. The preposition changes between languages.

- penso em ti → I think about you
- pensa no futuro → think about the future
- pensamos em viajar → we think about traveling

Contraction - Nas/Nos (Related words: **nas lágrimas, nos avisos**)

Portuguese 'nas' and 'nos' are contractions: 'em + as' and 'em + os'. English says 'in the' or 'about the'.

- nas ruas → in the streets
- nos livros → in the books
- nas casas → in the houses

Portuguese 

English 



67. Finalmente **tomei a minha decisão.**
Encontraria outro navio. **Tentaria** outra vez.
Provaria que não era um covarde. Mostraria a todos
 que podia ser marinheiro. Era o maior tolo que **alguma**
vez viveu. E pagaria caro **pela minha tolice.**

67. Finally I made my decision. I would find another
 ship. I would try again. I would prove that I was not a
 coward. I would show everyone that I could be a sailor. I
 was the greatest fool who ever lived. And I would pay
 dearly for my foolishness.

Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English	Portuguese	English
tomei	i made	mostraria	i would show	pagaria	i would pay
encontraria	i would find	a todos	everyone	caro	dearly
tentaria	i would try	ser marinheiro	be a sailor	pela minha tolice	for my foolishness
provaria	i would prove	o maior tolo	the greatest fool		
não era um covarde	i was not a coward	alguma vez viveu	ever lived		



Language tips

Tomar Decisão - Fixed Expression (Related words: **tomei, a minha decisão**)

Portuguese uses 'tomar uma decisão' (take a decision) where English says 'make a decision'. The verb choice differs between languages.

- tomar banho → take a bath
- tomar café → have coffee
- tomar cuidado → be careful

Conditional Tense - Would (Related words: **Encontraria, Tentaria, Provaria**)

Portuguese conditional endings (-ria, -rias, -ria) express 'would' in English. The subject pronoun is often omitted in Portuguese.

- falaria → I would speak
- comerias → you would eat
- viveriam → they would live

Contraction - Pela (Related words: **pela minha tolice, for my foolishness**)

Portuguese 'pela' is a contraction of 'por + a' (by/for + the). English keeps these separate as 'for the' or 'for my'.

- pelo trabalho → for the work
- pelas ruas → through the streets
- pelos livros → for the books

Alguma Vez - Ever (Related words: **alguma vez viveu, ever lived**)

Portuguese 'alguma vez' means 'ever' or 'at some time'. It's often used in questions and superlative statements.

- já alguma vez → have you ever
- nunca alguma vez → never ever
- alguma vez na vida → ever in life