

Portuguese – Pre-Intermediate (b)



Who is the course for?

Those who have had a reasonable grasp of Portuguese e.g. minimum Pre-Intermediate (a), and want to continue expanding knowledge and competency.

What skills, knowledge or experience do I need to start this course?

You have a grasp of:

- Telling simple stories and relate events in sequence
- Making and responding to invitations
- Giving advice
- Giving instructions and explaining how to use something
- Understanding simple narration
- Understanding and following instructions
- Responding appropriately in certain social situations
- Reading a simple story
- Reading various sets of instructions
- Reading some authentic materials from newspapers / magazines

What will the course cover?

Practical language to enable you to communicate on a visit to the country: asking for goods and services in everyday situations, understanding basic written information, holding a simple conversation with a native speaker. You'll learn more grammar as you cover topics including Talking about your Past Experiences, Being Polite, Comparing, Describing Change, Money, Shopping, Obligation, Telephoning, What's it Called? Above all, you will gain more confidence to express yourself. We also aim to further stimulate your interest in and knowledge of the cultures of Portuguese speaking people.

What should I be able to do by the end of the course?

Each student will have a list of CAN DO STATEMENTS which they are aiming to achieve by the end of the course. These cover Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing:

- Can compare and contrast ideas and describe change.
- Can talk about past experiences.
- Can describe objects in detail.
- Can understand and use polite requests appropriately.
- Can understand rules and regulations.
- Can read and get a general understanding of labels/information on everyday supermarket products
- Can recognise and generally understand simple written rules and regulations.
- Can read some and understand a CV or description of a person's life experience.
- Can write a simple set of rules
- Can write a variety of notes

How is the course organised?

We use course books, handouts, worksheets; audio and videotapes, 'realia' (eg real menus etc). You will be encouraged to speak as much as possible in class, to work in small groups and pairs, to take an active part in your learning; and each lesson, to work on the four skills: listening (and understanding), speaking, reading and writing.

What extra study or practice is expected outside of the class?

Reviewing and learning what has been done in the class. Preparing for your next class (homework might be set). For best results, try hard to spend 15 minutes everyday doing some kind of language practice: listen to a tape, watch a video, read a bit, repeat, learn sentences/words by heart.

How will my progress be assessed?

You will be encouraged to assess your own progress with help from your tutor, who will monitor your achievements by question and answer, some written work, quizzes, questionnaires, games and more formal achievement tests. You and your tutor will keep referring to the CAN DO statements you are aiming to achieve by the end of the course.

What can I expect to go on to after this course?

Portuguese Intermediate (a)