

Absolute Beginner

Can Do Portuguese

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LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #1

How to Give Your Name

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#1

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Alex Andrade : Oi! Eu sou Alex. Prazer.
2. Susana Santos : Eu sou Susana. Prazer!

ENGLISH

1. Alex Andrade : Hi! I'm Alex. Nice to meet you.
2. Susana Santos : I'm Susana. Nice to meet you!

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
eu	I	pronoun	
sou	am	verb	
o meu	my	phrase	
é	is	verb	
nome	name	noun	masculine
prazer (Brazilian)	pleasure	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sou surfista. "I'm a surfer."	Sou americana. "I'm American."
Este é meu carro. "This is my car."	Este prédio é alto. "This building is tall."
O tapete é roxo. "The rug is purple."	Foi um grande prazer. "It was a great pleasure."
Prazer em te conhecer. "Pleasure to meet you."	Eu sou João Ferreira. Prazer em conhecê-la. "I am João Ferreira. Nice to meet you."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Introducing Yourself

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Eu sou {NAME}.
"I'm {NAME}."

To use this pattern, simply replace the {NAME} placeholder with your name.

Examples:

1. *Eu sou Susana.*

"I'm Susana."

2. *Eu sou Samuel.*

"I'm Samuel."

Let's break the pattern down.

First is ***Eu***. "I."

Next is ***sou***. "[I] am." *Sou* is from the verb *ser*, meaning "to be."

Next is the name, for example, *Susana*.

Variation

The variation pattern is:

O meu nome é {NAME}.
"My name is {NAME}."

Example:

- *O meu nome é Lilian.*

"My name is Lilian."

Let's break the pattern down.

This pattern uses the phrase ***O meu nome***, which means "My name."

Note: in this sentence, the article, *o*, does not have a corresponding English translation.

In Portuguese, possessive pronouns, like *meu*, "my,", *seu*, "your,", and so forth, often pair with an article, like the *o* in *o meu*.

Next is *é*, "is," as in "my name is." *É* is from the verb *ser*, meaning "to be."

Next is the name, for example, *Lilian*.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #2

How to Say Where You're From

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#2

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Alex Andrade : De onde você é?
2. Susana Santos : Eu sou da Flórida.

ENGLISH

1. Alex Andrade : Where are you from?
2. Susana Santos : I'm from Florida.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
eu	I	pronoun	
sou	am	verb	
de (Brazilian)	from	preposition	
australiano	Australian	noun	masculine
australiana	Australian (woman)	adjective	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sou surfista.	Sou americana.
"I'm a surfer."	"I'm American."
Nossa, o tempo fechou de ontem pra hoje, né?	A loja fica aberta a partir das 9 da manhã.
"Wow, the weather changed so much from yesterday."	"The store is open from 9 AM."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Saying Where You're From

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Eu sou de{CITY NAME}.
"I am from {CITY NAME}."

To use this pattern, simply replace the {CITY NAME} placeholder with the name of your hometown.

Examples:

1. *Eu sou de Flórida.*

"I am from Florida."

2. *Eu sou de São Paulo.*

"I am from São Paulo."

Let's break the pattern down.

First is **eu**, "I."

Next is **sou**, "[I] am." Note: *Sou* is from the verb *ser*, meaning "to be."

Next is **de**, "from."

Last is the **city name**, *Nova Iorque*.

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Eu sou {NATIONALITY}.

"I am {NATIONALITY}."

Example:

- *Eu sou australiana.*
"I'm Australian." (female speaker)

Instead of *de* plus the {CITY NAME} placeholder, you can use an adjective for your nationality. You can use this response to answer the question, *De onde você é?*

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #3

How to Talk About Your Nationality

CONTENTS

Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
Main
English
Vocabulary
Sample sentences
Grammar

#3

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Alex Andrade : Você é americana?
2. Susana Santos : Sim, eu sou americana.

ENGLISH

1. Alex Andrade : Are you American?
2. Susana Santos : Yes, I'm American.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
sim	yes	adverb	
eu	I	pronoun	
sou	am	verb	
americano	American	noun	masculine
americana	American (woman)	adjective	
brasileiro	Brazilian	noun	masculine
brasileira	Brazilian (feminine)	adjective	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sou surfista. "I'm a surfer."	Sou americana. "I'm American."
Meu amigo é americano. "My friend is American."	Eu não sou americano. "I am not an American."
Sou americana. "I'm American."	Ela é brasileira. "She is Brazilian."
A emancipação brasileira de Portugal foi em 1822. "The Brazilian emancipation from Portugal was in 1822."	Ela é brasileira. "She is Brazilian."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Talking about Your Nationality

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

***Eu sou* NATIONALITY.**
"I'm NATIONALITY."

To use this pattern, simply replace the nationality placeholder with your nationality.

Note: This pattern requires an adjective, and its gender will depend on the gender of the speaker.

Let's break the pattern down.

First is *eu*, "I."

After this is *sou*, "am." *Sou* is from the verb *ser*, meaning "to be."

Next is the nationality, such as *brasileira*.

Examples:

1. *Eu sou americana.*
"I'm American."
2. *Eu sou brasileiro.*
"I'm Brazilian."

Vocabulary

Didn't see yours in the lesson? Check out the Nationalities Vocabulary List! Click [here](#)!

Variation

The variation pattern is:

***Eu não sou* NATIONALITY, *sou* ACTUAL NATIONALITY.**
"I'm not NATIONALITY. I'm ACTUAL NATIONALITY."

Example:

- *Eu não sou japonesa, sou chinesa.*
"I'm not Japanese. I'm Chinese."

This can be shortened to:

***Não, eu sou* ACTUAL NATIONALITY.**

No, I'm ACTUAL NATIONALITY.

Example:

- *Não, eu sou chinesa.*
"No, I'm Chinese."

Language Tip

In Portuguese, nationality adjectives are always written with a lowercase letter.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #4

How to Talk About Your Occupation

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- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
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- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#4

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Susana Santos : Você é estudante?
2. Alex Andrade : Não, eu não sou estudante. Eu sou investidor.

ENGLISH

1. Susana Santos : Are you a student?
2. Alex Andrade : No, I'm not a student. I'm an investor.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
não (Brazilian)	no	adverb	
eu	I	pronoun	
sou	am	verb	
estudante (Brazilian)	student	noun	masculine
investidor	investor	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Eu não vou sair hoje. "I am not going out today."	Sou surfista. "I'm a surfer."
Sou americana. "I'm American."	Ele é estudante de medicina, mas o sonho dele na verdade era ser pintor. "He is a medical student, but his real dream was to be a painter."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Talking about Your Occupation

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Não, eu não sou {OCCUPATION}. Eu sou {ACTUAL OCCUPATION}.
"No, I'm not {OCCUPATION}. I'm {ACTUAL OCCUPATION}."

Examples:

1. *Não, eu não sou estudante. Eu sou investidor.*

"No, I'm not a student. I'm an investor."

2. *Não, eu não sou professora. Eu sou estudante.*

"No, I'm not a teacher. I'm a student."

Let's break the pattern down.

First is **não**, "no." It answers the yes-or-no question *Você é {occupation}?*, "Are you a {occupation}?"

After is **eu não sou**, "I'm not."

Sou is from the verb *ser*, meaning "to be."

Next is the **occupation name**, such as *estudante*, "student."

Last is **eu sou**, "I'm," followed by the **actual occupation name**, such as *investidor*, "investor."

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Não, eu sou {ACTUAL OCCUPATION}.

"No, I'm {ACTUAL OCCUPATION}."

Example:

- *Não, eu sou barista.*

"No. I'm a barista."

When directly responding to someone's question, you can simply answer **não**, meaning "no," to negate the incorrect statement. Then you can state your actual occupation.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Cultural Insight

In Portuguese, some occupations have the same word for both genders. For example, *estudante*.

However, much of the time, words will differ depending on gender.

In general, nouns that end in *-o* tend to be masculine, while nouns that end in *-a* tend to be feminine.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #5

How to Give Your Phone Number

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#5

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Sandra Silveira : O seu número de telefone, por favor.
2. Susana Santos : O meu número de telefone é (59) 98452-6822.

ENGLISH

1. Sandra Silveira : Your phone number, please.
2. Susana Santos : My phone number is (59) 98452-6822.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
número de telefone	phone number	phrase	masculine
é	is	verb	
número	number	noun	masculine
de (Brazilian)	of	preposition	
telefone	phone	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

meu número de telefone my phone number	Tem um número de telefone escrito em um guardanapo. There is a phone number written on a napkin.
número de telefone phone number	Este é meu carro. "This is my car."
Este prédio é alto. "This building is tall."	O tapete é roxo. "The rug is purple."
A cafeteira está cheia de café. The coffee pot is full of coffee.	Você tem um telefone? "Do you have a phone?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Giving Your Phone Number

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

O meu número de telefone é {PHONE NUMBER}.
My phone number is {PHONE NUMBER}.

Let's break the pattern down.

First is ***O meu número de telefone*** meaning "My phone number."

Next is ***é***, "is"

Last is the phone number.

Examples:

1. *O meu número de telefone é (59) 98452-6822 (cinco nove, nove, oito quatro cinco dois, meia oito dois dois).*

"My phone number is (59) 98452-6822."

2. *O meu número de telefone é (21) 99185-2399 (vinte e um, nove, nove um oito cinco, dois três nove nove).*

"My phone number is (21) 99185-2399."

Language Tip

When giving your number in Portuguese, say the area code once (made of two digits). Then, if it's a mobile phone number, which always starts with nine, "9", say it separately. Next, say the four digits that follow it, add a pause, and finally say the last four digits. The pause is where the hyphen is placed.

For example,

(21) 94488-6789: *vinte e um* [short pause], *nove* [short pause], *quatro quatro oito oito* [short pause] *meia sete oito nove*.

In case it's a regular phone number (not a mobile phone one), as it doesn't start with nine, "9", you can skip this step. The remaining steps follow the same pattern as informed in the example.

Vocabulary

Master the numbers with this [list](#).

Variation

The variation pattern is:

{PHONE NUMBER}.
{PHONE NUMBER}.

When directly responding to a request, it's often possible to omit *O meu número de telefone é*, "My phone number is." You can simply give your phone number.

Example:

- (51) 92122-5567 (*cinquenta e um, nove, dois um dois dois, cinco cinco meia sete*).
"(51) 92122-5567."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #6

How to Give Your Email Address

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#6

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Sandra Silveira : O seu e-mail, por favor.
2. Susana Santos : O meu e-mail é susana@innolang.com.

ENGLISH

1. Sandra Silveira : Your e-mail, please.
2. Susana Santos : My e-mail is susana@innolang.com.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
o meu	my	phrase	
e-mail	e-mail	noun	masculine
é	is	verb	
arroba	at sign	noun	feminine
ponto	dot	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

A pessoa está a usar um computador para escrever um e-mail. "The person is using a computer to write e-mail."	Este é meu carro. "This is my car."
Este prédio é alto. "This building is tall."	O tapete é roxo. "The rug is purple."
Ele desenhou três pontos. "He draw three points."	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Giving Your E-mail Address

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

***O meu e-mail é* E-MAIL ADDRESS.**
"My e-mail address is E-MAIL ADDRESS."

Let's break the pattern down.

Let's start with *e-mail*, "e-mail."

In Portuguese, all nouns have grammatical gender and are either singular or plural. *E-mail* is masculine and singular — a fact that determines the form of other words in the sentence.

Note, the official term for e-mail in Portuguese is *correio eletrônico*. However, *e-mail* is more widely used in everyday speech.

Before *e-mail* is *o meu*, a phrase meaning "my."

Let's start with *meu*, "my." *Meu* is masculine and singular to agree with *e-mail*. Before *meu* is the article, *o*. Think of it like "the" in English. *O* is also masculine singular to agree with *e-mail*. Note: in this sentence, the article, *o*, does not have a corresponding English translation.

In Portuguese, possessive adjectives, like *meu*, "my," *seu*, "your," and so forth, often pair with an article, like the *o* in *o meu*.

Next is *é*, "is," as in "My e-mail is..." *É* is from the verb *ser*, meaning "to be."

Last is the e-mail address.

Examples:

1. *O meu e-mail é susana@innolang.com* (*esse u esse á ene á arroba innolang ponto com*).
"My e-mail is susana@innolang.com."
2. *O meu e-mail é sandra@innolang.com* (*esse á ene dê erre á arroba innolang ponto com*).
"My e-mail is sandra@innolang.com."

Language Tip

When giving your e-mail address in Portuguese, if the domain name is well-known, you don't need to spell it out. For example, if your e-mail address has the domain "gmail," as in "gmail.com," you can just say, *gmail*.

Outside of well-known domain names, however, it will usually be necessary to spell it out.

Vocabulary

Find the required 1.1 vocabulary list [here](#).

Variation

The variation pattern is:

E-MAIL ADDRESS.

When directly responding to a request, it's often possible to omit part of the response.

Here by simply giving your e-mail address, there's no need to say *o meu e-mail é*, "My e-mail is."

Example:

- *jade@innolang.com.*
"jade@innolang.com."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #7

How to Use Basic Greetings

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- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#7

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Susana Santos : Bom dia, senhora Lopes.
2. Lilian Lopes : Bom dia, senhora Santos.
- 3.
4. Sabrina Santos : Boa tarde.
5. Lilian Lopes : Boa tarde.
- 6.
7. Sergio Santos : Boa noite, professora.
8. Lilian Lopes : Boa noite, Sérgio.

ENGLISH

1. Susana Santos : Good morning, Ms. Lopes.
2. Lilian Lopes : Good morning, Ms. Santos.
- 3.
4. Sabrina Santos : Good afternoon.
5. Lilian Lopes : Good afternoon.
- 6.
7. Sergio Santos : Good evening, teacher.
8. Lilian Lopes : Good evening, Sergio.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class
Bom dia. (Brazilian)	Good morning.	expression
Boa tarde. (Brazilian)	Good afternoon.	expression
Boa noite. (Brazilian)	Good evening.	expression
Olá	Hello!	sentence
Tudo bem?	How are you?	sentence

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Bom dia, tudo bom com a senhora?	Espero que você tenha uma boa tarde.
"Good morning, how are you madam?"	"I hope you have a good afternoon."
Boa noite mãe, eu vou dormir.	
"Good night mom, I'm going to sleep."	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Using Basic Greetings

Basic Greetings

Bom dia.
"Good morning."

Bom dia literally means "good day," but it translates as "good morning." This is the standard greeting during the morning.

Examples:

1. *Bom dia, senhora Lopes.*
"Good morning, Ms. Lopes."
2. *Bom dia, senhora Santos.*
"Good morning, Ms. Santos."

Boa tarde.
"Good afternoon."

Boa tarde is a common way to greet people in the afternoon. You can use it in formal and less formal situations.

Boa noite.
"Good evening."

Boa noite, literally means "Good night," but it translates as "good evening," in this context.

Note: *Boa noite* is a common way to greet people during the evening and at night, in both formal and less formal situations.

Note: *Boa noite* in Portuguese can also be understood as "good night," when you don't plan on seeing someone again that night and often when someone is about to go to bed. In this case, it's like saying "have a Good night's sleep."

Examples:

1. *Boa noite, professora.*
"Good evening, teacher."

2. *Boa noite, Sérgio.*
"Good evening, Sérgio."

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Oi!
"Hi!"

In informal situations, you can just use the greeting, *oi*, "hi," at any time of the day.

Oi is a very common greeting in Portuguese. However, it's only suitable for informal situations, such as when greeting friends or relatives. It translates as "hi," or "hello."

You may also come into contact with another similar greeting, *Olá*, which literally means "hello."

Oi is more common in Brazil, but you will also hear *Olá*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Cultural Insight

In Brazil, it's common to inquire about someone's well being after a greeting (either "Good morning," "Good afternoon," or "Good evening"). The most common way to inquire is "How are you?" *Tudo bem?*

For example: *Boa tarde, Ana, tudo bem?*, literally "Good afternoon, Ana! Is everything fine," but translating as, "Good afternoon, Ana! How are you?"

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #8

How to Use Parting Phrases and Expressions

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- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#8

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Susana Santos : Até mais.
2. Sabrina Santos : Boa noite.
3. Sergio Santos : Boa noite.
4. Fernanda Ferreira : Bom descanso.

ENGLISH

1. Susana Santos : See you soon.
2. Sabrina Santos : Good night.
3. Sergio Santos : Good night.
4. Fernanda Ferreira : Rest well.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class
Até mais. (Brazilian)	See you soon.	
Boa noite.	Good night.	expression
Bom descanso.	Rest well.	phrase
tchau (Brazilian)	bye	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Até amanhã.Até mais tarde.Até mais.

"See you tomorrow.See you later.See you soon."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Using Parting Phrases and Expressions

Parting Phrases and Expressions

Até mais.
"See you soon."

Até mais is fairly informal, indicating a close relationship between the speakers.

Boa noite.
"Goodnight."

You use *Boa noite*, "goodnight," as a parting greeting, when you don't plan on seeing someone again that night, and often when someone is about to go to bed. It's like saying "have a goodnight's sleep."

Bom descanso.
"Rest well."

Bom descanso literally means "good rest," but it translates as "Rest well."

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Tchau.
"Bye."

You can use this parting greeting any time of the day with strangers or friends.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #9

How to Use Essential Social Expressions

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- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
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- Cultural insight

#9

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Sabrina Santos : Com licença.
2. Victor Vieira : Sim?
- 3.
4. Victor Vieira : Muito obrigado.
5. Sabrina Santos : De nada.
- 6.
7. Victor Vieira : Desculpa.
8. Sabrina Santos : Não, tudo bem.

ENGLISH

1. Sabrina Santos : Excuse me.
2. Victor Vieira : Yes?
- 3.
4. Victor Vieira : Thank you very much!
5. Sabrina Santos : You're welcome.
- 6.
7. Victor Vieira : I'm sorry.
8. Sabrina Santos : No, it's alright.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class
com licença	excuse me	phrase
sim	yes	adverb
Muito obrigado.	Thank you very much.	expression
De nada.	You're welcome.	expression
Desculpa. (Brazilian)	I'm sorry.	expression
não (Brazilian)	no	adverb
Tudo bem. (European)	That's all right.	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Com licença, onde fica a estação de trem?	Desculpa, não foi a minha intenção.
"Excuse me, where is the train station?"	"I'm sorry, that wasn't my intention."
Eu não vou sair hoje.	
"I am not going out today."	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Using Essential Social Expressions

Essential Social Expressions

Com licença.

"Excuse me."

Com licença is used to get someone's attention, and translates as "Excuse me."

This expression is used in many types of situations, and fits well in addressing someone in a formal manner.

Sim?

"Yes?"

Sim? is used to acknowledge someone who is trying to get your attention.

Muito obrigado.

"Thank you very much."

Obrigado literally means "obliged" or "indebted," but translates as "thank you."

Note: *Obrigado* is an adjective. In Portuguese, adjectives must agree with the noun they modify. A female speaker should use the feminine adjective, *obrigada*, to talk about herself.

Muito obrigado is literally, "Very obliged," but it translates as "Thank you very much."

De nada.

"You're welcome."

De nada is the most common way of saying "You're welcome," and it can be used in all situations.

Desculpa.

"I'm sorry."

Desculpa is from the verb *desculpar*, meaning "to excuse."

Desculpa is a casual way to say "I'm sorry," and commonly used in everyday life. In many scenarios in Brazil, it's more appropriate than its formal counterpart, *Desculpe*.

You can use it in many types of situations, including apologizing for something you regret or something that you did, like accidentally bumping into someone.

Não, tudo bem.
"No, it's alright."

This is a common phrase used to express that things are alright.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Cultural Insight

Obrigado derives from the idea that one is "obliged [to thank (someone)]." It's actually a shortened version of *obrigado a retribuir o favor*, meaning "obliged to return the favor."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #10

How to Ask About Well-Being

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- Cultural insight

#10

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Susana Santos : Tudo bem?
2. Carlos Costa : Tudo bem, obrigado.

ENGLISH

1. Susana Santos : How are you?
2. Carlos Costa : I'm fine, thank you.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
Tudo bem?	How are you?	sentence	
tudo (Brazilian)	everything	noun	
bem (Brazilian)	well	adjective	masculine
senhor (Brazilian)	sir, mr., lord	noun	masculine
senhora	ma'am	noun	feminine
Obrigado.	Thank you.	sentence	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ele bebeu tudo.	Tudo bem?
"He drank everything."	"How are you?"
Ela canta bem.	Tudo Bem.
"She sings well."	"I'm fine."
O senhor precisa de ajuda?	Senhor, você precisa de uma ajuda?
"Would you like some help, sir?"	"Sir, do you need some help?"
Eu posso trazê-lo para a senhora?	
"Can I bring it to you, ma'am?"	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking about Well-Being

Asking about Well-Being

Tudo bem?
"How are you?"

First is *tudo*, "everything."

Next is *bem*, "well."

Tudo bem is literally "[Is] everything well?" but translates as "How are you?" in this context. The rising intonation marks that it's a question: *Tudo bem?*

To increase the formality, address the person with a title. For example, if you are talking to a man:

Tudo bem com o senhor?
"How are you, sir?"

This starts with *Tudo bem*, "[Is] everything well?"

Next is *com o senhor*. This starts with *com*, "with." Next is *o senhor*, literally "the sir." It translates as "sir" in this context. Note: the article, *o*, does not have a corresponding English translation.

Tudo bem com o senhor? literally means "[Is] everything well with sir?" but translates as "How are you, sir?"

To address a female speaker, use *a senhora*, "ma'am."

Tudo bem com a senhora?
"How are you, ma'am?"

How to Respond

Tudo bem, obrigado.
"I'm fine, thank you."

First is *tudo*, "everything."

Next is *bem*, "well." *Tudo bem* is literally "everything well," but translates as "I'm fine," in this context.

Last is *obrigado*, which literally means "obliged" or "indebted," but translates as "thank you." Note: *Obrigado* is an adjective. In Portuguese, adjectives must agree with the noun they modify. The above example uses the masculine adjective, *obrigado*. A female speaker would use the feminine adjective, *obrigada*, to talk about herself.

Vocabulary

Learn even MORE ways to ask and answer "How are you?" with this Phrase List. Click [here](#)!

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Como vai a senhora?
"How are you, ma'am?"

First is *como*, "how."

Next is *vai*, which translates as "are," as "how are [you]," in this context. Note: *vai*, literally means "goes," as in "[he] goes," or "[she] goes," depending on the gender of the person being addressed. *Vai* is from the verb *ir*, meaning "to go." *Ir*.

Last is *a senhora*, "ma'am."

Como vai a senhora? is literally "How does ma'am go?" but it translates as "How are you, ma'am?"

To address a male, use *o senhor*, "sir."

Como vai o senhor?
"How are you, sir?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Cultural Insight

When responding to a question about your wellbeing, you can use the opportunity to inquire about the other person's wellbeing:

Tudo bem, e você?
"I'm fine, and you?"

E você? means "And you?" Note: as *você*, "you," is informal, this expression is appropriate for informal situations.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #11

How to Ask for Clarification

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#11

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Adriano Araujo : Oi! Eu sou Adriano. Prazer.
2. Sabrina Santos : Você pode repetir, por favor?
3. Adriano Araujo : Eu sou Adriano.

ENGLISH

1. Adriano Araujo : Hi! I'm Adriano. Nice to meet you.
2. Sabrina Santos : Can you repeat that, please?
3. Adriano Araujo : I'm Adriano.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
você	you	pronoun	neutral
repetir	repeat	verb	neutral
Por favor. (Brazilian)	Please.	expression	
devagar (Brazilian)	slow, slower	adverb	
não (Brazilian)	no	adverb	
entendi (Brazilian)	understood	adverb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

A mulher está a sorrir para você. "The woman is smiling at you."	Eu vou falar uma palavra e você vai repeti-la em inglês. I will say a word, and you will repeat it in English.
repetir a palavra repeat the word	Por favor, você pode me trazer um pouco de água? "Please, can you bring me some water?"
Ela come bem devagar. "She eats very slowly."	Eu não vou sair hoje. "I am not going out today."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking about Clarification

Key Patterns

The key pattern to ask for clarification in an informal situation is

Você pode repetir, por favor?
"Can you repeat that, please?"

First is *você*, meaning "you," in this context.

Note: in Brazilian Portuguese *você* is used when addressing someone in a casual conversation.

Next is *pode*, meaning "can," as in you are able. *Pode* is from the verb *poder*, "to be able to."

Next is *repetir*, "repeat." *Repetir* is a verb, meaning "to repeat," in its infinitive form.

Last is *por favor*, "please."

The key pattern to ask for clarification in a formal situation is

Poderia repetir, por favor?
"Could you repeat that, please?"

Note the following changes in the formal form.

First, we omit *você* as it's an informal way of addressing someone.

Second, *poderia*, replaces *pode*. *Poderia* means "could," and is from the verb *poder*, "to be able to."

Variations

The variation patterns are

Você pode falar mais devagar?
"Can you speak more slowly?"

and

Não entendi.
"I didn't understand."

Literally, *Não entendi* means "not understood," but it translates as "I didn't understand," or "I don't understand."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #12

How to Ask for a Word in Portuguese

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#12

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Sabrina Santos : Como se diz "book" em português?
2. Paula Pereira : Se diz "livro."

ENGLISH

1. Sabrina Santos : How do you say 'book' in Portuguese?
2. Paula Pereira : You say 'book'.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
como (Brazilian)	how	adverb	
se diz	one says	reflexive verb	
em (Brazilian)	in, on, at	preposition	
português (Brazilian)	Portuguese	noun	masculine
livro (Brazilian)	book	noun	masculine
caneta (Brazilian)	pen	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Como se diz...	Como se usa isto?
how do you say...	How do you use this?
Me explica como usar o controle remoto.	Como vai?
"Explain to me how to use the remote control."	"How are you?"
Como se diz "computer" em português?	Ele está em casa.
"How do you say 'computer' in Portuguese?"	"He is at home."
Prazer em conhecê-lo.	Como se diz "computer" em português?
"Nice to meet you." / "Pleasure to meet you."	"How do you say 'computer' in Portuguese?"

Adoro estudar português. É minha matéria preferida. "I love studying Portuguese. It's my favorite subject."	Este livro é muito engraçado. "This book is pretty funny."
A história de um livro pode dar origem à um filme. "A plot of a book can lead to a movie."	Esse livro é de quem? "Whose is that book?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking How to Say Something in Portuguese

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Como se diz* ENGLISH WORD *em português?
 "How do you say ENGLISH WORD in Portuguese?"

This is the standard way to ask for the meaning of a word in Portuguese.

Let's break the pattern down.

First is *como*, "how."

Next is *se diz*, literally "one says."

Se, roughly translating as "one," as in "one says." Next is *diz*, "says," as in "one says." *Diz* is from the verb, *dizer*, meaning "to say."

After this is the English word, "book."

Last is the phrase, *em português*, meaning "in Portuguese."

This lesson introduces a grammatically complex, but commonly used, pattern: the impersonal form with *se*. The *se*-construction is used to express what people do in general, rather than point to a specific person.

The pattern is ***se* plus a verb in the third person.**

Examples:

1. *Como se diz "book" em português?*
 "How do you say 'book' in Portuguese?"
2. *Como se diz "pen" em português?*
 "How do you say 'pen' in Portuguese?"

How to answer the question

***Se diz* PORTUGUESE WORD.**
"You say PORTUGUESE WORD."

Examples:

1. *Se diz "livro."*
"You say 'book'."
2. *Se diz "caneta."*
"You say 'pen'."

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Como se chama isto?
"What do you call this?"

This literally means, "How [does] one call this," but it translates as "What [do] you call this?"

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #13

How to Talk About Your Hobbies

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#13

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Adriano Araujo : Qual é o seu hobby?
2. Sergio Santos : Eu gosto de pescar.

ENGLISH

1. Adriano Araujo : What's your hobby?
2. Sergio Santos : I like fishing.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class
eu	I	pronoun
gosto	like	verb
de (Brazilian)	of	preposition
nadar (Brazilian)	swimming	verb
cozinhar	cooking	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Eu gosto de ervilha. "I like peas."	Eu gosto de filmes de ação. "I like action movies."
A cafeteira está cheia de café. The coffee pot is full of coffee.	Aprendi a nadar quando eu era pequena. "I learned to swim when I was a child."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Talking about Your Hobbies

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

***Eu gosto de* ACTIVITY.**
"I like ACTIVITY."

Let's break the pattern down.

First is *eu*, "I."

Next is *gosto*, "like." *Gosto* is from the verb *gostar*, meaning "to like." Together, *eu gosto* means, "I like."

Next is *de*, literally, "of," but here is part of grammatical structure. Note, there is no corresponding English translation.

Next is the activity you like.

To use this pattern, simply replace the ACTIVITY placeholder with an activity you like to do.

Note: the placeholder is a verb and must be placed in the infinitive, or, in other words, the dictionary form.

Examples:

1. *Eu gosto de pescar.*
"I like fishing."

2. *Eu gosto de nadar.*
"I like swimming."

Asking about Someone's Hobby

Qual é o seu hobby?
"What's your hobby?"

Let's break the question down.

Let's start with *o seu hobby*, "your hobby." *Hobby* is masculine and singular — a fact which will determine the form of other words in the sentence.

Moving to the start of the sentence, *qual*, literally "which," but it translates as "what," in this context. Note: *qual* is also singular to agree with *hobby*.

Next is *é*, "is," as in "what is..." *É* is from the verb *ser*, meaning "to be."

All together, it's *Qual é o seu hobby?* literally "Which is your hobby," but it translates as "What's your hobby?"

Vocabulary

Find the required 1.1 vocabulary list [here](#).

Didn't see your hobby in the lesson? Check the Common Leisure Activities Vocabulary List! Click [here](#)!

Variation

The variation pattern is:

{ACTIVITY}.

Example:

- *Cozinhar.*
"Cooking."

Note, a verb phrase, like *jogar futebol*, "play soccer," also works in this pattern.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #14

How to Give an Opinion About the Weather

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#14

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Susana Santos : Hoje está quente, né?
2. Andreia Araujo : É verdade.

ENGLISH

1. Susana Santos : It's hot today, isn't it?
2. Andreia Araujo : Indeed.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class
hoje	today	adverb
está (Brazilian)	is	verb
quente	hot	adjective
né (Brazilian)	isn't it	contraction
frio	cold	adjective
tão (Brazilian)	so	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

prato quente hot plate	bebida quente hot drink
Isto está muito quente, por isso não toque. This is really hot, so don't touch it.	O sol está esquentando o deserto quente. "The sun is heating the hot desert."
Pizza é saudável, né? "Pizza is healthy, isn't it?"	Esse apartamento é muito quente, né? "This apartment is very hot, isn't it?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Making Small Talk about the Weather

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Hoje está {WEATHER CONDITION}, né?
"It's {WEATHER CONDITION} today, isn't it?"

To use this pattern, simply replace the WEATHER CONDITION placeholder with the current weather condition.

Note: This pattern requires an adjective.

Examples:

1. *Hoje está quente, né?*
"It's hot today, isn't it?"
2. *Hoje está frio, né?*
"It's cold today, isn't it?"

Linguistic Tip

Another informal way of talking about the weather in Brazilian Portuguese is by using exclamations.

1. *Que calor!*
"How hot!" (Literally, "What heat!")
2. *Que frio!*
"How cold!"

Using exclamations is meant to elicit a response from the listener.

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Está tão {WEATHER CONDITION}!
"It's so {WEATHER CONDITION}!"

First is *está*, "[It] is."

Next is *tão*, translating as "so," in this context. Simply add it in front of the adjective to express a high degree of intensity.

Last is the weather condition. Note: This pattern requires an adjective.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #15

How to Talk About Basic Weather Conditions

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#15

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Fernanda Ferreira : Como está o tempo?
2. Susana Santos : Está chovendo.

ENGLISH

1. Fernanda Ferreira : How is the weather?
2. Susana Santos : It's raining.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
está (Brazilian)	is, are	verb	
chovendo	rainy	adjective	
tempo (Brazilian)	weather	noun	masculine
ensolarado	sunny	adjective	masculine
em (Brazilian)	in, on, at	preposition	
São Paulo (Brazilian)	São Paulo	proper noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ela está com dor de dente. "She has a toothache."	Você está pronta? "Are you ready?"
Esse tempo está horrível. "This weather is horrible."	Ele está em casa. "He is at home."
Prazer em conhecê-lo. "Nice to meet you." / "Pleasure to meet you."	Como se diz "computer" em português? "How do you say 'computer' in Portuguese?"
São Paulo é a maior metrópole do Brasil. "São Paulo is the largest metropolis in Brazil."	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Talking about the Weather

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Está {WEATHER CONDITION}.
"It's {WEATHER CONDITION}."

Está is from the verb *estar*, meaning "to be."

To use this pattern, simply replace the WEATHER CONDITION placeholder with a suitable word that describes a weather condition.

Note: This pattern requires a gerund form to complete the present continuous verb tense.

Examples:

1. *Está chovendo.*
"It's raining."
2. *Está nevando.*
"It's snowing."

How to Ask about the Weather

Como está o tempo?
"How is the weather?"

First is *como*, "how" in this context.

Next is *está*, "is." Note: *está* is from the verb *estar*, meaning "to be."

Next is *o tempo*, "the weather."

Variation

Está chovendo em São Paulo.
"It's raining in Sao Paulo."

The phrase, *em São Paulo*, "in Sao Paulo," establishes Sao Paulo as the location.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Cultural Insight

In daily conversations, it's common for Brazilians to use *tá*, an abbreviated form of *está*. Applying this to the line for "How is the weather?"

Como está o tempo? becomes ***Como tá o tempo?***

Applying the same change to the response, "It's raining,"

Está chovendo, becomes ***Tá chovendo***.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #16

How to Talk About Your Parents and Siblings

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#16

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Paula Pereira : Esta é a sua família?
2. Sabrina Santos : Sim, esta é a minha família. O meu pai, a minha mãe, o meu irmão, a minha irmã e eu.

ENGLISH

1. Paula Pereira : Is this your family?
2. Sabrina Santos : Yes, this is my family. My father, my mother, my brother, my sister, and me.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
sim	yes	adverb	
esta	this	demonstrative	feminine
é (Brazilian)	is	verb	
minha	my, mine	possessive	feminine
família	family	noun	feminine
meu	my	pronoun	masculine
pai	father	noun	masculine
mãe	mother	noun	feminine
irmã	sister	noun	feminine
irmão	brother	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Esta é nossa cozinha. "This is our kitchen."	Ali estão minhas caixas. "Just over there are my boxes."
É minha casa. "It's my house."	Essa laranja é minha. "That orange is mine."
O pai regressa a casa. "The father returns home."	A mãe está a ligar para a sua filha. "The mother is calling her daughter."

As irmãs encontraram algumas flores.

"The sisters found some flowers."

O irmãos estão a tomar banho à noite.

"The brothers are bathing in the evening. "

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Talking about Your Parents and Siblings

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Esta é a minha família. {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER} e eu.

"This is my family. {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER} and me."

To use this pattern, simply replace the FAMILY MEMBER placeholders with the members of your family. Note: this pattern requires a noun preceded by the corresponding article and possessive adjective.

Let's break the pattern down:

First is *Esta é a minha família*, "This is my family."

Next is the list of the family members, with the appropriate word for "my." Remember that the word for "my" is *meu* when your family member is male and *minha* when the family member is female.

Last is *e eu*, "and me."

Examples:

1. *Esta é a minha família. O meu pai, a minha mãe, o meu irmão, a minha irmã e eu.*
"This is my family. My father, my mother, my brother, my sister, and me."
2. *Esta é a minha família. O meu pai, a minha mãe, o meu irmão e eu.*
"This is my family. My father, my mother, my brother, and me."

Linguistic Tip

In Portuguese possessive adjectives, like *sua*, "your," and *minha*, "my," are often paired with an article, like *a* in *a sua família*, "your family," and *a* in *a minha família*, "my family."

Variation

Esta é a minha família. Eu e os meus pais.

"This is my family. Me and my parents."

The phrase, *os meus pais*, means, "my parents." Remember, in Portuguese, all nouns have grammatical gender and are either singular or plural. *Pais* is masculine and plural — a fact which determines the form of other words in the sentence.

Meus is masculine and plural to agree with *pais*. Before *meus* is the article *os*. Think of it like "the" in English. *Os* is also masculine and plural to agree with *pais*.

Note: in this sentence, the article *os* does not have a corresponding English translation.

Moving to the front of the sentence, *eu*, "me" in this context.

After this is *e*, "and."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #17

How to Talk About Your Spouse and Children

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#17

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Lilian Lopes : Esta é a sua família?
2. Susana Santos : Sim, esta é a minha família. O meu esposo, o meu filho, as minhas filhas e eu.

ENGLISH

1. Lilian Lopes : Is this your family?
2. Susana Santos : Yes, this is my family. My husband, my son, my daughters, and me.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
esta	this	demonstrative	feminine
é (Brazilian)	is	verb	
família	family	noun	feminine
minha	my, mine	possessive	feminine
esposa	wife	noun	feminine
filha	daughter	noun	feminine
meu	my	pronoun	masculine
esposo	husband	noun	masculine
filho	son	noun	masculine
e (Brazilian)	and	conjunction	masculine
eu	I	pronoun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Esta é nossa cozinha. "This is our kitchen."	Ali estão minhas caixas. "Just over there are my boxes."
É minha casa. "It's my house."	Essa laranja é minha. "That orange is mine."
Esta é a esposa dele. "That is his wife."	A mãe está a ligar para a sua filha. "The mother is calling her daughter."

A esposa está abraçando o esposo.	Meu marido querido está cozinhando para mim.
The wife is hugging the husband.	My beloved husband is cooking for me.
Meu esposo trabalha numa empresa multinacional.	A Renata vai à aula e depois vai direto pro show.
"My husband works at a multinational company."	"Renata will go to class and then straight to the show."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Talking about Your Spouse and Children

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Esta é a minha família. {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER} e eu.
 "This is my family. {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER}, {FAMILY MEMBER} and me."

Let's break the pattern down.

First is *Esta é a minha família.*, "This is my family."

Next is the list of the family members, with the appropriate word for "my." Remember that the word for "my" is *meu* when your family member is male, *meus* when there is a group of male family members, and *minha* when the family member is female, *minhas* when there is a group of female family members.

Last is *e eu*, "and me."

Examples:

1. *Esta é a minha família. O meu esposo, o meu filho, as minhas filhas e eu.*
 "This is my family. My husband, my son, my daughters, and me."
2. *Esta é a minha família. A minha esposa, o meu filho, a minha filha e eu.*
 "This is my family. My wife, my son, my daughter, and me."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #18

How to Indicate Objects with the Help of Gestures

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#18

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Sergio Santos : Isto, por favor.
2. Tulio Teixeira : Aqui está.

ENGLISH

1. Sergio Santos : This, please.
2. Tulio Teixeira : Here it is.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
isto	this	pronoun	neuter
isso (Brazilian)	that	demonstrative	
aquilo	that	demonstrative pronoun	
estes	these	demonstrative	masculine
aqueles	those, those over there	demonstrative	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

O que é isto?	Isto serve para abrir garrafas.
"What's this?"	"This is to open bottles."
O que você quis dizer com isso?	Isso por favor.
"What did you mean by that?"	"That please."
Aquilo foi ruim.	Estes sapatos são meus.
"That was bad."	"These shoes are mine."

Aqueles homens são músicos.

"Those men over there are musicians."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking for Something at a Store

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

ITEM, por favor.
"ITEM, please."

To use this pattern, simply replace the ITEM placeholder with the thing you want.

Note: This pattern requires a demonstrative pronoun.

Examples:

1. *Isto, por favor.*
"This, please."
2. *Aquilo, por favor.*
"That, please."

Language Tip

The phrases, *Isto, por favor*, and *Aquilo, por favor* can be used to refer to an item without knowing its name in Portuguese.

If you don't know the name of an item, and consequently its gender, you can use *isto*, "this," and *aquilo*, "that."

Aquilo, "that," is used to refer to something which is very far from both the speaker and listener.

Note: *isso* means "that." *Isso* is used to indicate something located near the listener, as opposed to something located near the speaker, *isto*.

	Close to speaker	Close to the listener	Far from both
singular	<i>isto</i>	<i>isso</i>	<i>aquilo</i>

For plural forms, when you don't know the name, and consequently its gender, you can use *estes*, "these," and *aqueles*, "those."

Note: *estes*, "these," and *aqueles*, "those," are the masculine.

Gender	Number	Close to speaker	Far from both
Masculine	singular	<i>este</i>	<i>aquele</i>
	plural	<i>estes</i>	<i>aqueles</i>

Aqui está.

Aqui está.

"Here it is."

First is *aqui*, "here."

Next is *está*, "[it] is." Note: *está* is from the verb *estar*, meaning "to be."

Variation

The variation pattern is:

ITEM e ITEM, por favor.

"ITEM and ITEM, please."

When requesting multiple items, you can join them with the conjunction, *e*, meaning "and."

Example:

- *Isto e aquilo, por favor.*
"This and that, please."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #19

How to Ask If a Store Has a Specific Item

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- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#19

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Sergio Santos : Com licença, você tem sal?
2. Tulio Teixeira : Tenho sim, fica aqui.

ENGLISH

1. Sergio Santos : Excuse me, do you have salt?
2. Tulio Teixeira : Yes, I do. Here it is.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
com licença	excuse me	phrase	
você	you	pronoun	neutral
tem (Brazilian)	have	phrase	neutral
sal	salt	noun	masculine
leite	milk	noun	masculine
onde	where	adverb	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Com licença, onde fica a estação de trem?	A mulher está a sorrir para você.
"Excuse me, where is the train station?"	"The woman is smiling at you."
sal marinho	uma pitada de sal
sea salt	a dash of salt
sal de mesa	Passe o sal.
table salt	Pass the salt.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking If a Store Has Something in Stock

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

Com licença, você tem ITEM?
"Excuse me, do you have ITEM?"

To use this pattern, simply replace the ITEM placeholder with the thing you're looking for.

Note: This pattern requires a noun.

Let's break the pattern down.

First is *com licença* literally "with consent," but it translates as "excuse me."

Next is *você tem*, "you have." Note: in Brazilian Portuguese *você* is used when addressing someone in a casual conversation. *Tem* is from the verb *ter*, meaning "to have."

Note: *você*, "you," is always followed by a verb in the third person singular, as in *Você tem*, literally, "you has," but translates as "you have."

Next is the item, for example *sal* or *leite*.

Examples:

1. *Com licença, você tem sal?*
"Excuse me, do you have salt?"
2. *Com licença, você tem leite?*
"Excuse me, do you have milk?"

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Onde fica ITEM?
"Where is ITEM?"

First is *Onde*, "where."

Next is *fica*, "[it] is" in this context. *Fica* is from the verb *ficar*, literally "to stay," or "to be situated."

After this is, the item, for example, *o açúcar*, "the sugar."

To use this pattern, simply replace the ITEM placeholder with the thing you're looking for.

Note: This pattern requires a noun phrase.

Example:

- *Onde fica o açúcar?*
"Where is the sugar?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Cultural Insight

Com licença, "Excuse me," can be used in a variety of situations, for example, to get someone's attention in a polite way or pass someone by in a crowded place.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #20

How to Ask How Much Something Is

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#20

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Sergio Santos : Quanto custa isto?
2. Tulio Teixeira : Custa dois reais.

ENGLISH

1. Sergio Santos : How much does this cost?
2. Tulio Teixeira : It costs two reais.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
quanto (Brazilian)	how much	pronoun	
custa	costs	verb	
isto	this	pronoun	neuter
café (Brazilian)	coffee	noun	masculine
reais (Brazilian)	Brazilian currency	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Quanto custa?	Isto custa um real.
"How much does it cost?"	"This costs one real."
O que é isto?	Isto serve para abrir garrafas.
"What's this?"	"This is to open bottles."
No Brasil, quase todo mundo toma muito café bem doce várias vezes ao dia. "In Brazil, almost everyone drinks a lot of very sweet coffee many times a day."	O Brasil é um grande produtor de café. "Brazil is a great coffee producer."
Um café, por favor.	
"One coffee please."	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking the Price of Something

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

***Quanto custa* ITEM?**
"How much does ITEM?"

Quanto means "how much," in this context.

Custa means "costs" as in "this costs." *Custa* is from the verb *custar*, "to cost."

You can use *isto*, "this," while pointing at something near you. It's useful when you want to refer to something you don't know the word for in Portuguese. Note: when naming specific items, you'll need to use the correct corresponding article. For example, *um café*.

To use this pattern, simply replace the ITEM placeholder with the thing you'd like to know the price of. Note: This pattern requires a noun phrase.

Examples:

1. *Quanto custa isto?*
"How much does this cost?"
2. *Quanto custa um café?*
"How much does a coffee cost?"

Language Insight

In Portuguese, there are two types of articles: definite (like English "the") and indefinite (like "a" or "an"). Here we'll look at the use of indefinite articles.

When referring to a general item, like "a coffee," use the indefinite article which varies based on the noun's gender: **um** for masculine nouns and **uma** for feminine.

For instance, *um café* means "a coffee," and *uma garrafa d'água* means "a bottle of water."

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Quanto custa?
"How much [does it] cost?"

When asking the price of something, and it's understood what you're speaking about, for example, when asking by pointing at something, you can omit the subject.

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #21

How to Order at a Restaurant

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#21

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Samuel Santos : Com licença. O cardápio, por favor.
2. Victor Vieira : É pra já.

ENGLISH

1. Samuel Santos : Excuse me, the menu, please.
2. Victor Vieira : Yes, immediately.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
com licença	excuse me	phrase	
cardápio (Brazilian)	menu	noun	masculine
conta	check	noun	feminine
Por favor. (Brazilian)	Please.	expression	
carta de vinhos	wine list	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Com licença, onde fica a estação de trem?	Por favor, pode me trazer o cardápio?
"Excuse me, where is the train station?"	"Can you bring the menu, please? "
Por favor, você pode me trazer um pouco de água?	
"Please, can you bring me some water?"	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Ordering Something at a Restaurant

Key Patterns

The key pattern is:

Com licença. ITEM, por favor.
"Excuse me, ITEM, please."

To use this pattern, simply replace the ITEM placeholder with the object you are requesting.

Note: This pattern requires a noun phrase.

Examples:

1. *Com licença. O cardápio, por favor.*

"Excuse me, the menu, please."

2. *Com licença. A conta, por favor.*

"Excuse me, the check, please."

Language Insight

In Portuguese, there are two types of articles: definite (like English "the") and indefinite (like "a" or "an").

Here we'll look at the use of definite articles.

When specifically referring to something, such as when asking for "the menu," use the definite article which varies based on the noun's gender: **o** for singular masculine nouns and **a** for singular feminine nouns.

For example:

o cardápio, "the menu"

a conta, "the bill"

Variation

Com licença. Um café, por favor.

"Excuse me, a coffee, please."

Here the speaker is referring to a coffee, a general item, so they use an indefinite article. *Um café*, "a coffee."

The indefinite article for singular masculine nouns is *um*, and for singular feminine nouns, *uma*. For example: *uma garrafa d'água*, "a bottle of water."

LESSON NOTES

Can Do Portuguese for Absolute Beginners #22

How to Order Multiple Items From a Menu

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Main
 - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Grammar

#22

DIALOGUE - BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

MAIN

1. Victor Vieira : O que você vai querer?
2. Susana Santos : Dois deste, por favor.

ENGLISH

1. Victor Vieira : O que você vai querer?
2. Susana Santos : Dois deste, por favor.

VOCABULARY

Portuguese	English	Class	Gender
que	what	pronoun	
você	you	pronoun	neutral
querer	want	verb	
dois	two	numeral	masculine
três	three	numeral	masculine
quatro	four	numeral	masculine
um (Brazilian)	one	numeral	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

A mulher está a sorrir para você. "The woman is smiling at you."	Eu quero roupas novas. I want new clothes.
Ele quer comida chinesa, mas ela quer italiana. He wants Chinese food, but she wants Italian.	querer bolo want cake
Eles querem comprar uma casa nova e um carro novo. They want to buy a new house and a new car.	Os funcionários do escritório querem o donut. The office workers want the doughnut.
O funcionário do escritório queria o donut. The office worker wanted the doughnut.	O funcionário do escritório quer o donut. The office worker wants the doughnut.

Os funcionários do escritório queriam o donut. The office workers wanted the doughnut.	Eu tenho dois (2) braços e duas (2) pernas. I have two (2) arms and two (2) legs.
Dois ingressos, por favor. Give me two tickets, please.	As férias de inverno têm duração de duas semanas. Winter vacation is two weeks long.
duas semanas de duração two weeks long	dois ingressos two tickets
número dois number two	dois graus two degrees
O número dois é meu número favorito. The number two is my favorite number.	Eu vou me formar em dois anos. "I will graduate in two years."
Eu perdi os dois parafusos. "I lost both screws."	Você tem três opções. You have three options
três opções three options	número três number three
três graus three degrees	O primeiro grupo chega no ônibus número três. The first group arrived on bus number three.
São três horas agora. It is three o'clock now.	Há sete dias em uma semana e quatro semanas em um mês. There are seven days in one week, and four full weeks in a month.
número quatro number four	quatro graus four degrees
rodovia de quatro pistas four-lane motorway	quatro esquinas four corners
Novembro é um dos quatro meses com trinta dias. November is one of four months with thirty days.	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Ordering Two or More of Something

Key Pattern

The key pattern is:

QUANTITY *deste, por favor.*
"QUANTITY of these, please."

To use this pattern, simply replace the QUANTITY placeholder with the number of the item you're requesting.

Note: This pattern requires a number.

Examples:

1. *Dois deste, por favor.*
"Two of these, please."
2. *Três deste, por favor.*
"Three of these, please."

Language Insight

The pattern, QUANTITY *deste, por favor*, can be used to order an item without knowing its name, and consequently its gender, in Portuguese.

If you know the name of an item, and also its gender, you can use the appropriate gender, and number.

Variation

The variation pattern is:

Dois deste e um desse.
"Two of these and one of those."

When pointing out multiple items, you can join them with the conjunction *e*, meaning "and."

Also, in colloquial Portuguese, it's common to drop *por favor*, "please," at the end of a request.



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