

UNIT 23

1. In the last unit where we were continuing our presentation of the 'used to/would forms, you learned the irregular form era. We noted at that time that this form is commonly translated as 'was'. Repeat these examples.

Ele era americano. ()x ()x

Eu era solteiro. ()x ()x

Ela era casada. ()x ()x

2. The form era is both the I-form and the he-form.

Eu era professor. ()x ()x

Ele era funcionário. ()x ()x

3. Here is the we-form. (Translation: 'used to be', or 'were')

éramos ()x ()x

4. Here it is preceded by the pronoun nós.

nós éramos ()x ()x

5. So, this is the way you would say 'We were single'.

Nós éramos solteiros. ()x ()x

6. And this is the way you would say 'We were officers'.

Nós éramos funcionários. ()x ()x

7. How would you say 'We were secretaries'?
(Nós éramos secretárias)

Verify: ()x ()x

8. And how would you say 'We were Americans'?
(Nós éramos americanos)

Verify: ()x ()x

9. Now, here is the they-form. (Translation: 'used to be', or 'were')

eram ()x ()x

10. Here it is preceded by several appropriate pronouns.

eles eram ()x ()x

elas eram ()x ()x

vocês eram ()x ()x

os senhores eram ()x ()x

11. So, this is the way you might say 'They were single'.

Eles eram solteiros. ()x ()x

12. And this is the way you might say 'They were great'.

Eles eram ótimos. ()x ()x

13. How would you say 'They were Americans'?

(Eles eram americanos)

Verify: ()x ()x

14. How would you say 'They were Brazilians'?

(Eles eram brasileiros)

Verify: ()x ()x

15. And how would you say 'They were from Rio'?

(Eles eram do Rio)

Verify: ()x ()x

16. This is a good time to introduce another irregular form, the form which corresponds to 'used to have', or 'would have'. (The neutral form is ter.)

tinha ()x ()x ()x

17. This form is both the I-form and the he-form. Repeat.
- eu tinha ()x ()x
ele tinha ()x ()x
você tinha ()x ()x
José tinha ()x ()x
18. Notice the contrast between the present tense form, 'I have', and this new form, 'I used to have'.
- a. eu tenho ()x ()x
b. eu tinha ()x ()x
19. This is the way you would say 'I used to have *[a] Chevrolet'.
- Eu tinha Chevrolet. ()x ()x
20. And this is the way you would say 'She used to have *[a] Ford'.
- Ela tinha Ford. ()x ()x
21. How would you say 'She used to have [a] house'?
(Ela tinha casa)
- Verify: ()x ()x
22. How would you say 'You used to have [an] accent'?
(Você tinha sotaque)
- Verify: ()x ()x
23. How would you say 'I used to have two cars'?
(Eu tinha dois carros)
- Verify: ()x ()x
24. Now, what do you suppose is the we-form of this verb?
Venture a guess, then check the tape to see if you are right.
- ()x ()x ()x
- You were right, right?
- *Under some circumstances it is normal to use the indefinite article and say Eu tinha um Chevrolet (Ford). Do not be concerned right now about the presence or absence of the article.

25. Here is the we-form preceded by the pronoun nós.
nós tínhamos ()x ()x ()x
26. So, then, this is the way you will say 'We used to have two cars'.
Nós tínhamos dois carros. ()x ()x
27. And here is the way you will say 'We used to have a good view'.
Nós tínhamos uma vista boa. ()x ()x
28. How would you say 'We used to have a marvelous view'?
 (Nós tínhamos uma vista maravilhosa)
 Verify: ()x ()x
29. Remember that the Portuguese equivalent of 'to be right' is 'to have reason'. So, how would you say 'We were always right', i.e. 'We always had reason'?
 (Nós sempre tínhamos razão)
 Verify: ()x ()x
30. How would you say 'We were always sure'? Literally, 'We always had certainty.'
 (Nós sempre tínhamos certeza)
 Verify: ()x ()x
31. What do you suppose is the they-form? Venture a guess, then check the tape for verification.
 ()x ()x ()x
 You were right again, weren't you?
32. Here is the they-form preceded by two pronouns.
eles tinham ()x ()x
elas tinham ()x ()x

33. So, this is the way you will say 'They used to have [a] Ford'.
Eles tinham Ford. ()x ()x
34. And this is the way you will say 'They always used to be right.' (be right = have reason)
Eles sempre tinham razão. ()x ()x
35. How would you say 'They always used to be sure'?
 (be sure = have certainty)
 (Eles sempre tinham certeza)
 Verify: ()x ()x
36. And how would you say 'They used to have two houses'?
 (Eles tinham duas casas)
 Verify: ()x ()x
37. Now let's go back several units to look at one of the forms that is regular in its shape, the form estava. Do you remember it in this phrase?
Eu estava com tanta pressa 'I was in such a hurry'
38. Repeat:
Eu estava com tanta pressa ()x ()x
39. The form estava is from the infinitive estar 'to be'. Like era, which comes from the infinitive ser, estava also translates as 'used to be', or, frequently, 'was'.
40. Repeat the following phrases from the tape.
1. I was hungry. ()x ()x
 2. I was sleepy. ()x ()x
 3. I was tired. ()x ()x

41. Estava is also the he-form. Repeat these phrases from the tape.

1. He was hungry. ()x ()x
2. He was sleepy. ()x ()x
3. He was tired. ()x ()x

42. Can you guess what the 'we-form' is? Try it, then check the tape for confirmation.

() ()x ()x

43. This is what it looks like: estávamos. Be sure to stress it on the right syllable.

()x ()x

44. Now repeat these phrases.

1. We were hungry. ()x ()x
2. We were sleepy. ()x ()x
3. We were tired. ()x ()x

45. You should be able to guess what the they-form is. Try it, then verify with the tape.

() ()x ()x

46. This is what it looks like: estavam. Repeat these phrases.

1. They were hungry. ()x ()x
2. They were sleepy. ()x ()x
3. They were tired. ()x ()x

Comment

We must point out that in all of the above examples involving 'hungry', 'tired', and 'sleepy' we are not necessarily dealing with recurring situations. We might simply be describing how somebody felt yesterday, for example, or at the concert last

night, or when he got up this morning, with no thought whatsoever as to whether or not such feelings were of a recurrent nature. Hence in these cases we are not forced to think in terms of 'used to' or 'would' as we have had to do heretofore with most verbs in their ava (and ia) forms. Instead we can think in terms of 'past description', i.e. the description of conditions and circumstances that existed at some time in the past.

The concept of 'past description' offers another useful approach to all the verb forms we have been working with in the last several units. The term suggests another way of looking at and interpreting the range of meaning that these forms encompass. With some verbs, because of their very nature, it is quite easy to think of 'past description'. This is particularly true of ser, estar and ter, as we have just seen. With other verbs the association may not always be quite so easy to make.

Practice 1. (Recorded)

Thinking in terms of 'past description', how would you say these brief thoughts in Portuguese? Practice these until you can say them easily.

Group I

1. I was awake.
2. I was tired.
3. I was sleepy.
4. He was in a hurry.
5. He was hungry.
6. I had a cold. (estava resfriado)
7. The traffic was terrible.

Group II

1. I had [an] English accent.
2. She had [a] Portuguese accent.
3. I had [a] Ford.
4. She had [a] Chevrolet.

5. We were sure (had certainty).
6. They were right (had reason).
7. We had two.
8. They had three.

Group III (Omit items in brackets.)

1. I was [an] officer.
2. She was [a] teacher.
3. We were Americans.
4. They were Brazilians.
5. She was [a] secretary.
6. She was single.
7. He was the president.
8. He was married.
9. They were from New York.
10. We were from Pennsylvania.

Comment

The instances of 'past description' just given involve states of being or identification of some sort; the verbs are not verbs of action. The concept of 'past description' can also be applied to action verbs. Many of the action verbs of the past two units that we have translated as 'would/used to' offer past description. When we say, for example, that 'Roberto would/used to get up late' we are describing one aspect of Roberto's life in the past. Pay attention to how this operates in the next several practices.

Practice 2. (Recorded)

Learn to give this 'past description' of Bill. Do not translate items in brackets.

1. Bill was [an] American.
2. He was an officer in the State Department.
3. He spoke Portuguese well.
4. He had a lot of chance to practice.
5. Why? Because he lived and worked in Rio.

Practice 3. (Recorded)

Now learn to give this 'past description' of Yara.

1. Yara was [a] Brazilian.
2. She was from São Paulo.
3. She spoke English well.
4. She spoke [it] without [an] accent.
5. She worked in Rio.
6. She travelled (would travel) a lot.
7. She spent (would spend) weekends at home.
8. She went (would go) to the beach.
9. She liked her work (work = o trabalho).

(We continue now with our programming.)

47. This is the way you say 'I am planning to return'.

Eu pretendo voltar ()x ()x

48. If you wish to say 'I was planning to return', thus describing your thoughts and desires at some time in the past ('past description'), you would use the form pretendia.

Eu pretendia voltar ()x ()x

49. How would you say 'I was planning to sleep'?

(Eu pretendia dormir)

Verify: ()x ()x

50. How would you say 'He was planning to read'?

(Ele pretendia ler)

Verify: ()x ()x

51. How would you say 'She was planning to send'?

(Ela pretendia mandar)

Verify: ()x ()x

52. What is the form for 'We were planning'?

(Nós pretendíamos)

Verify: ()x ()x

53. And what is the form for 'They were planning'?

(Eles pretendiam)

Verify: ()x ()x

54. So, how would you say 'They were planning to stay'?

(Eles pretendiam ficar)

Verify: ()x ()x

55. And how do you say 'We were planning to leave'?

(Nós pretendíamos sair)

Verify: ()x ()x

56. We can perform similar operations with forms of the verb 'want'. We can begin with the sentence 'I want to take'.

Eu quero levar ()x ()x

57. Let's change the ending in order to say 'I wanted to take', which is, you will agree, a kind of description of my thoughts and desires at some time in the past.

Eu queria levar ()x ()x

58. How would you say 'I wanted to spend a week'?

(Eu queria passar uma semana)

Verify: ()x ()x

59. Following the same pattern, say the following:

a. I wanted to work. ()x

b. I wanted to stop. ()x

c. He wanted to drive. ()x

d. He wanted to rest. ()x

e. She wanted to change the subject. ()x

60. What are the we-form and the they-form of 'wanted'?
 (nós queríamos)
 (eles queriam)

Verify: ()x ()x

Verify: ()x ()x

61. So, this is the way you would say 'We wanted to stay'.

Nós queríamos ficar. ()x ()x

62. And this is the way you would say 'They wanted to leave'.

Eles queriam sair. ()x ()x

63. Continuing in the same vein, say the following:

a. They wanted to begin. ()x

b. We wanted to begin. ()x

c. We wanted to buy. ()x

d. We wanted to sell. ()x

e. They wanted to eat lunch. ()x

f. They wanted to forget. ()x

64. We can perform similar operations with forms of the verb 'go'. We can begin with 'I am going to study'.

Eu vou estudar. ()x ()x

65. Let's put that sentence in the past and say 'I was going to study'. You already know the form ia.

Eu ia estudar. ()x ()x

66. How would you say 'I was going to send'?
 (Eu ia mandar)

Verify: ()x ()x

67. How would you say 'He was going to send'?
 (Ele ia mandar)

Verify: ()x ()x

68. Do you recall the appropriate we-form?
 (íamos)

Verify: ()x ()x

69. So how would you say 'We were going to stay'? Use nós.
(Nós íamos ficar)

Verify: ()x ()x

70. What is the corresponding they-form?
(iam)

Verify: ()x ()x

71. How do you say 'They were going to stay'? Use eles.
(Eles iam ficar)

Verify: ()x ()x

72. Continuing, say the following in Portuguese.

- a. They were going to sell.
- b. They were going to rest.
- c. We were going to rest.
- d. We were going to eat.
- e. I was going to write.
- f. He was going to prepare.
- g. I was going to drive.
- h. She was going to begin.

73. We can perform similar operations with the verb 'have'. Remember the present tense construction 'I have to study': Eu tenho que estudar. This kind of construction obviously describes present circumstances; it describes what I feel obligated to do now.

Eu tenho que estudar ()x ()x

74. If I wish to describe what I felt obligated to do at some time in the past, I will use the form tinha 'I had'. This is past description: it describes a certain set of circumstances (i.e. my feelings of obligation) that existed for me at some time in the past. Thus if I want to say 'I had to study', I will say it like this.

Eu tinha que estudar ()x ()x

75. How would you say 'I had to work'?
(Eu tinha que trabalhar)

Verify: ()x ()x

76. How about 'He had to work'?
(Ele tinha que trabalhar)

Verify: ()x ()x

77. Continuing, how would you say the following?

- a. He had to practice. ()x
- b. He had to write. ()x
- c. We had to speak. ()x
- d. We had to sell. ()x
- e. They had to read. ()x
- f. They had to prepare. ()x

78. Another verb that is frequently used in the context of past description is sabia 'knew'.

sabia ()x ()x

79. If I say Eu sabia a lição 'I knew the lesson' I am describing a certain state of affairs that existed in the past.

Eu sabia a lição. ()x ()x

80. What is the we-form?

(sabíamos)

Verify: ()x ()x

81. Using the pronoun nós, how would you say 'We knew the lesson'?

(Nós sabíamos a lição)

Verify: ()x ()x

82. Using the pronoun eles, how would you say 'They knew the lesson'?

(Eles sabiam a lição)

Verify: ()x ()x

83. It is very common to find sabia followed by que plus another verb which also gives past description. For example: 'I knew that José was Brazilian'.

Eu sabia que o José era brasileiro. ()x ()x

84. Another example: 'I knew that José spoke Portuguese.'

Eu sabia que o José falava português. ()x ()x

85. A further comment about José: 'I knew that José sold insurance'.

Eu sabia que o José vendia seguros. ()x ()x

86. And a final comment about the activities of our friend, Joe: 'I didn't know that José slept so much'.

Eu não sabia que o José dormia tanto. ()x ()x

87. Poor Joe! Still the sleepyhead! So.....on to the dialog.

Dialogs/Exchanges

Exchange No. 1

o sapato
reparou

shoe
(you) noticed

A. Você reparou o sapato que ele usava?

A. Did you notice the shoes he was wearing?

B. Reparei, sim.

B. Yes, I did.

Exchange No. 2

o terno

suit

A. Por que é que o senhor não comprou o terno?

A. Why didn't you buy the suit?

custava
suficiente
o dinheiro

(it) cost
enough
money

B. Custava muito caro. Eu não tinha dinheiro suficiente.

B. It cost a lot. I didn't have enough money.

Exchange No. 3

procurou
o emprego

(he) looked for
job

A. Por que é que ele procurou outro emprego?

A. Why did he look for another job?

B. Porque ele não gostava do que tinha.

B. Because he didn't like the one he had.

Exchange No. 4

se perdeu

(he) got lost

A. Por que é que ele se perdeu?

A. Why did he get lost?

B. Porque ele não conhecia bem a cidade.

B. Because he didn't know the city well.

verdade

true (truth)

A. É verdade? Que pena!

A. Is that right? What a shame!

Expansion Exercises (Recorded)I. The verb reparar 'to notice'

Practice these sentences aloud. Be sure you know what they mean.

1. O senhor reparou o sapato?
2. O senhor reparou o sotaque dela?
3. O senhor reparou que ele estava cansado?
4. O senhor reparou que ele não sabia?
5. O senhor reparou que ele não queria?
-
6. Eu não reparei.
7. Eu não reparei isso.
8. Eu não reparei a Alice.
9. Eu não reparei que ela estava cansada.
10. Eu não reparei que você queria falar comigo.

II. The verb procurar 'to look for'

Practice these sentences with the tape. Be sure you know what they mean.

1. Eu vou procurar outro emprego.
2. Eu vou procurar mais dinheiro.
3. Eu já procurei outro carro.
4. Ela já procurou casa.
5. Ele já procurou outra secretária.
6. Sérgio vai procurar a dona Regina.
7. Antônio procurava a dona Vera.
8. Eles procuravam outro presidente.
9. Nós estamos procurando a Seção Consular.
10. Eles estão procurando a Embaixada Francesa.
11. Ele está procurando outro sapato.
12. Eu estou procurando a minha secretária.

III. The verb perder-se 'to get lost'

Likewise, practice these with the tape and be sure you know what they mean.

1. Eu me perdi.
2. Ele se perdeu também.
3. Você se perdeu também?
4. Como é que você se perdeu?
5. Ela nunca se perde.

IV. A. Remember the verb dá? Notice how nicely it fits with dinheiro in these sentences. Follow along with the tape. If you need to, check the English in B below.

1. O dinheiro dá?
2. O dinheiro dá para comprar dois?
3. O dinheiro dá para ir à praia?
4. O dinheiro dá para todos?
5. O dinheiro dá para comer num restaurante?
6. O dinheiro dá para ficar mais um dia?
7. O dinheiro dá para ir e voltar?

B. Now, try putting these back into Portuguese.

1. Is there enough money?
2. Is there enough money to buy two?
3. Is there enough money to go to the beach?
4. Is there enough money for all?
5. Is there enough money to eat in a restaurant?
6. Is there enough money to stay one more day?
7. Is there enough money to go and return?

(make a round trip)

C. Practice repeating both roles in these exchanges.

1. O dinheiro dá?
Dá. Não custa nada.
2. O dinheiro dá?
Dá, sim. Custa muito pouco.

3. O dinheiro dá?
Dá, sim. Custa um dólar só.
4. O dinheiro dá?
Não, não dá. Custa muito caro.
Que pena!
5. O dinheiro dá?
Eu acho que dá.

V. More practice with ava and ia forms. (Recorded)

Note well the ia and ava forms in these sentences. Practice along with the tape.

1. O senhor sabia que ele era solteiro?
2. O senhor sabia que ele estava em Washington?
3. O senhor sabia que ele ia ao cinema?
4. O senhor sabia que ele ficava até tarde?
5. O senhor sabia que ele falava Chinês?
6. O senhor sabia que ele comia tanto?
7. O senhor sabia que ele não se sentia bem?
8. O senhor sabia que ele morava no Leme?
9. O senhor sabia que ele trabalhava na seção política?
10. O senhor sabia que ele não conhecia a cidade?
11. Eu não sabia que você tinha tanto dinheiro.
12. Eu não sabia que você era secretária.
13. Eu não sabia que você estava com pressa.
14. Eu não sabia que você estudava tanto!
15. Eu não sabia que você pretendia ficar.
16. Eu não sabia que você pretendia acordar cedo.
17. Eu não sabia que você ia almoçar aqui.
18. Eu não sabia que você ia morar em Copacabana.
19. Eu não sabia que você tinha que fazer isso.
20. Eu não sabia que você tinha que trabalhar amanhã.
21. Eu não sabia que você queria ler.
22. Eu não sabia que você queria ir comigo.
23. Eu não sabia que você queria levar sanduíches.
24. Eu não sabia que você falava francês.
25. Eu não sabia que você podia sair cedo.

VI. More Names (Recorded)A. First Names

Practice these familiar looking first names which seem to be borrowed from English.

Milton	Édson	Gibson
Nelson	Wilson	

B. Family Names

Here are just a few of the more common family names. We are limiting ourselves to one-syllable and two-syllable names. The longer ones will appear in the next unit.

1. Two-syllable names

Practice these with the tape.

Santos	Lopes	Silva	Prado
Campos	Gomes	Lima	Mello
Bastos	Fontes	Gama	Castro
Barros	Mendes	Costa	Lobo
Ramos	Neves	Rocha	
Mattos	Alves	Prata	
	Chaves	Cunha	
	Nunes	Braga	
	Marques	Fraga	
	Borges		

With Diphthongs

Moura	Leite
Souto	Freire
Sousa*	Freitas
	Eiras
	Queirós

*This is the same name as that of the American bandmaster and composer John Philip Sousa, whose father was Portuguese. If you didn't recognize the name when you first heard it, it's because you are used to hearing it pronounced differently in English.

With Nasal Diphthongs

Galvão

Leitão

Simão

Simões

2. One-syllable names

There are not many of these. Practice them with the tape.

Cruz

Reis (diphthong)

Vaz

Translations (Recorded)

I. Practice both roles in these exchanges. There is space on the tape for repetition after each sentence. The English equivalents appear in II below.

1. Por que é que você não comeu mais?
Eu não estava com fome.
2. Por que é que você não deitou cedo?
Eu não estava com sono.
3. Por que é que você não estudou ontem à noite?
Eu não tinha o livro.
4. Por que é que você não foi lá ontem?
Eu estava sem carro.
5. Por que é que você não foi ao cinema?
Porque eu estava sem dinheiro.
6. Por que é que você não procurou outro emprego?
Eu gostava do que eu tinha.
7. Por que é que você não falou com Dona Tânia?
Porque eu estava atrasado. ('late')
8. Por que é que você não foi ao Rio?
Ficava caro.
9. Por que é que você não estudou a outra lição também?
Era difícil.

II. Now, practice putting these back into Portuguese. Check the tape or I above for confirmation.

1. Why didn't you eat more?
I wasn't hungry.
2. Why didn't you go to bed early?
I wasn't sleepy.
3. Why didn't you study last night?
I didn't have my (the) book.
4. Why didn't you go there yesterday?
I didn't have my car. (Use estar sem)
5. Why didn't you go to the movies?
Because I didn't have the money. (Use estar sem)
6. Why didn't you look for another job?
I liked the one I had.
7. Why didn't you talk to dona Tânia?
Because I was late.
8. Why didn't you go to Rio?
It was expensive. (Use ficar.)
9. Why didn't you study the other lesson too?
It was difficult.

III. Practice both roles in these exchanges.

1. Ele procurou outro emprego?
Procurou. Ele não gostava do que tinha.
2. Ele chegou atrasado?
Chegou. Antes tarde do que nunca, não é?*
3. Você reparou o terno dele?
Reparei. Era bonito, não era?
4. Você ficou em casa?
Fiquei. Eu estava cansado.
5. Você comprou o Chevrolet?
Não, não comprei. Custava muito caro.
6. Você comprou o livro?
Não, não comprei. Eu já tinha.

*Better late than never.

7. Você reparou como a Vera estava bonita?
Reparei, sim.
8. Você se perdeu?
Me perdi. Eu não conhecia a cidade.
9. Você chegou atrasado?
Cheguei. Eu não sabia que horas eram.

IV. Now, put these back into Portuguese. Check with III in case of doubt.

1. Did he look for another job?
He did. He didn't like the one he had.
2. Did he get here late?
He did. Better late than never, right?
3. Did you notice his suit?
I did. It looked nice, didn't it?
4. Did you stay home?
I did. I was tired.
5. Did you buy the Chevrolet?
No, I didn't. It cost too much.
6. Did you buy the book?
No, I didn't. I already had [it].
7. Did you notice how pretty Vera was?
Yes, I did.
8. Did you get lost?
Yes, I did. I didn't know the city.
9. Did you get here late?
Yes, I did. I didn't know what time it was.

V. Practice these very brief 'give and takes' with your teacher. The more expressive you are with these, the more fun they are.

1. É verdade?
Claro.
Nossa!

2. É verdade?
Não, não é.
Que bom!
3. É verdade?
É, sim.
Que pena!
4. É verdade?
É, sim.
Ah, é?
5. É verdade?
É, sim.
Não pode ser!
Mas é!
Nossa!
6. É verdade?
É mesmo!
Opa!*

*Another one of those untranslatable Brazilian gems. This one shows surprise.