

Unit 29

Part I

1. Occasionally in past units you have worked with verb forms that we have labelled 'command' forms. Recall these examples:

- a. Entre, Geraldo. ()X ()X
- b. Sente. ()X ()X
- c. Desculpe. ()X ()X
- d. Lembre. ()X ()X
- e. Ô dorminhoco, acorde. ()X ()X
- f. Olhe. ()X ()X
- g. Abra as malas, por favor. ()X ()X

2. These forms are among those that are traditionally called 'command' forms. The term 'command,' however, may not be the most appropriate label for them. These are forms that the Portuguese speaker may use when he wants to tell somebody to do something, but very often they are not uttered with the authority and with the forcefulness that we usually associate with the giving of a command. The speaker is not necessarily ordering somebody to do something everytime he uses one of these forms. He may only be inviting somebody to do something, like 'Come in and sit down,' for example.

Entre, Geraldo. Sente. ()X ()X

3. Or he may be making an humble request.

Desculpe. ()X ()X

4. Or offering an admonition.

Lembre que eu sempre saio cedo. ()X ()X

5. Or getting attention.

Olhe. ()X ()X

6. Of course, an exasperated mother might well be in a very commanding mood when she feels thwarted in her efforts to arouse a late-sleeping son. She might very well order him out of bed.

Luís, acorde! ()X ()X

7. And, a customs inspector is certainly exercising some degree of authority, and to that extent 'giving a command,' when he tells you to 'open your suitcases.'

Abra as malas. ()X ()X

8. But, more often than not, you will find that the speaker is not ordering that something be done; he is just asking that it be done. He may even add 'please' to his so-called 'command.'

Sente, por favor. ()X

Desculpe, por favor. ()X

Entre, por favor. ()X

Acorde, por favor. ()X

Abra as malas, por favor. ()X

9. We will continue the tradition of calling these forms 'command' forms, realizing that 'command' is just a convenient label for a grammatical form and that a variety of moods and circumstances may be involved.

10. Here are the infinitives (neutral forms) of six of the above command forms. All are -ar verbs.

entrar ()X ()X

sentar ()X ()X

desculpar ()X ()X

lembrar ()X ()X

acordar ()X ()X

olhar ()X ()X

11. Now notice the endings of their respective command forms.

<u>entrar</u>	()X	<u>entre</u>	()X	()X
<u>sentar</u>	()X	<u>sente</u>	()X	()X
<u>desculpar</u>	()X	<u>desculpe</u>	()X	()X
<u>lembrar</u>	()X	<u>lembre</u>	()X	()X
<u>acordar</u>	()X	<u>acorde</u>	()X	()X
<u>olhar</u>	()X	<u>olhe</u>	()X	()X

12. Here are more command forms of the same type.

<u>mandar</u>	()X	<u>mande</u>	()X	()X
<u>falar</u>	()X	<u>fale</u>	()X	()X
<u>parar</u>	()X	<u>pare</u>	()X	()X
<u>trabalhar</u>	()X	<u>trabalhe</u>	()X	()X

13. The unstressed e ending is the rule for command forms of the -ar type verbs.

<u>pare</u>	()X	<u>desculpe</u>	()X
<u>lembre</u>	()X	<u>fale</u>	()X

14. The stem of a command form is normally the stem of the I-form of the present tense. If the I-form has an open O or an open E in its stem, so will the command form. Here are more -ar verbs. Compare:

<u>v</u> o <u>l</u> to ()X	<u>v</u> o <u>l</u> te ()X	<u>l</u> e <u>v</u> o ()X	<u>l</u> e <u>v</u> e ()X
alm <u>o</u> ço ()X	alm <u>o</u> ce ()X	com <u>e</u> ço ()X	com <u>e</u> ce ()X
n <u>o</u> to ()X	n <u>o</u> te ()X	res <u>e</u> rvo ()X	res <u>e</u> rve ()X

15. Thus it is that the command form acorde, which you reviewed above, has the open O.

ac <u>o</u> rdo ()X	ac <u>o</u> rde ()X
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16. Leaving the open vowels for a while, what is the command form for descansar?

(descanse)

Verify: ()X ()X

17. What does descanse mean?

(rest)

18. What is the command form for evitar?

(evite)

Verify: ()X ()X

19. And the command form for passar?

(passe)

Verify: ()X ()X

20. How about procurar?

(procure)

Verify: ()X ()X

21. And trabalhar?

(trabalhe)

Verify: ()X ()X

22. And reparar?

(repare)

Verify: ()X ()X

23. Incidentally, what does reparar mean?

(notice)

24. It is true that reparar can mean 'repair,' but you learned it earlier as 'notice,' a false cognate. Do you remember this phrase from the dialog of unit 23?

Você reparou o sapato? ()X ()X

25. What does it mean?

(Did you notice the shoes?)*

26. Now, if you want to tell somebody to 'notice the shoes,' you will say this:

Repare o sapato. ()X ()X

*A reminder: shoes are usually regarded as a pair, hence singular.

27. And if you want to tell somebody to 'buy the shoes,' you will say this:

Compre o sapato. ()X ()X

28. How would you tell somebody to 'buy the Chevrolet'?
(Compre o Chevrolet)

Verify: ()X ()X

29. How would you tell somebody to 'buy the book'?
(Compre o livro)

Verify: ()X ()X

30. Your friend is working hard and is tired. How do you tell him to 'rest a little'?
(Descanse um pouco)

Verify: ()X ()X

31. Your friend is not working at Portuguese as hard as he might. How do you suggest that he 'study more'?
(Estude mais)

Verify: ()X ()X

32. You want to make sure your friend gets to the airport in time for an early morning flight. Advise him to 'get up at 5 o'clock.'
(Levante às cinco)

Verify: ()X ()X

33. Your taxi driver has arrived at your destination. Tell him to 'stop here.'
(parar)
(Pare aqui)

Verify: ()X ()X

34. The cook wants to know what to do next. Tell her to 'prepare the food.'
(Prepare a comida)

Verify: ()X ()X

35. You respond to a knock at the door and find your friend, João, standing there. Invite him to 'come in.'

(Entre, João)

Verify: ()X ()X

36. The room clerk wants to know if she should reserve one room or two. Tell her to 'reserve two, please.'

(Reserve dois, por favor)

Verify: ()X ()X

37. Your friend wonders if he should take one suitcase or two. How do you advise him to 'take two'? (levar)

(Leve duas)

Verify: ()X ()X

38. At a party you might offer your guest another Coke by saying 'Take more Coca-Cola.' How would you say this? (tomar)

(Tome mais Coca-Cola)

Verify: ()X ()X

39. You offer to pick up a friend who is stranded with car trouble. After finding out where he is you tell him to 'stay there.'

(Fique aí)*

Verify: ()X ()X

40. What do you suppose this item means?

() ()

(Hurry up!)

41. You may have a bit of trouble with number 40. The verb is andar 'walk' (Estorinha, Unit 28). You know pressa from the expression Estou com pressa 'I'm in a hurry.'

Ande depressa ()X ()X

*The qu spelling of fique is a writing convention which shows that the k sound of the infinitive ficar is retained in the command form. Writing the command form with a c (i.e. fice) would indicate that an s sound exists where in fact it doesn't. (c before e always indicates an s sound.)

42. All of the above samples involve -ar type verbs. The unstressed e sound is the standard ending for command forms of -ar type verbs.

<u>falar</u>	()X	<u>fale</u>	()X
<u>passar</u>	()X	<u>passe</u>	()X
<u>mandar</u>	()X	<u>mande</u>	()X
<u>reservar</u>	()X	<u>reserve</u>	()X
<u>procurar</u>	()X	<u>procure</u>	()X

43. But, recall this example of a command form of an -ir type.

abra ()X ()X

44. It occurs in this sentence.

Abra as malas. ()X ()X

45. Also, notice this command form of an -ir verb.

dirija* ()X ()X

46. It might occur in this sentence. Just listen.

Dirija com cuidado. ()X ()X

47. The word cuidado means 'care.' Thus the sentence says 'Drive with care,' or 'Drive carefully.' Repeat.

Dirija com cuidado. ()X ()X

48. What is the infinitive form of abra?

(abrir)

Verify: ()X ()X

49. What is the infinitive form of dirija?

(dirigir)

Verify: ()X ()X

50. Compare:

<u>abrir</u>	()X	:	<u>abra</u>	()X
<u>dirigir</u>	()X	:	<u>dirija</u>	()X ▼

*The j spelling is required before the a to show that this form of the verb has the same consonant sound represented in the infinitive by g (dirigir).

51. Now, notice this command form of an -er type verb.

esqueça ()X ()X

52. What does it mean?

(forget)

53. What is its infinitive form?

(esquecer)

Verify: ()X ()X

54. Here is another command form of an -er type verb.

coma ()X ()X

55. What is its infinitive form?

(comer)

Verify: ()X ()X

56. What does coma mean?

(eat)

57. Here is another command form of an -er type verb.

beba ()X ()X

58. What does it mean?

(drink)

59. What is its infinitive form?

(beber)

Verify: ()X ()X

60. Here is one more command form of the same sort.

escreva ()X ()X

61. What does it mean?

(write)

62. What is its infinitive form?

(escrever)

Verify: ()X ()X

63. Compare:

comer ()X : coma ()X

beber ()X : beba ()X

escrever ()X : escreva ()X

64. Thus the unstressed a sound is the ending for command forms of both -ir and -er type verbs.

abrir ()X : abra ()X

comer ()X : coma ()X

65. So, how do you say 'Eat more bread'? Remember, 'bread' is pão.
(Coma mais pão)

Verify: ()X ()X

66. And how would you say 'Eat less bread'?

(Coma menos pão)

Verify: ()X ()X

67. How do you tell someone to 'drink more Coca-Cola'?

(Beba mais Coca-Cola)

Verify: ()X ()X

68. This may be a good time to introduce the word for 'beer,' in case you don't already know it.

cerveja ()X ()X

69. So, how do you tell someone to 'have(drink) more beer'?

(Beba mais cerveja)

Verify: ()X ()X

70. How would you tell someone to 'write his name'?

(Escreva o seu nome)

Verify: ()X ()X

71. Suggest to someone that he 'open the window.'

(Abra a janela)

Verify: ()X ()X

72. Suggest to someone else that he 'open the door.'

(Abra a porta)

Verify: ()X ()X

73. How does your instructor tell you to 'open the book'?

(Abra o livro)

Verify: ()X ()X

74. Ask your friend to 'drive carefully' (com cuidado).

(Dirija com cuidado)

Verify: ()X ()X

Negative Commands

75. To tell somebody not to do something, simply precede the command form with não. Thus, 'Don't speak' is:

Não fale ()X ()X

76. 'Don't wait' is:

Não espere ()X ()X

77. And 'Don't buy' is:

Não compre ()X ()X

78. How do you say 'Don't get up'?

(Não levante)

Verify: ()X ()X

79. How do you say 'Don't stop'?

(Não pare)

Verify: ()X ()X

80. How about 'Don't stay'?

(Não fique)

Verify: ()X ()X

81. How do you say 'Don't forget'? (-er type)

(Não esqueça)

Verify: ()X ()X

82. How do you say 'Don't eat'?

(Não coma)

Verify: ()X ()X

83. How about 'Don't drink'?

(Não beba)

Verify: ()X ()X

84. And 'Don't open'?

(Não abra)

Verify: ()X ()X

85. Most verbs that have an irregularity in the I-form of the present tense will have the same irregularity in the command form. Do you recall the somewhat irregular form for 'I leave'?

saio ()X ()X

86. The same irregular stem sai- appears in the command form: sai-a.

saia ()X ()X

87. Thus the way to say 'Leave the hotel' is:

Saia do hotel. ()X ()X

88. How would you say 'Don't leave the hotel'?

(Não saia do hotel)

Verify: ()X ()X

89. The form for 'I do' or 'I make' is irregular: faço (from fazer).

faço ()X ()X

90. You have already learned the command form faça in the expression 'please,' which is literally 'do the favor.'

Faça o favor ()X ()X

91. So, the command 'do' or 'make' is faça.

faça ()X ()X

92. How would you say 'Do that'?

(Faça isso)

Verify: ()X ()X

93. How would you say 'Don't do that'?

(Não faça isso)

Verify: ()X ()X

94. The form for 'I repeat' is also irregular. The infinitive is repetir, but 'I repeat' is repito, not repeto.

repito ()X ()X

95. Thus the command form is repita.

repita ()X ()X

96. How many times have you heard your instructor use that form!

repita ()X ()X

97. Do you remember 'continue straight ahead'?

siga em frente ()X ()X

98. The infinitive form is seguir (-ir type).

seguir ()X ()X

99. The form for 'I continue' is irregular. It is sigo, not sego.

sigo ()X ()X

100. And the command contains the same irregularity.

siga ()X ()X

101. Here is, 'From here continue by taxi.'

Daqui siga de táxi. ()X ()X

102. And here is, 'From there continue by car.'

De lá siga de carro. ()X ()X

103. The form for 'I sleep' is also irregular. It is durmo, not dormo.

durmo ()X ()X

104. The command form, as is to be expected, contains the same irregularity.

durma ()X ()X

105. So how do you tell somebody to 'sleep eight hours'?
(Durma oito horas)

Verify: ()X ()X

106. How do you tell him 'don't sleep so much'?
(Não durma tanto)

Verify: ()X ()X

107. And, finally, how do you tell him to 'sleep well'?
(Durma bem)

Verify: ()X ()X

108. The form for 'I bring' is trago, from the infinitive trazer. Remember this phrase?

Eu sô trago roupa ()X ()X

109. What is the command form 'bring'?
(traga)

Verify: ()X ()X

110. How would you say 'Bring a sandwich'?
(Traga um sanduíche)

Verify: ()X ()X

111. Now say, 'Don't bring anything.'
(Não traga nada)

Verify: ()X ()X

112. Returning again to some verbs with open E and open O,
say, 'Don't return today.'

(Não volte hoje)

Verify: ()X ()X

113. Say 'Don't eat lunch late.'

(Não almoce tarde)

Verify: ()X ()X

114. Say, 'Don't take so many.' (So many' is tantos.)

(Não leve tantos)

Verify: ()X ()X

115. Say, 'Don't begin so early.'

(Não comece tão cedo)

Verify: ()X ()X

116. And finally, say 'Don't wait.'

(Não espere)

Verify: ()X ()X

Practice 1.

These questions all ask 'Shall I' or 'Should I' do something. Practice answering them with a command form as we have done here.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Compro este livro? | Compre, sim. |
| 2. Quando eu compro? | Compre agora. |
| 3. Vendo o meu carro? | Não, não venda. |
| 4. Falo português? | Fale, sim. |
| 5. Onde eu fico? | Fique aqui em casa. |
| 6. Onde eu espero? | Espere no hotel. |
| 7. Onde eu sento? | Sente aqui. |
| 8. Onde é que eu compro
as passagens? | Compre na Varig. |
| 9. Quantas eu compro? | Compre cinco. |
| 10. Com quem eu falo? | Fale com Luís Antônio. |
| 11. O que eu tomo? | Tome café. |
| 12. Levo a Ângela ou o
Marcos? | Leve os dois. |
| 13. Almoço agora ou
mais tarde? | Almoce agora. |
| 14. paro aqui ou lá? | Pare aqui. |
| 15. Sento aqui ou lá? | Sente lá. |
| 16. Mando dois ou três? | Mande um. |
| 17. Telefono para ele
ou para ela? | Telefone para ela. |
| 18. Escrevo uma carta
ou um cartão? | Escreva um cartão. |
| 19. Trago dois ou três? | Traga só dois. |
| 20. Como mais pão? | Não, não coma. |

Part II

1. Now we go to the plural command forms, the forms you use when you are addressing more than one person.

Listen first to these plural command forms of several -ar type verbs. The infinitive is shown in brackets. Just listen, especially to the endings.

1. [falar] : () ()
2. [mandar] : () ()
3. [esperar] : () ()
4. [sentar] : () ()
5. [entrar] : () ()
6. [almoçar] : () ()

2. The ending for these forms is the same unstressed -em ending you have learned to use with -er and -ir type verbs in the present tense. Now, however, when attached to -ar type verbs, this ending signals a plural command.

Listen again and repeat.

1. falem ()X ()X
2. mandem ()X ()X
3. esperem ()X ()X
4. sentem ()X ()X
5. entrem ()X ()X
6. almoçem ()X ()X

3. So, how do you tell a group of people to 'sit down'?
(sentem)

Verify: ()X ()X

4. How do you tell them to 'wait'?
(esperem)
Verify: ()X ()X
5. How do you tell them to 'prepare well'?
(preparam bem)
Verify: ()X ()X
6. How do you tell them to 'look for another'?
(procurem outro)
Verify: ()X ()X
7. Ask the group to 'stay here.'
(fiquem aqui)
Verify: ()X ()X
8. Ask them to 'speak with Antonio.'
(falem com Antônio)
Verify: ()X ()X
9. Ask them to 'rest now.'
(descansem agora)
Verify: ()X ()X
10. Ask them to 'declare everything.'
(declarem tudo)
Verify: ()X ()X
11. Now ask them to 'arrive early.'
(cheguem cedo)
Verify: ()X ()X
12. And, finally, ask them to 'reserve two, please.'
(reservem dois, por favor)
Verify: ()X ()X
13. Now listen to these plural command forms of several -er and -ir type verbs. The infinitive is shown in brackets. Listen especially to the endings.

1. [comer] : () ()
2. [escrever] : () ()
3. [beber] : () ()
4. [abrir] : () ()
5. [dirigir] : () ()
6. [repetir] : () ()
7. [seguir] : () ()

14. You probably recognize the ending as the same unstressed -am ending that you have learned to use with the -ar type verbs in the present tense. Here, however, when attached to -er and -ir type verbs, this ending signals a plural command.

Listen again and repeat

1. comam ()X ()X
2. escrevam ()X ()X
3. bebam ()X ()X
4. abram ()X ()X
5. dirijam ()X ()X
6. repitam ()X ()X
7. sigam ()X ()X

15. So, tell a group of people to 'open the door.'
(Abram a porta)

Verify: ()X ()X

16. Now, tell them 'not to open the window.'
(Não abram a janela)

Verify: ()X ()X

17. Tell the group to 'write a letter.'
(Escrevam uma carta)

Verify: ()X ()X

18. Tell them to 'drive carefully.'
(Dirijam com cuidado)

Verify: ()X ()X

19. How would you tell them to 'eat more pastéis'?
(Comam mais pastéis)

Verify: ()X ()X

20. How would you tell them to 'drink more water'?
('water' = água)
(Bebam mais água)

21. Remember, it is very common to use the verb tomar 'take' in addition to beber for 'drinking.' So what is another way of saying 'drink more water'?
(Tomem mais água)

Verify: ()X ()X

22. How would you tell a group to 'continue straight ahead'?
(Sigam em frente)

Verify: ()X ()X

Practice 1.

Practice saying these singular and plural commands.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Não repita isso. | Não repitam isso. |
| 2. Não faça isso. | Não façam isso. |
| 3. Não espere aqui. | Não esperem aqui. |
| 4. Não tome mais. | Não tomem mais. |
| 5. Não siga de carro. | Não sigam de carro. |
| 6. Coma bem. | Comam bem. |
| 7. Sente lá. | Sentem lá. |
| 8. Levante cedo. | Levantem cedo. |
| 9. Abra a porta. | Abram a porta. |
| 10. Lembre tudo. | Lembrem tudo. |

EXCHANGES

Part 1. Practice singular commands in these exchanges.

1. Posso esperar aqui?
Pois não. Sente, por favor.

2. Eu queria falar com o Luís. Ele está no escritório?
Está, sim. Espere aqui, por favor.
3. Bom dia. O Luís está em casa?
Bom dia. Eu acho que sim. Entre, por favor.
4. Boa noite. Posso falar com o Luís?
Boa noite. Pois não. Entre. Sente.
5. Eu estou procurando o Sêrgio. O senhor sabe onde
é que ele está?
Eu não tenho certeza... Espere aqui... Acho que
ele está na outra sala.
6. Espere aqui. Eu vou procurar o Marcos.
Está bom. Eu espero.
7. São oito horas. Eu vou sair agora. Está bom?
Está. Mas não volte tarde, ouviu? Amanhã é
segunda-feira.
8. Lembre que ela é americana.
Ah, é? Eu não sabia.
9. Lembre que ele é seu chefe.
Como é que eu posso esquecer?
10. Não esqueça. O senhor é o chefe.
Tem razão. Às vezes eu esqueço mesmo.
11. Pare.
Por quê?
Porque a casa é esta.
12. Não faça isso.
Por que não?
Porque eu não gosto.
13. Não faça sanduíche hoje.
Por que não?
Porque eu estou cansado de comer sanduíche.

14. Não esqueça o que eu falei.
Eu não vou esquecer...nunca!
15. Repare que eu não estou comendo muito hoje.
E daí?
16. Repare o sapato novo dela.
É muito bonito.
17. Não mude para o Leme.
Por que não?
É muito longe.
18. Não repita isso.
Por que não?
Porque não é verdade.
19. Não abra a janela.
Por que não?
Porque está chovendo.
20. Não coma lá.
Por que não?
Porque a comida não é boa.
21. Não compre o livro.
Por que não?
Porque é muito caro.

The following are examples with olhe 'look'.

22. Olhe quem chegou! Bom dia, Jorge.
Bom dia. Cheguei tarde outra vez. Desculpe.
23. Olhe quem está aqui!
Oi, Luís Sérgio, como vai?
24. Olhe, Marcos, a gente vai ou não vai?
Espere aí. Já vou!
25. Olhe o que ele está fazendo.
Não faça isso, menino!

26. Olhe quem vem lá. O Fernando!
Oi, Fernando! Tudo bom?

Part 2.

Try putting these back into Portuguese.

1. May I wait here?
Of course. Sit down, please.
2. I wanted to speak with Luis. Is he in the office?
Yes, he is. Wait here, please.
3. Good morning. Is Luis at home?
Good morning. I think so. Come in, please.
4. Good evening. May I speak with Luis?
Good evening. Of course. Come in. Sit down.
5. I'm looking for Sergio. Do you know where he is?
I'm not sure...Wait here...I think he's in the other room.
6. Wait here. I'm going to look for Marcos.
O.K. I'll wait.
7. It's 8 o'clock. I'm going to go out now. O.K.?
O.K. But don't come back late. Tomorrow is Monday.
8. Remember that she's American.
Oh, really? I didn't know.
9. Remember that he's your boss.
How can I forget (it)!
10. Don't forget. You're the boss.
You're right. At times I do forget. (mesmo)
11. Stop!
Why?
Because this is the house.
12. Don't do that!
Why not?
I don't like (it).

13. Don't make sandwiches today.
Why not?
I'm tired of eating sandwiches.
14. Don't forget what I said.
I'm not going to forget----ever!
15. Notice that I'm not eating a lot today.
And so?
16. Notice her new shoes.
They're very pretty.
17. Don't move to Leme. (mudar)
Why not?
It's too far.
18. Don't repeat that.
Why not?
It's not true.
19. Don't open the window.
Why not?
It's raining.
20. Don't eat there.
Why not?
The food isn't good.
21. Don't buy the book.
Why not?
It's too expensive.
22. Look who arrived! Good morning, George.
Good morning. I'm late again. Sorry.
23. Look who's here.
Hi, Luis Sergio. How's it going?
24. Look, Marcos, are we going or aren't we?
Just a minute. I'll be right there!
25. Look what he's doing.
Don't do that, young man!
26. Look who's coming. Fernando!
Hi, Fernando! How's it going?

REVIEW

Practice with Past Tenses

Notice the contrast between the 'used to/would' forms and the simple past.

1. O senhor Brooks ia muito para o Brasil a negócios.
(A negócios quer dizer 'on business')
2. Ele gostava de viajar pela Braniff, mas muitas vezes viajava pela Varig porque gostava da comida.
3. Ele saía de Nova Iorque à noite e chegava ao Rio às sete ou oito da manhã.
4. Ele sempre chegava cansado porque não dormia bem.
5. Ontem de noite ele viajou outra vez.
6. Saiu de Nova Iorque mais ou menos às nove horas, e chegou ao Rio hoje às oito e meia da manhã.
7. Ele viajou pela Varig, e, como sempre, gostou muito da comida.
8. Jantou, tomou café e quando chegou ao Rio não estava mais com fome.
9. Mas estava cansado e com sono porque não dormiu.
10. Ele saiu do aeroporto e foi direto para Copacabana.

ESTORINHAVocabulário

alguns	some
animar	to brighten, encourage
aprender	to learn
árvore	tree
caminhão	truck
canto	corner
cargo	charge, responsibility; position
carreira	career
dentro de	within; inside
desconhecido	unknown
enfrentar	to face; to take on
etapa	step; stage
floresta	jungle; forest
imensidão	immensity
ingressar	to join; to enter
língua	language
menor	least, slightest
mudança	move
ouvir	to hear
país	country
partir	to leave
plantar	to plant
povo	people
quintal	back yard
sentir falta	to miss
tomar posse	to take possession; to take over
vazia	empty
vida	life

O caminhão parte com a mudança. Ann e Mark andam pela casa vazia. Vão até o quintal e, em silêncio, olham as árvores que plantaram há dois anos, quando para ali se mudaram. Vão sentir falta dos amigos, da casa, da Califórnia.

Ainda em silêncio, voltam para dentro da casa, mas ao ver as malas num canto da sala eles se animam. Uma nova vida vai começar.

Mark vai ingressar na carreira diplomática. Dentro de alguns meses ele deve tomar posse do seu novo cargo na Embaixada Americana em Brasília. Brasília, a moderna capital do Brasil, país para eles ainda tão desconhecido. Do Rio eles já ouviram falar. Já viram fotografias do carnaval, de Copacabana. Da imensidão da floresta Amazônica e do rio Amazonas também sabem. Mas o Brasil é tão grande! E o povo? E a língua? A língua é português, mas eles não têm a menor idéia dela.

A primeira etapa dessa nova vida vai ser em Washington. Lá vão ter que passar uns meses para aprender português. Amanhã eles partem para Washington e então vão estar prontos para enfrentar a nova vida que começa.