

Unit 9

Programming

Pronunciation

1. Review these words.

noite ()x ()x

sete ()x ()x

2. We have suggested that you pronounce these words with a ch-type sound.

noite ()x ()x

sete ()x ()x

3. However, you will hear many Portuguese speakers say these words with a t sound.

noite ()x ()x

sete ()x ()x

4. Here are some additional words that can be said with a ch or a t. On the tape we are using the ch. Do not be concerned about the meaning of these words. Just follow along and mimic.

gaste ()x ()x dente ()x ()x

goste ()x ()x sente ()x ()x

bate ()x ()x vinte ()x ()x

bote ()x ()x antes ()x ()x

sorte ()x ()x

forte ()x ()x

5. Here is an example from the upcoming dialog, the word for 'this.'

este ()x ()x

6. Here is another example from the dialog, the expression 'likewise.'

igualmente ()x ()x

7. Now review the following words.

dia ()x ()x

tarde ()x ()x

onde ()x ()x

pode ()x ()x

pretende ()x ()x

8. The above words are commonly said with a j-type sound
the j of 'jeep' or the dg of 'fudge.'

dia ()x

tarde ()x

onde ()x

pode ()x

pretende ()x

9. You will often hear the above words said with a d-type sound.

dia ()x

tarde ()x

onde ()x

pode ()x

pretende ()x

10. Here are some additional words that can be said with either a j sound or a d sound. On the tape we are using the j sound.

grande	()x	diga	()x
mande	()x	diurno	()x
vende	()x	diálogo	()x
rende	()x	disso	()x
balde	()x		
pede	()x		

11. Here is an example from the dialog of this unit, the word 'city.'

cidade ()x ()x

12. The word de, meaning 'from' or 'of,' also has the j-type sound, but normally only when it is part of a longer phrase. You will hear it in the dialog in the question De onde?, meaning 'From where?'

De onde? ()x ()x

13. You will also hear it in the response Sou de ..., meaning 'I am from'

Sou de ... ()x ()x

DIALOGSandra

o amigo
meu
o meu amigo
este

Yara, este é o meu amigo
Bill.

the friend
my
my friend
this

Yara, this is my friend
Bill.

Bill

o prazer
muito prazer

Muito prazer.

the pleasure
much pleasure

Glad to meet you.

Yara

igualmente
americano

Igualmente. O senhor é americano?

equally, likewise
American

Likewise. Are you an American?

Bill

sou

Sou, sim.

I am (I-form of 'being')

Yes, I am.

Yara

de
de onde

De onde o senhor é?

of, from
from where

Where are you from?

Bill

sou de
Sou de Nova Torque.

I am from
I am from New York.

Yara

da
a cidade
Da cidade?

from the
the city
From the city?

Bill

do
o estado
Não, do estado.

from the
the state
No, from the state.

A LOOK AT THE GRAMMAR

Practice Exercises

Classification of Nouns: Gender

All Portuguese nouns can be grouped into two categories. Traditionally these two categories have been labeled 'masculine' and 'feminine', and all nouns are said to have either 'masculine' gender or 'feminine' gender. We will use this traditional terminology, but we must quickly point out that other labels such as 'x' and 'y' or 'black' and 'white' might do just as well, since in the case of most nouns masculinity and femininity have nothing whatsoever to do with their classification. Such items as 'house', 'wheel', 'ear', 'motivation' and 'fame' are all classifiable together as feminine nouns, even though femininity, as we normally think of the term, is not a characteristic of any of them. Similarly, 'program', 'eye', 'car', 'shoe' and 'book' fall together in the 'masculine' category, although there is really nothing masculine about any of them.

In the case of nouns referring to people (and many animals) the classifications generally do correspond to the sex of the person (or animal) referred to. This is certainly reassuring, because it would seem strange indeed to us if 'brother', 'uncle', 'nephew' and 'bull' were not masculine, if 'sister', 'aunt', 'niece' and 'cow' were not feminine, and if 'student', 'teacher' and 'cat' could not be either one.

It is wise to keep in mind, nevertheless, that it is not the item or the person that is classified as masculine or feminine; it is the noun itself. Native speakers know what classification a noun falls into. They don't struggle over the decision. Of course they have the advantage of having grown up with the language, so that for them gender selection is pretty much automatic. We English speakers must make a deliberate and conscious effort to sort out the nouns according to their gender.

Fortunately, it is often not nearly so difficult as it may seem to identify a noun as being masculine or feminine. The exercises that follow will show you some of the things to look for.

Practice 1: (Recorded)

Listen to the following group of familiar nouns. They are all feminine.

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1. () () | 5. () () |
| 2. () () | 6. () () |
| 3. () () | 7. () () |
| 4. () () | 8. () () |

Notice that all of these nouns end in an unstressed a sound.

Practice 2: (Recorded)

Here are the same feminine nouns again. This time you should repeat them aloud.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. ()x ()x | 5. ()x ()x |
| 2. ()x ()x | 6. ()x ()x |
| 3. ()x ()x | 7. ()x ()x |
| 4. ()x ()x | 8. ()x ()x |

It is helpful to know that most nouns that end in an unstressed a sound are feminine.

Practice 3: (Recorded)

Now listen to the following group of familiar nouns. All of these are masculine.

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1. () () | 5. () () |
| 2. () () | 6. () () |
| 3. () () | 7. () () |
| 4. () () | |

You have probably noticed that all of these nouns end in an unstressed u sound.

Practice 4: (Recorded)

Here are the same masculine nouns again. This time you should repeat them aloud.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. ()x ()x | 5. ()x ()x |
| 2. ()x ()x | 6. ()x ()x |
| 3. ()x ()x | 7. ()x ()x |
| 4. ()x ()x | |

It is helpful to know that most nouns that end in an unstressed u sound are masculine.

Observation

Probably 80% of all nouns in Portuguese end either with an unstressed a sound or an unstressed u sound. Since most of those that end in an unstressed a sound are feminine, and most of those that end in an unstressed u sound are masculine, it will pay you to be extra alert to the presence of these two sounds at the ends of nouns.

You may notice that with some speakers the unstressed u at times seems to be a bit more like an unstressed o. Just accept this as one more of the many variations to be found in Portuguese.

Practice 5: (Recorded)

Listen to the following group of nouns. Some of them you have heard before, and some are new to you. Indicate which are feminine and which are masculine by making a check in the appropriate column in the chart below. The answers are at the end of this unit.

	<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
1.	()	()
2.	()	()
3.	()	()
4.	()	()
5.	()	()
6.	()	()
7.	()	()
8.	()	()
9.	()	()
10.	()	()
11.	()	()
12.	()	()
13.	()	()
14.	()	()
15.	()	()
16.	()	()
17.	()	()
18.	()	()
19.	()	()
20.	()	()
21.	()	()
22.	()	()
23.	()	()
24.	()	()
25.	()	()
26.	()	()

Observation

The gender of the noun determines how we will say 'the (+ noun)'. That is, there is one way to say 'the' if the noun is masculine, another if the noun is feminine. We refer to this as gender agreement. The word for 'the' agrees in gender with the noun that it accompanies.

Practice 6: (Recorded)

The following items on the tape all say 'the (something feminine)'. Listen and repeat.

1. () ()x ()x
2. () ()x ()x
3. () ()x ()x
4. () ()x ()x
5. () ()x ()x
6. () ()x ()x
7. () ()x ()x

Practice 7: (Recorded)

The following items all say 'the (something masculine)'. Listen and repeat. Several of the items are new to you.

1. () ()x ()x
2. () ()x ()x
3. () ()x ()x
4. () ()x ()x
5. () ()x ()x
6. () ()x ()x
7. () ()x ()x

Practice 8: (Recorded)

You will hear a series of nouns on the tape. After each one decide quickly if it is masculine or feminine; then say, in Portuguese, 'the (noun)'. Be sure the gender of 'the' agrees with the noun. Your response will be confirmed.

(1-22)

Practice 9: (Recorded)

Learn to say these items in Portuguese. Do them in order.

1. the car
2. He wants the car.
3. the house
4. He wants the house too.
5. He wants the car and the house.
6. the table
7. He wants the table too.
8. When is the party?
9. The party is tomorrow.
10. Where is the food?
11. The food is on the table.
12. We're going to avoid the traffic.
13. Do you know the girl?
14. Do you know the American?
15. Do you know Yara?*
16. Do you know Paulo?*
17. Yara* wants to talk with me.
18. Paul* wants to talk with me.
19. Santos* is in New York.

Observation

English 'the' and its Portuguese counterparts are traditionally referred to as the definite articles. English 'a' or 'an' and their Portuguese equivalents are called the indefinite articles. This is useful terminology.

Just as the gender of a noun determines how we say the definite article, so does it determine how we say the indefinite article. That is, the indefinite article is said one way if the noun is masculine, and another way if the noun is feminine. This is another manifestation of gender agreement. Observe this in the following practices.

*Portuguese frequently uses the word 'the' in front of names.

Practice 10: (Recorded)

The following items on the tape all say 'a/an (something feminine)'. Listen and repeat.

1. () ()x ()x
2. () ()x ()x
3. () ()x ()x
4. () ()x ()x
5. () ()x ()x
6. () ()x ()x
7. () ()x ()x

Practice 11: (Recorded)

The following items on the tape all say 'a/an (something masculine)'. Just listen this time. Do not repeat yet.

1. () ()
2. () ()
3. () ()
4. () ()
5. () ()
6. () ()

Observation

The masculine definite article 'the' and the masculine indefinite article 'a/an' sound somewhat similar. The difference is a matter of nasalization. 'A/an' is nasalized and 'the' is not nasalized. Listen to the difference in the next practice exercise.

Practice 12: (Recorded)

Listen to these pairs. In each case the first member of the pair is the indefinite article ('a/an') plus a masculine noun and the second member of the pair is the definite article ('the') plus the same masculine noun.

- | | | |
|----|--------|-------|
| 1. | (a/an) | (the) |
| 2. | (a/an) | (the) |
| 3. | (a/an) | (the) |
| 4. | (a/an) | (the) |
| 5. | (a/an) | (the) |
| 6. | (a/an) | (the) |
| 7. | (a/an) | (the) |

Practice 13: (Recorded)

Listen carefully to these masculine nouns. Some of them you have not heard before. Decide in each case whether you hear the indefinite article ('a/an') or the definite article ('the') before the noun. Indicate which one you hear by making a mark in the appropriate column below. You can check your answers at the end of this unit. Remember, all of these nouns are masculine.

- | | <u>a/an</u> | <u>the</u> |
|-----|-------------|------------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | _____ | _____ |
| 5. | _____ | _____ |
| 6. | _____ | _____ |
| 7. | _____ | _____ |
| 8. | _____ | _____ |
| 9. | _____ | _____ |
| 10. | _____ | _____ |
| 11. | _____ | _____ |
| 12. | _____ | _____ |

Practice 14: (Recorded)

Now repeat these masculine nouns. Numbers 1-6 say 'a/an' plus a noun, and numbers 7-12 say 'the' plus a noun.

1-6 'a/an' something masculine ()x ()x

7-12 'the' something masculine ()x ()x

Practice 15: (Recorded)

This practice deals only with the indefinite articles, but it involves both genders, masculine and feminine. Practice these words and phrases until you can say them with relatively little effort.

1. a room
2. a friend
3. a daughter
4. a house
5. He wants a house.
6. a car
7. He wants a car.
8. He wants a car and a house.
9. a table
10. He wants a table too.
11. New York is a state.
12. New York is a city too.
13. a phone call
14. He's going to make a phone call.

Observation

Many nouns do not end in an unstressed u sound or an unstressed a sound. In these instances it is often possible to know the gender via other clues; at other times there is no pattern to guide you and you must find out what the gender is and simply memorize it. In all cases it is highly desirable to train yourself to memorize the gender of a noun when you first begin to use it.

Comprehension

Listen to these items on the tape and tell your instructor the number of any that you cannot understand.

Translations

A. Follow along with these questions and answers as they are given on the tape. Then be sure that you can do them live with your instructor or a fellow student.

1. Where are you from?
I'm from Minnesota.
2. Where is Paul from?
He's from Minnesota also.
3. Where is Alice from?
She's from Utah.
4. And Kathy, where is she from?
She's from Maryland.
5. And Bill, where is he from?
He's from Vermont.
6. Are you from New York?
Yes, I am.
7. Is Bill from New York?
Yes, he is.
8. Is Frank from New York too?
No, he's not.
9. Is she from Boston?
No, she's not. She's from Detroit.

B. How would you say the following thoughts in Portuguese? Take them in order. Do not translate items in parentheses.

1. I am (an) American.
2. I am from New York.
3. I am not from the city; I'm from the state.
4. This is my friend, Bill.
5. Bill is (an) American too.
6. But he's not from New York.
7. He's from Washington.
8. He's not from the state; he's from the city.
9. And you? Where are you from?
10. I'm from _____.
11. Oh, really? Mr. Jones is from there too.
12. But Mr. Jones' daughter isn't from there.
13. Which one? Linda?
14. No, the other daughter. The oldest one. Betty.
15. Where is she from?
16. She's from Boston.

C. Be prepared to engage in these dialogs with your instructor.

1. A. Do you know Bill White?
B. The American? Yes, I know him.
A. Where is he from?
B. He's from New York. From the city!
A. Oh, really?! I know the city well.

2. A. Do you know Fred Marks?
 B. Sure, he's my friend.
 A. Is he an American?
 B. Yes, he is. He's from Pittsburgh.
 A. From where?
 B. From Pittsburgh. A city in Pennsylvania.
3. A. I'm hungry. Let's go eat! (Vamos comer!)
 B. So am I! (I, too). Do you want to leave now?
 A. Sure!.....this is my car.
 B. Let's go!

Answers:

Practice 5.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | F | 14. | F |
| 2. | F | 15. | M |
| 3. | F | 16. | F |
| 4. | M | 17. | F |
| 5. | M | 18. | M |
| 6. | M | 19. | F |
| 7. | F | 20. | F |
| 8. | M | 21. | F |
| 9. | M | 22. | M |
| 10. | F | 23. | M |
| 11. | F | 24. | M |
| 12. | M | 25. | F |
| 13. | M | 26. | F |

Practice 13.

- | | | | |
|----|------|-----|------|
| 1. | a/an | 7. | the |
| 2. | a/an | 8. | a/an |
| 3. | the | 9. | a/an |
| 4. | the | 10. | the |
| 5. | the | 11. | the |
| 6. | a/an | 12. | a/an |