

Learning Portuguese

A1



Your first step to speak,
understand and enjoy Portuguese

Your first steps in Portuguese.

Try the book before you buy. This sample includes the opening pages, the full contents, Unit 1 and its answer key, exactly as they appear in the complete book.

01

Get ready

Alphabet, spelling and how to use the book

02

Olá, Portugal!

The complete first unit, with 12 activities

03

Check your answers

Solutions and model answers for Unit 1

A note about navigation

The printed page numbers and full contents have been kept. Chapters and reference pages outside this sample are available in the complete book; their links lead to the final page of this sample. Website links and QR codes have been retained.

EUROPEAN PORTUGUESE

Learning Portuguese

A1

European Portuguese
for English-speaking learners

Daniel Cardoso

Learning Portuguese A1

Português europeu · European Portuguese

Second edition, revised and updated

Texto e projeto · Text and concept

Daniel Cardoso

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This book brings together language practice and the characters of the Learning Portuguese animated series. Episode excerpts and scenes created for the book are identified in the relevant units.

Audio and video resources are accessible through the QR codes and linked titles. In a digital copy, select the linked title to open the resource.

Personal answers may vary. The answer key includes models for open activities.

A1 · LEARN THROUGH STORIES

Learning Portuguese.

Real words.
Shared stories.
Your next conversation.

With the Learning Portuguese
animated series



20 units · 240 activities

Stories, vocabulary, grammar, culture and everyday practice

Letras e primeiros sons.

Alphabet, spelling and your first listening routine

Use Portuguese letter names to spell a name. A letter name is not the sound that the letter makes in every word.

A a	á	J j	jota	S s	esse
B b	bê	K k	capa	T t	tê
C c	cê	L l	ele	U u	u
D d	dê	M m	eme	V v	vê
E e	é	N n	ene	W w	duplo vê
F f	efe	O o	ó	X x	xis
G g	guê	P p	pê	Y y	ípsilon
H h	agá	Q q	quê	Z z	zê
I i	i	R r	erre		

Common names in Portugal are shown. You may also hear gê for G, cá for K, dáblío for W and i grego for Y. Ç is cê cedilhado; accents and ç are not extra letters.

Ask someone to spell a name

Como se escreve? How is it spelt?

Pode soletrar, por favor? Can you spell it, please?

Maria: eme, á, erre, i, á.

Now try your own name

Write your name, then say its letters using the table. With a partner, ask for a name, write what you hear and check it together. Alone, spell Maria, cover the example and write the name again.

Hear the phrase, then say it

Open **Meeting the Family**, linked in unit 1. Listen for **Olá, sou a Maria!** and **Tudo bem?** Pause and repeat each whole phrase, following its rhythm. Use printed page **133** for stress, nasal sounds and reduced vowels.



Daniel Cardoso

Professor de português europeu
Criador de Learning Portuguese

Daniel Cardoso is a European Portuguese teacher and the creator of Learning Portuguese.

His book, animated series and learning materials connect the language with characters and everyday situations: meeting a neighbour, sharing a meal, finding a place and starting a conversation.

This book brings those stories into a structured path for beginners, with vocabulary, grammar, cultural notes and opportunities to practice.

Uma conversa de cada vez.

One conversation at a time.

DEDICATED TO...

Seven.

Your quiet companionship helped more than words ever could.

A note from Daniel.

This manual was created with a clear goal: to make European Portuguese accessible to English-speaking learners through practical, structured, and honest content.

It wasn't produced by a team or a company; it was built carefully, one step at a time, by someone who knows what it feels like to start from scratch, to learn with limited resources, and to try to create something that matters.

If this book helps you understand Portuguese more clearly, feel more confident speaking it, or even just feel a little more curious about the language and culture, then it has served its purpose.

Thank you for reading and for trusting this journey.

Daniel Cardoso

Como usar este livro.

How to use this book.

Before unit 1: use *Letras e primeiros sons* near the front of this book and the pronunciation guide on page 133. Practise spelling your name.

01 · Lê a cena

Read for meaning. Series excerpts come from episodes; Dialogue excerpts come from the audio library. A Book-only scene is new practice with the same characters.

02 · Estuda palavras e regras

Collect words in useful groups. Study a grammar pattern, then cover the models before trying the activities.

03 · Escreve e conversa

Return to the illustration for Look & say. Use the mission to write, speak and change a detail. Alone, play both roles.

04 · Revê o que aprendeste

Recorda as unidades anteriores means “Review earlier units”. Answer before checking the solutions. In unit 1, Recorda o vocabulário reviews that unit’s words.

Quatro etapas de aprendizagem.

1. Units 1–5 · Meet people & find your feet
2. Units 6–10 · Connect people, actions & time
3. Units 11–15 · Make your meaning precise
4. Units 16–20 · Complete a practical exchange

For each listening task: hide the transcript; listen for the situation, replay for the requested details, then check the transcript. Repeat one useful phrase aloud.

The written activities and their solutions are in this book. QR codes and linked titles open the audio or video needed for listening. Short Portuguese answers are welcome; open tasks have models, not one compulsory wording.

Answer key

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Quick reference

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Audio & video

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From hello to everyday life.

Units 01–10

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BUILD YOUR DAY

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More of your world.

Units 11–20

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EVERYDAY PORTUGUESE

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UNIT 01 · MEETING PEOPLE

Olá, Portugal!

A first hello can open a whole conversation.

SERIES EXCERPT

JOÃO

Bem-vindos a Portugal! Boa tarde! Eu sou o João!

HANS

Olá! Eu sou o Hans!

ANNA

Boa tarde, senhor João! Eu sou a Anna.
Prazer em conhecê-lo!

JOÃO

E tu? Como te chamas?

LUKAS

O meu nome é Lukas.

Bem-vindos = welcome · E tu? = And you? · prazer = pleasure



LOOK & SAY

Be Lukas. Greet João and introduce yourself. Then ask his name politely.

Return here after the unit.

01 · Meet the characters

Use the excerpt. Answer in Portuguese; short answers are enough.

a. Quem recebe a família?

b. Como se chama o menino?

c. Que cumprimento (greeting) indica que é de tarde?



Video & transcript

Meeting João

Episode 1 · Part 1

Resource index · pp.
139–141

Diz olá.

Meeting people

HELLO & GOODBYE

olá
hello

bom dia
good morning

boa tarde
good afternoon

boa noite
good evening / good night

até logo
see you later

até amanhã
see you tomorrow

adeus
goodbye

KIND WORDS

por favor
please

obrigado/a
thank you

desculpe
excuse me (polite)

com licença
excuse me (passing)

de nada
you're welcome

muito prazer
nice to meet you

KEEP TALKING

sim
yes

não
no

o nome
name

o apelido
surname

tudo bem?
all well?

02 · Match the greeting

Cover the word list. Write the Portuguese expression.

- good morning → _____
- goodbye → _____
- please → _____
- see you tomorrow → _____

03 · Choose a social phrase

Cover the word list. Use: de nada · boa noite · muito prazer · até logo. You may reuse a phrase.

- Someone thanks you. _____
- You meet someone for the first time.

- You greet someone in the evening. _____

ESCOLHE · CHOOSE

One word to use today.

RECORDA · RECALL

Cover it. Write it again.

USA · USE

Make a short phrase.

GRAMMAR · UNIT 01

Eu sou. Chamo-me.

Notice the pattern. Cover the models. Make your own sentence.

Names and people

Eu sou a Anna. = I am Anna. Tu és o João. = You are João. Ele é o Lukas. = He is Lukas. Ela é a Anna. = She is Anna. Eu, tu, ele and ela are subject pronouns; the verb often makes the subject clear.

Chamar-se: say your name

Chamo-me Lukas. = My name is Lukas. Ask a friend: Como te chamas? Ask politely: Como se chama? In these simple positive statements, the pronoun follows the verb: chamo-me. After como in this question it comes before: Como te chamas?

I eu sou	you (informal singular) tu és	he / she ele / ela é
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Learn these as whole phrases first. In Portuguese, a name often has an article: o João, a Anna. The article is also sometimes omitted.

04 · Choose sou, és or é

Complete each sentence.

- Eu _____ o Lukas.
- Tu _____ a Anna.
- Ela _____ a Maria.
- Ele _____ o João.

05 · Choose the question

Write A or B. A = Como te chamas? B = Como se chama?

- Ask a new adult politely. _____
- Ask a child informally. _____
- Ask a friend informally. _____

A TUA FRASE YOUR SENTENCE

Write one sentence with a pattern from this page. Say it again with one detail changed.

PRATICAR · UNIDADE 01

Cumprimenta e apresenta-te.

Greet and introduce yourself. Write longer answers in your notebook.

06 · Understand the meaning

Choose A, B, C or D for each item.

a. Queres saber o nome. O que perguntas?

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| A) Como estás? | B) Como te chamas? |
| C) De onde és? | D) Quantos anos tens? |

b. “Até amanhã.”

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| A) See you later. | B) See you tonight. |
| C) See you tomorrow. | D) See you soon. |

07 · Repair the conversation

Replace the incorrect verb.

- a. Eu és a Maria. → _____
- b. Tu sou o João. → _____
- c. Ela sou a Anna. → _____

08 · Respond in Portuguese

Write a suitable response. More than one wording is possible.

- a. Give your name: you are Sara.

- b. Say that you are well and thank the person.

- c. Say goodbye to someone you will see tomorrow. _____

09 · Record a vocabulary

Cover the vocabulary. Write in Portuguese.

- a. good evening / good night → _____
- b. excuse me (polite) → _____
- c. nice to meet you → _____

Check on page 111. Say one corrected sentence. Try it again in a few days without looking.

YOUR MISSION · UNIT 01

Your first conversation.

Greet someone and say goodbye.

FIRST WORDS

Plan with the unit phrases. Say it once with help, then again with the page covered.

greeting → your name → ask a name → goodbye

10 · Escreve uma apresentação

Write a four- to six-line first meeting with two speakers. Include a greeting, names, a name question and a goodbye.

11 · Cumprimenta e apresenta-te

Use your written conversation with a partner, or play both roles. Cover it and meet again with different names. Finish with a suitable goodbye.

12 · Ouve a pergunta da Sofia

Listen to Meeting the Family (E1 · Part 3; resource index). After saying her name, Sofia asks a short friendly question. Write that question in Portuguese.



[Meeting the Family · E1 · Part 3](#)

CULTURE & EVERYDAY USAGE

A friendly first contact

Olá works in many everyday situations. Bom dia, boa tarde and boa noite make the time of day explicit. Tu is informal. To sound polite, you can ask Como se chama? without saying você.

Circle how you did it · With a model / With keywords / Without notes

One detail I can change: _____ Date: _____

Olá, Portugal!

Check the pattern, not only the final word.

01 · Meet the characters

O João; Lukas; Boa tarde.

02 · Match the greeting

Bom dia; adeus; por favor; até amanhã.

03 · Choose a social phrase

De nada; muito prazer; boa noite. These respond to thanks, a first meeting and an evening greeting.

04 · Choose sou, és or é

sou; és; é; é.

05 · Choose the question

B; A; A.

06 · Understand the meaning

a B: Como te chamas? asks for a name. b C: amanhã means tomorrow; the other options refer to different times.

07 · Repair the conversation

Eu sou a Maria. Tu és o João. Ela é a Anna.

08 · Respond in Portuguese

Examples: Chamo-me Sara / Sou a Sara; Estou bem, obrigada; Até amanhã. Obrigado is valid for a male speaker.

09 · Record a vocabulary

Boa noite; desculpe; muito prazer.

10 · Writing — one possible model

A: Olá! Sou a Sara. Como te chamas? B: Chamo-me Rui. Muito prazer! A: Até logo, Rui! B: Até logo!

11 · Speaking — success check

Complete these functions: greeting → your name → ask a name → goodbye. Then change a detail. Natural equivalent wording is valid.

12 · Listening

Tudo bem? Sofia asks this after saying her name.

Look & say · one possible response

Example: Boa tarde! Chamo-me Lukas. Como se chama? Other suitable greetings and name phrases are valid.

Answers follow the printed order. Open tasks accept other natural wording. Revisit one answer and make a new example without the model.

Keep the conversation going.

You have reached the end of the sample, or followed a link to a section that is only included in the complete book.

20

units

240

activities

A1

beginner level

Continue with everyday conversations, vocabulary and grammar, guided practice and answer keys. The complete book also includes pronunciation guidance, a final check and an index of the linked audio and video resources.

European Portuguese with explanations in English.

[Explore the complete book](#)

learningportuguese.pt/book

[Back to Unit 1](#)