



About me

I am a trained and very experienced language teacher with a lot of happy past and present students (see below!)

A few numbers - I've been teaching languages for 18 years now, have been living in Central Portugal near Tomar for 15 years, and teaching Portuguese to foreigners for 6 years, over skype for the last 2 years or so.

My training is in teaching foreign languages, I worked for over 8 years training young adults for Cambridge exams with great success, and I keep myself up to date on learning methods and material. What I find particularly interesting and is most useful to me is how we learn, the process, the difficulties we have in learning as an adult. Over the last few years I've invested in a lot of text books and built up a bank of resources so I can offer a wide variety of lessons at different levels to suit my students. I'm not a native speaker of Portuguese, I learnt Portuguese as an adult, attended classes and courses and did a huge amount of self-study to learn the language. I draw on my own (and my student's) experiences of learning Portuguese as well as the similarities and differences between English and Portuguese to help others to enjoy learning make the classes as relevant and efficient as possible.

Some comments from my students

can understand the many puzzlements that we or others may have and can explain them in ways that make sense

understands the problems students might have in learning the language and patiently helps everyone with their individual needs

explained things in an uncomplicated way, allowing us to have a go at speaking without feeling out of our depth

I speak two other languages and have had numerous teachers over the years. Emma is one of the best

I love Emma's teaching, her calm and interested approach, ability to keep us on task (without being a dragon) and the obvious hard work and thought behind each well-constructed course and class.

managed to make both my husband and I feel that all the irregular verbs that had previously confused and mystified us, were becoming much more manageable and far less frightening than I at first thought

uses audio, visual and interactive methods to give you the confidence to progress. A million miles away from somebody just standing at a blackboard!

Emma's classes are valuable, not only because she is a very good teacher, but because Portuguese is not her mother tongue. I've found this very important as she can understand the difficulties that English speakers have with pronunciation and a completely different grammar.

I can honestly say I enjoy the Portuguese lessons with Emma. She adapts the content to suit different learning styles and levels.