Γειά σου!

Olá!

Cześć!

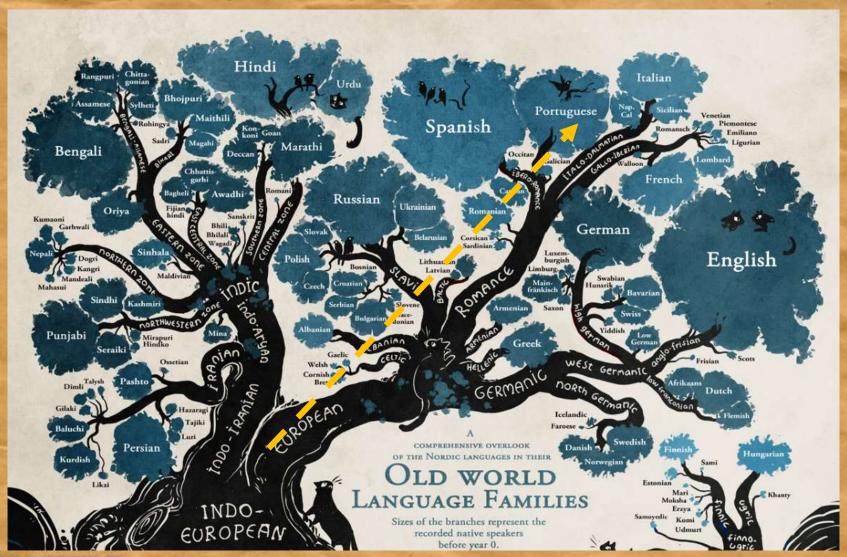
Hello!

Salut!

Hallo!

Merhaba!

Portuguese is a Western Romance (or Neo-Latin) language originating in the Iberian Peninsula.



Other Western Romanic languages include Castilian, French, Italian and Catalan.









Some facts about the Portuguese Language

- Is the sole official language of Portugal, Brazil, Mozambique, Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and São Tomé and Principe.
- It has co-official language status in Macau, Equatorial Guinea and East Timor
- Portuguese speakers are also found in Goa,
 Daman and Diu in India and in Malaccan
 Malaysia



Portuguese speaking countries



Portuguese is a part of the Ibero-Roman group that evolved from several dialects of colloquial Latin in the medieval kingdom of

Galicia.

It has:

- 210 to 215 million native speakers
- 230 million total speakers



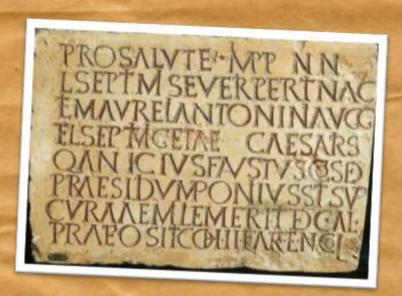
And it's listed as: the 7th most spoken language in the world and the 3rd most spoken European language and the major language of the Southern Hemisphere

History of the Portuguese Language

216 BC→The Romans arrive in the Iberian Peninsula bringing the latin language with them. All the Romance Languages descend from Latin.

The language was spread by the roman soldiers, settlers ad merchants who built Roman cities mostly near the settlements of previous civilizations.





Between 409 and 711 the Roman empire in Western Europe collapsed and the Iberian Peninsula was conquered by Germanic peoples. The occupiers, mainly Suebi and Visigoths, quickly adopted late Roman culture and the Vulgar Latin dialects of the peninsula.

Some words of Germanic origin in the portuguese language:

GUERRA (war) ROUPA (clothes) LUVA (glove) AIA (servant) GANSO (goose)

After the Moorish invasion of 711, Arabic became the administrative and common language in the conquered regions but most of the remaining Christin population continued to speak a form of Roman commonly known as Mozarabic. The influence exerted by Arabic on the different Roman dialects spoken in the Christian kingdoms and in Portugal in particular, was mainly restricted to the lexicon, but they left us about 18.000 words.

Some words of Arabic origin in the portuguese language:

LARANJA (orange) LIMÃO (lemon) GARRAFA (bottle) CAFÉ (coffee) ALMOFADA (pillow) AÇÚCAR (sugar) ÁLGEBRA ELIXIR ZERO SOFÁ

- Portuguese evolved from the medieval language, known today as Galician-Portuguese. Galician-Portuguese words and phrases are first recorded in the 9th century.
- In the first part of the Galician-Portuguese period (from the 12th to the 14th century), the language was increasingly used for documents. For some time, it was the language of preference for lyric poetry in Christian Hispania.



Portugal became an independent kingdom in 1139, under King Afonso I of Portugal. In 1290, King Denis of Portugal decreed Portuguese to be used officially.

In the second period of Old Portuguese, in the 15th and 16th centuries, with the Portuguese discoveries, the language was taken to many regions of Africa, Asia, and the Americas.



By the mid-16th century Portuguese had become a lingua franca in Asia and Africa used not only for colonial administration and trade but also for communication between local officials and Europeans of all nationalities.

The great majority of Portuguese speakers now in live in Brazil, Portugal's biggest former colony.



Curiosities

Longest word

Pneumoultramicroscopicossilicovulcanoconióticos

(47 letters) - people with a lung disease caused by the inhlation of smoke

Three new letters were added to its alphabet in 2009.

Before 2009, the letters k, y, and w did not exist in Portuguese writing.

Portuguese has provided loanwords to many languages, such as English and Japanese.

There are no frontiers between portuguese speaking countries.

The portuguese word "saudade" doesn't have a translation.

Some portuguese speaking writers

Luís de Camões

He is considered Portugal's and the Portuguese language's greatest poet. His mastery of verse has been compared to that of Shakespeare, Homer, Virgil and Dante.

Born: 1524

Died: June 10, 1580 (aged 55-56)

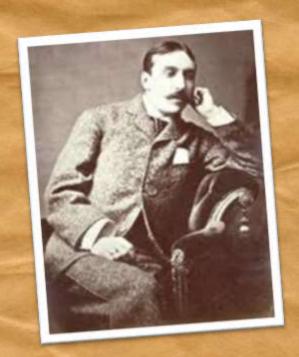


Eça de Queirós

He is generally considered to be the greatest Portuguese writer in the realist style

Born: November 25, 1845

Died: August 16, 1900 (aged 54)



Fernando Pessoa

He was a Portuguese poet, writer, literary critic, translator, publisher and philosopher, described as one of the most significant literary figures of the 20th century and one of the greatest poets in the Portuguese language.

Born: June 13, 1888

Died: November 30, 1935 (aged 47)



José Saramago

He was a Portuguese writer and recipient of the 1998 Nobel Prize in Literature. His works, some of which can be seen as allegories, emphasize the human factor in historical events.

Born: November 16, 1922 Died: June 18, 2010 (aged 87)



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Vinicius de Moraes

Vinicius de Moraes was a Brazilian poet, playwright, journalist, diplomat, singer and composer. His work includes literature, theater, cinema and music.

Born: October 19, 1913

Died: July 9, 1980 (aged 67)



João Cabral de Melo Neto

João Cabral de Melo Neto was a Brazilian poet and diplomat. He won the Neustadt Prize and the Camões Prize. He was also nominated for the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Born: January 9, 1920

Died: October 9, 1999 (aged 79)



