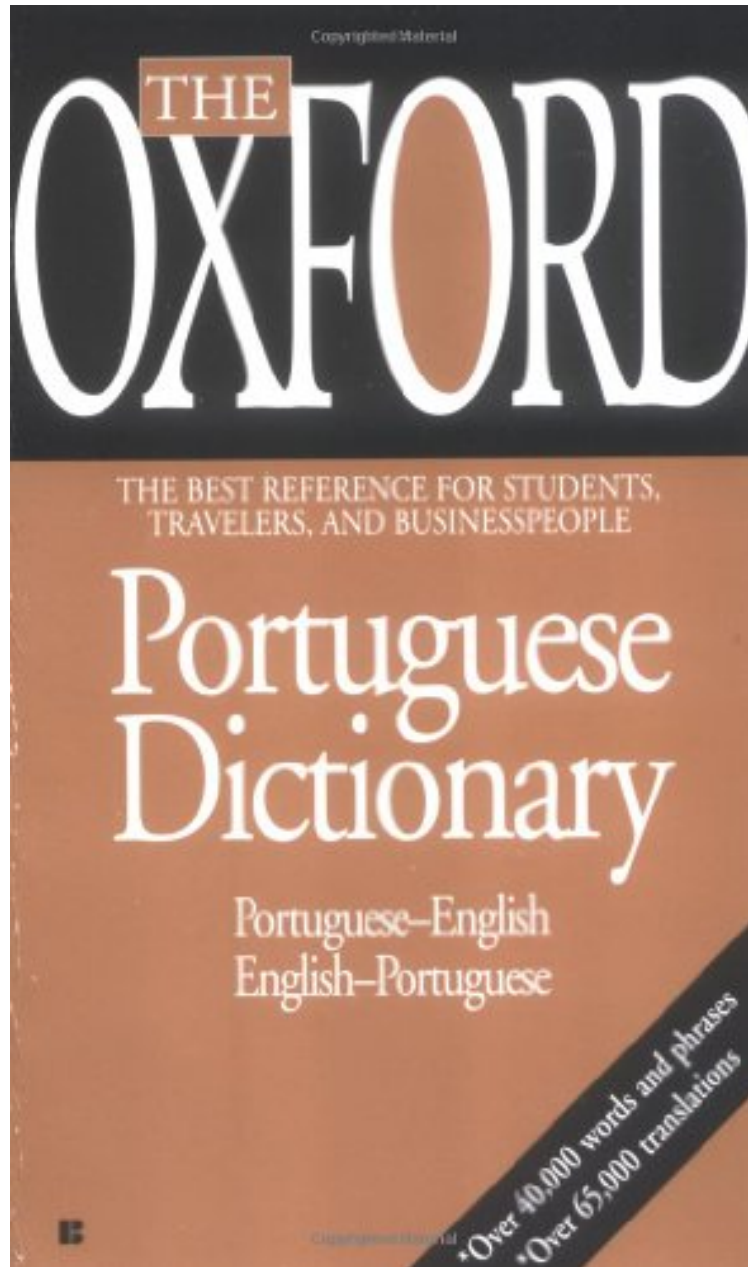


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BuyerBeware22Don't recommend this for your Brazilian students if you're an American ESL instructor (British IPA pronunciation notation, and it's well out of date). The binding on it isn't what a student looking to make serious usage out of a pocket dictionary needs.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Decent content with cheap paper and binding
By AlexI won't comment much on the content since I'm a beginner, but I'm quite experienced with studying languages.The font is a little small but readable and clear. Typography is generally quite good. Multiple definitions are clearly delineated. So I think it will be easy to use for my Portuguese class.However, this paperback edition is poorly bound with cheap paper.It's going to yellow and crumble apart in 2 years -- tops.I'd happily pay more for an edition with acid-free paper and brighter paper.6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Coverage of Continental Portuguese Inadequate (EDITED)
By Gary TownsendI removed my earlier review, so that it's rating would not affect the overall rating of this dictionary (when I tried to edit it, I found I could edit the text, but I couldn't change the rating).My major complaint about this dictionary is that its coverage of Continental Portuguese is inadequate, and for it to be said that "both Brazilian and European Portuguese are covered" is therefore misleading. The variances between the two are greater than Oxford leads the reader to believe. A good example of this is the Portuguese equivalent for "Hurry up!" Oxford provides "Ande logo!" as the equivalent for this, but my girlfriend tells me that that is thoroughly Brazilian. Yet Oxford doesn't indicate that this is the Brazilian expression. The Continental Portuguese for this is "Vem depressa!" or "Vem rpido!"
EDIT (17 JUL 2008): Due to the recent passage of the Acordo Ortogrífico (Orthographic Agreement - in other words, spelling agreement), the differences in spelling between Brazilian Portuguese and European/Continental Portuguese will soon disappear. This still presents some problems, however. Here's an example of what I mean:
CURRENT ORTHOGRAPHY IN PORTUGAL, AFRICA, AND ASIA:De facto, o portugus actualmente a terceira lngua europeia mais falada do mundo.
CURRENT BRAZILIAN ORTHOGRAPHY:De fato, o portugus atualmente a terceira lngua europia mais falada do mundo.You'll notice from the sentence above that in Brazil the word "fact" is "fato," while elsewhere in the Portuguese-speaking world it is "facto." Also, "actualmente" (PT and elsewhere)/"atualmente" (BR).
AND NOW, THE REFORMED ORTHOGRAPHY, AS PROPOSED BY THIS AGREEMENT:De facto/fato, o portugus atualmente a terceira lngua europeia mais falada do mundo.(Translation: "Indeed, Portuguese is currently the third-most spoken European language in the world.")The word "fact" (facto/fato) is one of the big problems with this agreement. Why? Because in Portugal, Africa, and Asia, "fato" means clothes or a suit (as in a business suit). In Brazil, it does not. This is why, in the Reformed Orthographic example given above, you see both "fato" and "facto." The present agreement seems to think that it's best to not address this problem.This agreement needs lots of work, yet it has been passed into law. There are those in Portugal, my girlfriend included, who look at this agreement as "linguistic terrorism," because it FORCES changes upon the language, rather than to allow it to change NATURALLY. American English sounds different from British English, for example, largely because of the distance between the two nations (although there are some American accents which have a close relationship to British). The same is true of the differences between Brazilian pronunciation over Portuguese pronunciation. American spelling differences came about largely because those who created the first American dictionaries wanted the language to reflect its informality as compared to the formality of proper British English. The spelling differences between Brazilian and European/Continental Portuguese came about because of the distance between the two nations, as well as Brazil's proximity to America (making Brazilian Portuguese spelling closer to English, in places where that was possible, made for better economic relations between Brazil and the United States).It will take time for the spelling changes found in this agreement to take place among the Portuguese speaking populations in Portugal, Africa, and Asia, but it also very likely means the END of materials that cater specifically to European/Continental Portuguese. Sigh.

No matter what your question, chances are Oxford has the answer--in one of the outstanding mass-market reference books from Oxford University Press and The Berkley Publishing Group. Now we continue this fine program with a new assortment of essential volumes, eye-catchingly designed and perfect for the approaching back-to-school season.

Language NotesText: English, PortugeseAbout the AuthorAbout the Editor: John Whitlam is a specialist lexicographer of Portuguese and German. He has contributed to a large number of dictionary projects in both languages.