

UNIT 16

1. Verbs of the -ar type have their own special set of endings in the past. You already know these endings, since you have been working with them in recent units. In this unit you will learn how to use -er type verbs in the past.

2. Recall the endings of a typical -ar verb in the past.

trabalhei	{ }x	'I worked'	trabalhamos	{ }x	'we worked'
trabalhou	{ }x	'he worked'	trabalharam	{ }x	'they worked'

3. Here is another example.

falei	{ }x	'I talked'	falamos	{ }x	'we talked'
falou	{ }x	'he talked'	falaram	{ }x	'they talked'

4. The endings of -er type verbs in the past are different. Take, for example, the verb which represents 'drinking'. The neutral form is beber.

beber () ()x ()x ()x

5. The I-form in the past ('I drank') is bebi. Notice the stressed i ending.

bebi () ()x ()x ()x

6. The neutral form of the verb which represents 'writing' is escrever.

escrever () ()x ()x ()x

7. The I-form in the past ('I wrote') is escrevi.

escrevi () ()x ()x ()x

8. Which of these two means 'I wrote'?

(1) (2) (1) (2)

(2)

9. No. 1 is not the right answer because the stress is not on the right syllable, i.e. the final syllable.

10. The neutral form for 'eating' is comer.

comer () ()X ()X ()X

11. You would expect then that 'I ate' would be comi. And that is indeed the form.

comi () ()X ()X ()X

12. The ending for the he-form is the stressed diphthong -eu. You will recognize this diphthong as the same one that is in the words meu and seu.

meu { }X { }X
seu { }X { }X

13. Here is the he-form of 'eating', in the past ('he ate').

comeu () ()X ()X ()X

14. This is the way you say 'he drank'.

bebeu () ()X ()X ()X

15. Remember that 'I wrote' is escrevi. How would you say 'he wrote'?

(escreveu)

Verify: ()X ()X

16. Repeat:

comeu ()X ()X
bebeu ()X ()X
escreveu ()X ()X

17. A verb that is very useful, because we all do it, is the verb 'forget'. The neutral form is esquecer.

esquecer () ()X ()X ()X

18. The form for 'he forgot' is:

esqueceu () ()X ()X ()X

19. How would you say 'I forgot'?

(esqueci)

Verify: ()X ()X

20. Now repeat 'I forgot', then 'he forgot'.

esqueci ()X ()X

esqueceu ()X ()X

21. The we-form of -er type verbs in the past is the same as the we-form in the present. The form ends in -emos. You probably recall this ending from the present tense forms podemos, pretendemos.

22. Thus, the form bebemos can mean either 'we drink' or 'we drank'. Only the context makes clear which meaning is intended.

23. Repeat 'we drank'.

bebemos ()X ()X

24. How would you say 'we forgot'? (The neutral form is esquecer.)

(esquecemos)

Verify: ()X ()X

25. How would you say 'we ate'? (The neutral form is comer.)

(comemos)

Verify: ()X ()X

26. Repeat both 'we forgot' and 'we ate'.

esquecemos ()X ()X
comemos ()X ()X

27. Listen to the ending which marks the they-form.

() () ()X ()X ()X

28. This is 'they ate'.

() ()X ()X ()X

29. This is 'they forgot'.

() ()X ()X ()X

30. Here are the above two items in print. Repeat again.

comeram ()X ()X
esqueceram ()X ()X

31. How would you say 'they drank'?

(beberam)

Verify: ()X ()X

32. Repeat:

beberam ()X ()X
comeram ()X ()X
esqueceram ()X ()X

33. In summary, the four forms of a typical -er type verb in the past are:

bebi ()X bebemos ()X
 bebeu ()X beberam ()X

34. Another example:

esqueci ()X
 esqueceu ()X
 esquecemos ()X
 esqueceram ()X

35. Here is another example, using a new verb (ler) 'to read'. The stem is short (just l) but the pattern is the same.

ler ()X ()X

 li ()X ()X
 leu ()X ()X
 lemos ()X ()X
 leram ()X ()X

36. The following frames deal with a concept we shall label reflexives. In the English sentence 'I cut myself', the pronoun 'myself' is sometimes referred to as a reflexive pronoun since it 'reflects' back upon the actor 'I'. The doer of the action and the receiver of the action are the same person.

37. Similarly, in the sentence 'He dragged himself out of bed,' the pronoun 'himself' can be considered a reflexive pronoun since it 'reflects' back upon the actor 'He'. The actor and the receiver are one and the same person.

38. Furthermore, it is common practice to label each of the verbs in the two sentences cited above reflexive verbs. They are directly involved in the reflexive relation between the actor and the receiver.

39. Hence, in the sentence, 'She fooled herself that time' the word 'herself' is properly called a r _____ p _____.
 (reflexive pronoun)

40. In the same sentence, the word 'fooled' is properly called a
 r _____ v _____.
 (reflexive verb)

41. Portuguese has numerous examples of reflexive verbs and reflexive pronouns similar to those just illustrated, where clearly the actor is doing something to himself.

42. Here are the reflexive pronouns in Portuguese.

me () ()X ()X = myself

nos () ()X ()X = ourselves

se () ()X ()X = himself, herself, yourself, themselves, yourselves, itself

43. These reflexive pronouns frequently precede the verb. Thus, if you want to say 'I know myself', you may say:

Eu me conheço () ()X ()X

44. If you want to say 'I prepare myself', you can say:

Eu me preparo () ()X ()X

45. 'He prepares himself' can be said like this:

Ele se prepara () ()X ()X

46. How would you say 'He knows himself'?

Ele _____.

Verify: ()X ()X

47. How would you say 'She knows herself'?

Ela _____.

Verify: ()X ()X

48. 'He confuses himself' is:

Ele se atrapalha ()X ()X ()X

49. How do you say 'I confuse myself'?

(Eu me atrapalho)

Verify: ()X ()X

50. Sometimes you will find a reflexive construction where the reflexive pronoun comes after the verb.

Chama-se Yara ()X ()X

51. Literally, this expression says 'She calls herself Yara'. In normal English we would avoid a reflexive and say something like 'Her name is Yara.'

Chama-se Yara ()X ()X

52. You can also hear this said as follows:

Ela se chama Yara ()X ()X

53. Now, here is how you say 'My name is Joe'.

Eu me chamo José ()X ()X

54. Sometimes you will find that a Portuguese verb is reflexive even though the actor is not performing the action on himself. Such a case is the verb 'remember'. The neutral form is lembrar.

lembrar ()X ()X

55. When the Portuguese speaker wants to say 'I remember', he may say:

Eu me lembro () ()X ()X

It seems like he is saying 'I remember myself', but actually he is just saying the equivalent of 'I remember'.

56. Since 'remember' is an -ar type verb, how would you say 'he remembers'?

Ele _____

Verify: ()X ()X

57. The negative 'não' precedes the reflexive pronoun. Thus, the way to say 'I don't remember' is:

Eu não me lembro () ()X ()X

58. How do you say 'I don't call myself' or 'My name is not'?

(Eu não me chamo)

Verify: ()X ()X

59. How do you say 'She doesn't remember'? (Answer aloud.)

Ela n__ s_ l_____

Verify: ()X ()X

60. How would you say 'He doesn't call himself Joe'?

(Ele não se chama José)

Verify: ()X ()X

61. How would you say 'She doesn't confuse herself'?
 (Ela não se atrapalha) Verify: ()X ()X

62. How would you say 'I don't confuse myself'?
 (Eu não me atrapalho)

Verify: ()X ()X

63. Another reflexive verb is deitar 'to go to bed'. Here is the way to say 'He goes to bed'.

Ele se deita () ()X ()X

64. 'I go to bed' is:

Eu me deito () ()X ()X

65. How would you say 'He doesn't go to bed'? Answer aloud.

Ele _____

Verify: ()X ()X

66. How would you say 'I went to bed'?

Eu _____

Verify: ()X ()X

67. How would you say 'He went to bed'?

Verify: ()X ()X

68. In spite of what you have just been practicing, you will find that the reflexive element will often be omitted in the verbs 'remember' and 'go to bed' with no apparent change in meaning. Thus you may hear somebody say:

Eu lembro I remember

Eu deito I go to bed

Either pattern is normal. We will recommend, however, that you practice the reflexive so that you feel comfortable with it and so that you recognize it when others use it.

69. The verb levantar, which you have already learned as a non-reflexive, can also be used reflexively, with no change in meaning. Thus, if you want to say 'I got up', you can say either:

- a. Eu levantei ()X ()X, or
 b. Eu me levantei ()X ()X

70. Using the reflexive, how would you say 'He got up'?
 (Ele se levantou) Verify: ()X ()X

71. Let us finish this section with a brief reference to contractions. You have already learned a number of contractions. In this unit you will learn several more, all of them involving the preposition por and a definite article. Here is the first one, the joining together of por and the definite article a. por + a = pela

pela ()X ()X

72. Now let's look at another one. Here is the contraction for por + the definite article o. por + o = pelo

pelo ()X ()X

73. It follows then that the combination of por plus the plural definite article os results in pelos.

pelos ()X ()X

74. It also follows that the combination of por plus the plural definite article as results in pelas.

pelas ()X ()X

75. Now, go on to the dialog but before doing so please take note of this summary of the new verbs presented in this section.

beber	deitar (-se)
escrever	lembrar (-se)
ler	
comer	
esquecer	

DialogAluno

o sono

sleep

com sono

sleepy

(bocejo)

(yawn)

desculpe

excuse (command for

Eu estou com sono. (Bocejo)I'm sleepy. (Yawn)Desculpe.Excuse me.Professor

nada

nothing

de nada

that's O.K., think

nothing of it.

De nada. O senhor passou bem
a noite?That's O.K. Did you have
good night?Aluno

acordado

awake

Passei, sim. Mas ainda não
estou acordado.Yes, I did. But I'm not
awake yet.

Professor

a que horas?
se deitou

At what time?
went to bed (he-form
-ar type)

A que horas o senhor se deitou?
Às onze?

What time did you go to
bed? At eleven?

Aluno

me lembro

I remember (-ar type)

Não me lembro.

I don't remember.

escrevi
a carta
li
o jornal
logo depois
me deitei

I wrote (-er type)
letter
I read (-er type)
newspaper
shortly afterwards
I went to bed (-ar t:

Escrevi uma carta, li o jornal,
e (bocejo), logo depois me
deitei.

I wrote a letter, read t:
paper and (yawn) shortly
afterwards I went to bed

pòr
pela (contraction of por and a)
meia
a meia-noite

around, about
around, about the
half, middle
midnight

Lá pela meia-noite.

Around midnight.

Professor

começar

begin (neutral form)

Bom, vamos começar!

Well, let's begin!

Aluno

Iiii !

(an expression of dis
 roughly equivalent
 here to 'oh, no!')

I forgot (-er type)
 book

esqueci
 o livro

Iiii... Esqueci o meu livro.Oh, no! I forgot my book

estava
 tanta
 a pressa
 deixei

I was
 so much
 haste
 I left (-ar type)

Estava com tanta pressa que
deixei tudo em casa.

I was in such a hurry th
I left everything at home

A LOOK AT THE GRAMMAR

Practice Exercises

Part I

Practice 1. (Recorded)

Practice saying these past forms of -er type verbs.

a. He-forms

1. comeu ()X ()X : ate
2. bebeu ()X ()X : drank
3. escreveu ()X ()X : wrote
4. esqueceu ()X ()X : forgot
5. leu ()X ()X : read
6. choveu ()X ()X : rained

b. They-forms

1. comeram ()X ()X : ate
2. beberam ()X ()X : drank
3. escreveram ()X ()X : wrote
4. esqueceram ()X ()X : forgot
5. leram ()X ()X : read

c. I-forms

1. comi ()X ()X : ate
2. bebi ()X ()X : drank
3. escrevi ()X ()X : wrote
4. esqueci ()X ()X : forgot
5. li ()X ()X : read

d. We-forms

1. comemos ()X ()X : ate
2. bebemos ()X ()X : drank
3. escrevemos ()X ()X : wrote
4. esquecemos ()X ()X : forgot
5. lemos ()X ()X : read

e. (And just to refresh your memory, here are the neutral forms

- | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|----------------------|
| 1. comer | ()X | ()X | : idea of eating |
| 2. beber | ()X | ()X | : idea of drinking |
| 3. escrever | ()X | ()X | : idea of writing |
| 4. esquecer | ()X | ()X | : idea of forgetting |
| 5. ler | ()X | ()X | : idea of reading |
| 6. chover | ()X | ()X | : idea of raining |

Practice 2: (Recorded)

In this practice Instructor A will ask Instructor B questions using the past forms you have just reviewed. Just listen this time through.

(1-13)

Practice 3: (Recorded)

In this practice you will hear a similar set of questions and answers. There is a space after each question and after each answer for you to repeat.

Practice 4: (Recorded)

In this set of questions you will be asked if Yara did something. You are to say that she didn't, but that you did. The verifying answer is on the tape.

Example:

Question: A Yara leu o livro?

Your answer: Não, não leu, mas eu li.

(1-7)

Practice 5: (Recorded)

In this set of questions you will be asked if they did something. You are to say that they didn't, but that we did. Confirm your answer with the tape.

Example:Question: Eles leram o livro?Your answer: Não, não leram, mas nós lemos.

(1 - 6)

Practice 6: (Recorded)

These questions all begin with 'What did you...?' Repeat the answers which are supplied by the tape. Some contain -er type verbs, others -ar type verbs.

Part II: Telling Time

The following exercise has been prepared to teach you a number of useful time expressions. Repeat each one after the voice on the tape and follow along with the Portuguese and English below. You should do this practice several times.

Practice 7: (Recorded)

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|------|---------------------------------|
| 1. São dez (horas) | ()X | ()X | It's ten o'clock. |
| 2. meia | ()X | ()X | half |
| 3. dez e meia | ()X | ()X | ten thirty (ten and a half) |
| 4. São dez e meia | ()X | ()X | It's ten thirty (half past ten) |
| 5. São dez e trinta | ()X | ()X | It's ten thirty. |
| 6. São seis e meia | ()X | ()X | It's six thirty. |
| 7. São seis e trinta | ()X | ()X | It's six thirty, |
| 8. São seis e cinco | ()X | ()X | It's 6:05. |
| 9. São seis e oito | ()X | ()X | It's 6:08. |
| 10. São seis e vinte | ()X | ()X | It's 6:20. |
| 11. São seis e vinte e dois | ()X | ()X | It's 6:22. |
| 12. São seis e quarenta | ()X | ()X | It's 6:40. |
| 13. São seis e quinze | ()X | ()X | It's 6:15. |
| 14. São seis e um quarto | ()X | ()X | It's a quarter past six. |

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 15. | para | ()X ()X | for, towards |
| 16. | para as seis | ()X ()X | 'towards' six (to six) |
| 17. | São dez para as seis | ()X ()X | It's ten to six. |
| 18. | São vinte para as seis | ()X ()X | It's twenty to six. |
| 19. | São cinco para as seis | ()X ()X | It's five to six. |
| 20. | São quinze para as seis | ()X ()X | It's fifteen to six. |
| 21. | É um quarto para as seis | ()X ()X | It's a quarter to six. |
| - - - - - | | | |
| 22. | É meio-dia | ()X ()X | It's twelve noon. |
| 23. | É meia-noite | ()X ()X | It's midnight. |
| 24. | É uma hora | ()X ()X | It's one o'clock. |
| - - - - - | | | |
| 25. | A que horas? | ()X ()X | At what time? |
| 26. | A que horas você janta? | ()X ()X | (At) what time do you eat dinner? |
| 27. | As oito | ()X ()X | At eight. |
| 28. | As oito em ponto | ()X ()X | At eight sharp. |
| 29. | A uma | ()X ()X | At one. |
| 30. | Ao meio-dia | ()X ()X | At noon. |
| 31. | A meia-noite | ()X ()X | At midnight. |
| 32. | Está na hora do intervalo | ()X ()X | It's break time. |
| 33. | Está na hora da festa | ()X ()X | It's time for the party. |
| 34. | Está na hora de sair | ()X ()X | It's time to leave. |
| 35. | Está na hora de trabalhar | ()X ()X | It's time to work. |

Notice that:

- Time is generally given by stating the hour plus the minutes after the hour.

3:10	três e dez
4:29	quatro e vinte e nove
7:50	sete e cinqüenta

- After the half hour, time is very commonly expressed by stating the number of minutes before the next hour.

4:40	vinte para as cinco
7:50	dez para as oito

3. a. The half hour is given either as meia or trinta.

7:30 sete e meia/sete e trinta

- b. The quarter hour is given as um quarto or quinze.

7:15 sete e um quarto/sete e quinze

7:45 um quarto para as oito/
quinze para as oito

4. When the time is not exactly on the hour, the word hora(s) is usually omitted from the time expression. When the time is on the hour, the word hora(s) is optional.

São quatro e quinze

São cinco para as três

(but)

São quatro (horas)

É uma (hora)

5. The singular form é is used when the item immediately following is singular; the plural form são is used when the item immediately following is plural.

1. É uma hora

2. É meia-noite

3. É meio-dia

4. São três (horas)

5. São cinco para as três

6. São cinco para a uma

6. In Brazil the twenty-four hour clock is observed in many official contexts (radio announcements, time tables, etc.), but the twelve hour clock is adhered to in general conversation.

São vinte e três horas It's 11:00 p.m. (radio time)

São onze horas It's 11:00 p.m. (general conversation)

7. The expression está na hora de (utilizing a form of estar rather than ser) is used as the equivalent of 'it is time (to) or (for)'.
 (to) or (for)'

Está na hora de sair It's time to leave.

Está na hora da festa It's time for the party.

Practice 8: (Recorded)

Listen to these times as recorded on the tape. For each one select the correct time from the list below and write the corresponding letter in the blank. Answers are given at the end of this unit.

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | a. 3:15 |
| 2. _____ | b. 7:45 |
| 3. _____ | c. 7:48 |
| 4. _____ | d. 2:03 |
| 5. _____ | e. 11:55 |
| 6. _____ | f. 4:17 |
| 7. _____ | g. 5:00 |
| 8. _____ | h. 8:22 |
| 9. _____ | i. 8:42 |
| 10. _____ | j. 10:50 |
| 11. _____ | k. 1:05 |
| 12. _____ | l. 12:55 |
| 13. _____ | m. 6:50 |

Practice 9: (Recorded)

Now practice saying these items. Repeat after the voice on the tape, and follow along visually below.

1. It's 8:07
2. It's 7:08
3. It's 7:53
4. It's midnight
5. It's 4:45
6. It's half past one
7. It's a quarter to eight
8. It's a quarter past eight
9. It's five after one
10. It's five till one
11. It's one o'clock sharp

12. At 4:00
13. At 7:30
14. At 1:45
15. At noon
16. At 2:05
17. At 6:47
18. At 12:15 p.m.
19. At 8:17
20. At 11:20

Practice 10: (Recorded)

How would you say these items in Portuguese? Check the tape for confirmation after you have spoken aloud. Do this exercise several times to assure a rapid and accurate response.

1. It's four thirty.
2. It's quarter past four. (quarter: um quarto)
3. It's fifteen past four. (fifteen: quinze)
4. It's fifteen to four.

5. It's a quarter to four.
6. It's five past three.
7. It's five to three.
8. It's nine o'clock.
9. At nine o'clock.
10. At nine fifteen.
11. At a quarter to nine.
12. At midnight.
13. Today at three.
14. Tomorrow at ten.
15. Tomorrow at midnight.

Part III. Reflexives

Practice 11: (Recorded)

Practice saying these sentences and the follow-up questions. They will give you additional experience with reflexives.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Eu me chamo José. | Como se chama o senhor? |
| 2. Eu me levanto cedo. | A que horas o senhor se levanta? |
| 3. Eu também me deito cedo. | A que horas o senhor se deita? |
| 4. Ontem eu me deitei tarde. | O senhor também se deitou tarde? |
| 5. Hoje eu me levantei às 9. | A que horas o senhor se levantou? |
| 6. Eu não me lembro. | O senhor se lembra? |

Comprehension

- A. Listen to these sentences and make a note of those that are not clear to you.
- B. Listen to these brief dialogs on the tape. Run through each one several times until you are sure you understand them. If you find that you are helped by visual aids, follow along with the printed version below.

1. A. Estou com pressa.
B. Outra vez! Por quê?
A. Tenho muito que fazer.

- B. Você já tomou café?
- A. Não, mas agora não posso. Vou dar um telefonema.
2. A. O que é que você vai fazer hoje à noite?
- B. Vou escrever umas cartas, ler o jornal e deitar cedo.
- A. E você não vai estudar?
- B. Vou estudar aqui hoje à tarde.
3. A. Como é que ele se chama? Não me lembro.
- B. Acho que se chama...ah...ah...Esqueci...!
- A. Esqueceu?! Mas você falou.....
- B. Esqueci, sim! É só que estou cansado. Deitei tarde ontem à noite.

Translations

A. How would you say the following in Portuguese?

1. I'm sleepy.
2. I'm hungry.
3. I'm sleepy and hungry.
4. Are you sleepy?
5. Are you in a hurry?
6. I was in a hurry.
7. I was in such a hurry!
8. I was in such a hurry that I left my book at home.
9. I read the letter.
10. Right afterwards I read the paper.
11. I went to bed late.
12. Around (lá pelas) two o'clock.
13. What time did Paulo go to bed?
14. I don't remember. Around one o'clock.
15. I remember well. At three thirty!
16. He wasn't (estava) sleepy last night, but he is today.
17. I wasn't sleepy when I got up, but I am now.

18. I wasn't in a hurry when I got up, but I am now.
19. I'm not in a hurry now, but I'm going to be later.
20. I have a lot to do today.
21. It looks like we're going to have dinner very late.
22. I think we're going to have dinner around ten-thirty.
23. By the way, Maria, what time are we going to have dinner?
24. Let's see. Around about 8:30. Are you hungry?
25. No, I ate too much lunch. (almoçar)
26. Yes, I am [hungry]. I haven't eaten yet today. (comer)
27. No, I'm not hungry now, but I know that (que) I'm going to be at 8:30.
28. I was so hungry !
29. I was so hungry that I ate everything !
30. I was so hungry that I didn't leave anything !
31. I was so sleepy (tanto sono) that I didn't remember.
32. I forgot everything that he said.
33. He forgot everything that I said.
34. I don't remember if he studied or not.
35. I don't remember if I said that or not.
36. He doesn't remember what time he went to bed.
37. Well ! Let's study !
38. Well ! Let's work !
39. Well ! Let's practice more !
40. Well ! Let's leave !

B. Practice putting these brief dialogs into Portuguese.

1. A. Did you have a good lunch?
B. I ate too much.
A. Are you sleepy?
B. I am.
A. Why don't we open some windows?
B. Good idea.
2. A. I left the book at home.
B. Here is my book.
A. Thanks. (yawn) Excuse me.

- B. Aren't you awake yet?
A. Yes, but I'm still sleepy. I read until midnight.
3. A. Did you read the paper today?
B. No, why?
A. The president has arrived in Brazil. He is in Rio now.
B. When does he go to (a) Brasilia?
A. Tomorrow, and right after (logo depois) he goes to (a) Recife.

Answers to Practice 8:

1. f
2. b
3. a
4. c
5. i
6. j
7. d
8. k
9. m
10. l
11. e
12. g
13. h