UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SANTA CATARINA

DEPARTAMENTO DE LÍNGUA E LITERATURA ESTRANGEIRAS

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE ENGLISH AND PORTUGUESE PRESENT TENSES: A SYSTEMIC ANALYSIS

Tese submetida à Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina para a obtenção do grau de Mestre em Letras
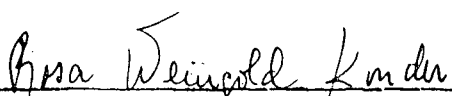
NICOLETA THEODORO NICOLACÓPULOS

Florianópolis

Santa Catarina - Brasil

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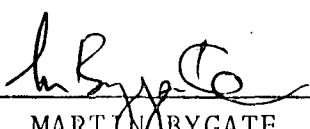ESTA TESE FOI JULGADA ADEQUADA PARA A OBTENÇÃO DO TÍTULO DE:

"MESTRE EM LETRAS"

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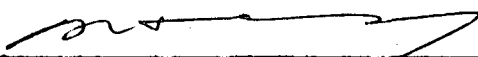

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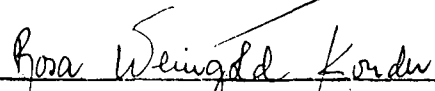

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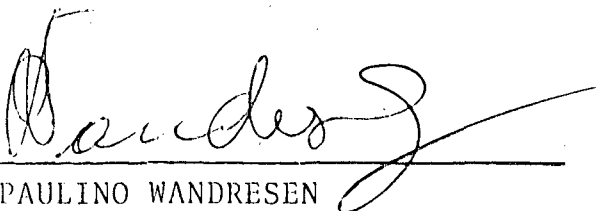
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PROF. DR. PAULINO WANDRESEN

Aos meus pais

Theodoro e Anastácia

e irmãos

Jorge e Apóstolo

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À Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina que me possibilitou a realização deste trabalho.

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C O N T E N T S

TABLES AND DIAGRAMS

A B S T R A C T

This is a systemic study of the functions of the English and Portuguese Tenses which have present time reference. It is an attempt to explain the structural differences between the two languages in terms of the concepts involved in verbal systems.

Although the English and Portuguese verbal systems belong to the same conceptual system, they differ considerably in terms of the realization of the conceptual meanings. The main differences were found to be between the Portuguese Simple Present / Present Perfect / Present Progressive and Past and the English Present Perfect / Present Perfect Progressive. The differences are basically related to the order relationships to the axis of orientation, and to the combination of these tenses with the indication of either initiative or terminative aspect.

R E S U M O

Este é um estudo sistêmico dos tempos gramaticais do Português e Inglês que aludem ao tempo presente. Esta abordagem tenta explicar as diferenças estruturais entre as duas línguas em termos dos conceitos em que se baseiam os sistemas verbais.

Embora o inglês e o Português possuam o mesmo sistema conceitual, estas duas línguas diferem em termos da representação destes conceitos. As diferenças mais relevantes foram notadas entre o Presente, o Pretérito Perfeito, o Pretérito Perfeito Composto e o Presente Progressivo em Português e o "Present Perfect" e o "Present Perfect Progressive" em Inglês. Estas diferenças estão principalmente ligadas às relações de ordem em função do eixo de orientação e à combinação destes tempos gramaticais com a indicação de aspecto iniciativo ou terminativo.

INTRODUCTION

This dissertation aims at finding a systemic explanation for the structural differences between the English and Portuguese tenses that have present time reference.

The choice of a systemic approach is the result of the study of William E. Bull's monograph 'Time, Tense and the Verb' and of other works in which the English and Portuguese tenses are dealt with.

The meanings, or rather, the 'uses' of tenses are usually described in terms of compatibility. The criterion of compatibility is not wrong in itself and is not to be disregraded. What should be pointed out as regards the semantics of tenses is that we are dealing with compatibility between two distinct systems: the system of tense and the system of time, which, therefore, cannot be equated. What happens is that the two systems interact; how they interact is of course important. As Bull (1971:2) says "Definitions established by the criteria of compatibility are limited to the enumeration of common denominators. Systemic definitions not only enumerate the common denominators but also define the unique characteristics of the system and the unique role of each morpheme in terms of the contrasting functions of the other morphemes of the same system".

If the criterion of compatibility alone is inadequate for the description of the functions of the forms of the system in one language, it is even more inadequate for the analysis of the differences between the analogous systems of different languages. For instance, how could the formal differences between

I've lived in Rio since 1950   and
Moro no Rio desde 1950

be explained in terms of compatibility ? The difference can only be explained systemically, that is, by first defining the function or functions of the English Present Perfect in contrast with the functions of the other English Present tenses, and then the functions of the Portuguese Simple Present in contrast with the functions of the other Portuguese Present Tenses. The differences will then be seen in their proper systemic perspective.

A systemic analysis would not be possible without the study of the concepts involved in verbal systems. In Chapter 1, we review the concepts of time, tense, and aspect in the light of recent studies.

In Chapter 2, we present a systemic description of the tense forms that have or may have present time reference in English. In Chapter 3, the same is done with relation to Portuguese.

In Chapter 4, we attempt to give a systemic explanation of the structural differences between the English and Portuguese tense forms in question.

We will feel gratified if this study contributes to a better understanding of the verbal expression of present time in English and Portuguese.

C H A P T E R   1

REVIEW   OF   CONCEPTS

In this chapter we will review the general concepts of time, tense and aspect and relate them to Bull's systemic approach.

1.0. Systemic   Analysis

A system is by definition closed; it is characterized, therefore, by having a finite number of terms, each term being exclusive of the others and performing at least one unique function.

In a systemic analysis, SYSTEM and STRUCTURE represent the deep level and the surface respectively of the grammar of a language. In the case of this study, the Present Tense forms represented the structural or formal level through which the systemic or semantic level is realized.

The analysis of the semantics of the English and Portuguese Present Tenses - an indispensable preliminary step - and of the differences between them is based on Bull's systemic approach. It should be noted that his monograph is the result of seventeen years of research into a large number of languages belonging to twelve

unrelated families. He classifies the tense systems of the languages into three groups, English and Portuguese appearing in the same group of languages whose tense system is defined as a 'tense-aspect' system.

The functions of the Present Tenses in English and Portuguese and the systemic differences between them cannot be described without first considering two sets of questions. One is related to the concept of TIME and the other to the type of relationship between TIME and TENSE.

Foremost in the first set is the definition of PRESENT TIME as experienced by man. The crucial question in the second is: Do tense forms express time ? If they do not, then what do they indicate ?

The resolution of these issues is essential to the object of this study. We have found it necessary then to look into the concepts involved in tense systems. In this chapter different views will be discussed. At the end we expect to have arrived at the general meanings or functions of Present Tenses whatever form they may have.

2.0. <u>Time</u>

As time and tense are generally not distinguished in the traditional treatment of tenses, the concept of time is left unexplained.

In 'A Grammar of Contemporary English', all that is said about time is that it is "a universal concept divided into three units: Past Time, Present Time (marked as a point on a line pointing indefinitely into the Future),

and Future Time" (84). It is further explained that the concept
is universal because the units of time are extralingistic.

It is only in Bull's work that we find a detailed study
of how time is experienced by man.

Time as an abstract concept is concerned with duration.
It is an indivisible, infinite and bidirectional entity which
goes beyond the limits of consciousness and human knowledge.
There are no linguistic devices to represent the quickness of
thought. Thus, since abstract time cannot be represented and
referred to, for practical purposes and understanding, time
is dealt with as an objective entity or reality. Objective
time is represented by one infinite straight line and capable
of being divided into intervals. These intervals are limited
by the events that man performs in time.

Man perceives time through the order and seriality of
cosmic events or natural phenomena. The order of cosmic events
is set in direct relation to his own observation, or to his
position in space. Thus, what is before, after or simultaneous,
depends on the experience of the person perceiving these
relations. The relativity of the order relations is due to the
fact that there are different organizations of reality created
by the existence of space and distinct velocities of sound and
light. Bull exemplifies this by describing how two people
perceive the same event when a gun is shot. For the man shooting
the gun the flash and the explosion are simultaneous, while
for another man, one thousand yards away, the flash occurs
before the explosion and both the flash and the explosion occur
at a later time. "What the first experiences as simultaneous,

the second experiences as consecutive, and what the second experiences as present, the first is already recollecting" (Bull: 12).

At the time man experiences simultaneity with one event, he is able to locate himself between two other events: the event prior to, and the event posterior to that one he experiences. By locating himself between two events, man is locating, himself in time.

The fact that man can experience simultaneity and therefore locate himself in time, distinguishes two kinds of present: a TIME Present and an ORDER Present. The Time Present is called 'EXTENDED PRESENT' and comprises the time interval between two events (the recalled event A and the antecipated event A'), The length of this interval is determined by man. As Bull says, the Extended Present needs to be conceptualized as something like an accordion which can be expanded or contracted at will and which can be shifted from the 'present moment' to the 'present century'. The ORDER PRESENT or POINT PRESENT (PP), is represented by the act of speaking or the moment of the utterance, or rather the beginning of the act of speaking. It is an Order Present, because it determines order relationship.

Once at PP, man can place himself in relation to events in four ways:

    1) He can experience an event at PP

    2) He can antecipate an event from PP

    3) He can recall an event from PP

    4) He can contemplate an event at PP on a high level of

abstraction - In this case the event may be considered to be outside time and therefore, not oriented to any point of reference.

This conceptualization of time does not appear in the other works, in which the writers are concerned only with the measurement of time.

2.1. The Measurement of Time and Calendars

Man measures time by events or intervals of time which contain events. The estimation of the length of events leads to a distinction between two categories of time: Public Time and Personal Time.

Public Time is based on the periodicity of some natural phenomena, while personal time is subjective, varying considerably according to the individual and/or given conditions. Public and Personal time are estimated by means of Public and Personal Calendars respectively.

The Public Calendar is characterized by:

1) Having fixed length

2) Having serial repetitions

3) Presenting no intervals between the items in the series

4) Being infinite in number

The Personal Calendar is organized in agreement with events inside the speaker. It is characterized

1) by being imprecise: in a moment

2) by being able to express a personal judgement about

length of time: The Republicans were out of office
for ages (Bull:6)

3) by being able to express only a personal judgement:
That week was <u>no longer than a moment</u> (Bull:6).

Leech (1969:107-134) classifies personal and public
calendars into systems. These systems consist of units of
personal and public time - The Adverbials - which come
under the general categories 'Time When', 'Duration' and
'Frequency'.

The explanation of how man measures time, however, is
incomplete without the consideration of aspect, as will
be seen in 3.7.

2.2. <u>Order and the Primary Axis of Orientation</u>

Man locates himself in time by placing himself at a
definite point in time and from there he may recall or
antecipate. Bull calls this point 'axis of orientation'.
The perception of the event is the personal axis of
orientation; the verbalization of the event is sequent
to the perception, and considered a public axis, since
it can be observed by another person. The moment of
verbalization or act of speaking is the objective
referent of the 'Point Present' or PP and functions as
the primary axis of orientation for all tense systems.

Once at PP, man establishes order relations to this
axis. There are three possible order relationship to PP:

1) Simultaneity - the event is simultaneous with PP

2) Recollection - the event is anterior to PP

3) Antecipation - the event is posterior to PP

The same order relationship may be established between the aspects of events and PP, as will be seen in 4.1.

However, events - instantaneous or prolonged - and aspects may not be oriented to an axis. Those that are bound to an axis are axis - bound:

yesterday, went, that point, since 1978;

those that do not mark the axis are axis - free:

one day, going, a point.

2.3. The Representation of Time

Traditionally, time has been represented as an infinite line divided into past and future by a point representing the present. This is known as the line - point theory, according to which there is only one axis of orientation: the present moment visualized as a point. By way of illustration we will mention Jespersen and Mattoso Câmara Jr.

Otto Jespersen (1933) states that time is something having one dimension and thus, capable of being represented by one straight line. "It is divided into two parts: the past and the future, the point of division being the present moment, which like a mathematical point, has no dimension but is continually fleeting" (256). His classification differs from Bull's in that all the order

relations are represented on a single straight line. This obscures important differences such as that between the Point Present and the Extended Present.

J. Mattoso Câmara Jr. (1964) says that the category time marks the period of the verbal process in relation to the moment of speech. He agrees with Marcel Cohen, whom he cites: "Uma noção temporal dessa espécie é subjetiva: só tem sentido para o sujeito falante, que concebe o tempo de maneira abstrata, como uma linha, ideal, e aí traça divisões em relação a si mesmo; o que está por trás dele (no momento em que fala), o passado; o que está ante ele neste momento preciso, o presente; o que está adiante dele, o futuro" (166). M. Câmara Jr. also makes use of order relations, but the definition adopted, though marking the moment of the utterance as the axis of orientation, does not specify which aspect of that moment is to be taken as the axis.

The line-point theory is criticized by William Calver (1946) who says that time is an assymetrical relation between events, and that it cannot be either geometrical or spatial because it is not a line. He suggests an alternative approach, following Bergson, which is "to begin with the frank recognition of time as it is given in experience, as duration, and to use the past and the present as the primitive categories, rather than the relationships of before and after" (318).

Bull, Ataliba Castilho and Leech Adopt more than one axis of orientation. Bull proposes 4 axes: PP (Point Present), RP (Retrospective Point), AP (Antecipated Point) and RAP (Retrospective Antecipated Point). PP represents the moment of

speech: RP is projected from PP (Recollection or PP in retrospect); AP is projected from PP (Antecipation) and RAP is projected from RP (see 3.1.1.). Order relations are indicated by the signs: O (zero = simultaneity), - (Minus = before), and + (Plus = after). Thus, for instance, on the present time line we find PPO, PP-, and PP+. Each axis represents one time line.

Ataliba Castilho proposes three axes of orientation:

1) The speaker himself

2) The moment at which another process takes place

3) The moment at which the speaker ideally places himself,

shifting his thought into the Past or Future (15).
Unlike Bull, Ataliba Castilho does not present relations of before and after. His first axis - the speaker or moment of speech - corresponds to PP, while the second, does not show orientation to the present, but to a previous or posterior referent. The third axis is hypothetical, desynchronized (not oriented to PP and provides a possibility for man to view time bidirectionally.

Leech (1969:148) uses only two points of reference in the description of the English Tense System:

1) A primary point of reference - 1PR - the present moment, the "starting point for all reckoning of time relationship";

2) A secondary point of reference - 2PR - which can indicate a point or period of time prior to the present moment.

Bull's division into four lines shows how man is able to locate himself at any specific point of reference and from there to recall and antecipate. It is an attempt to represent how man

perceives and organizes time as an objective entity.

3.0. Tense

The definitions of tense and the analyses of tenses are closely related to the way in which time is represented. As shown above, there is general agreement about time relations being perceived and established at the moment of speaking.

A tense system might, therefore, be conceived of as consisting of tense forms that relate the time of the event to the time of speaking. However important this conceptualization may be, it does not seem to be sufficient to explain how man locates himself in time.

3.1. Time and Tense

Bull regards tense as a concept which expresses the manner in which people experience time, but which cannot be identified with time.

The English and the Portuguese tense systems are based on the concepts of order and aspect. Since the vector system is defined as a means of establishing order; the English and the Portuguese tense systems are said to be a "fusion of two systems" - the aspect - vector system.

That tense systems do not deal with time is demonstrated by the fact that a tense form alone does not answer a when question:

When did he die ?   He died

All that tense forms do is to indicate order relations, axes of orientation and aspect. The function of tense forms in terms of time is therefore the ordering of events or aspects of events relative to an axis of orientation. And this is what is shown in Bull's hypothetical tense system reproduced below:

3.1.1. Bull's Hypothetical Tense System (25)
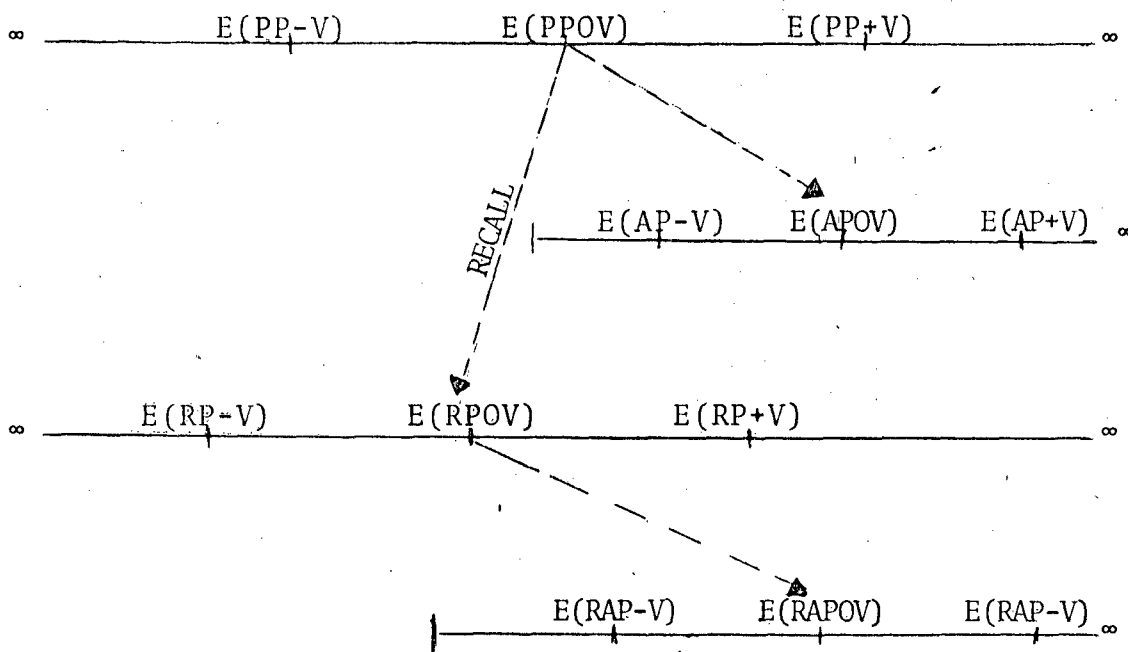
The hypothetical tense system has the following features:

(A) It is based on the definition of time as an infinite series of intervals;

(B) It is based on the concepts of axes of orientation, order, and aspect;

(C) It is a construct which consists of four axes of orientation, or time lines; .

(D) It establishes all the possible relationships between time and events, as observed by man.

PP and RP are considered the prime axes of orientation because they have an event inside the speaker as a referent in real life. They represent concrete events or events that have taken or are taking place. AP and RAP are called the projected axes, since they do not stand for actual events performed by the speaker; they are, in a way, abstractions.

The arrangement of this diagram is intended to show the capacity of man to locate himself at a specific point and from there establish order relations. More importantly perhaps, it shows that we can view events from only one axis of orientation at a time. For instance, the act of recalling takes place at PP and what is recalled is oriented to PP. But if what is recalled is now RP, the speaker, in recalling, moves from PP to RP, which becomes the relevant axis of orientation.

The vector formulas contain the indication of order relative to an axis. Thus on the present time line, PPOV indicates Point Present, the order present; PP-V indicates not only before PP but also orientation towards PP; PP+V indicates after PP and orientation to PP. Aspect is derived from the consideration of the aspects of events in relation to each of the four axes of orientation.

RAPOV, RAP+V, APOV and AP+V are considered 'zero'

slots since no systemic forms were found to fit these possibilities. Nonsystematically there may be a shift from PPOV to APOV and from RPOV to RAPOV, as the dotted lines show in the diagram, e.g.:

He will have left before she <u>arrives</u> (PPOV → APOV)

He would have left before she <u>arrived</u> (RPOV → RAPOV)

3.1.2. Other Views

Among the authors who adopt only one axis of orientation we will mention only Jespersen, Cunha, Lyons, and Comrie.

Jespersen (1951:254) defines tenses as time indicators expressed in verbal forms. He recognizes 'seven times' which are represented on a single straight line:

Before-Past	Past	After-Past	Present	Before-Future	Future	After-Future
Aa	Ab	Ac	B	Ca	Cb	Cc
Ante-Preterite	Preterite	Post-Preterite	Present	Ante-Future	Future	Post-Future

To the seven times he attributes seven tenses using
'before' - after' relations. All the order relations are
perceived from the present. Such organization obscures the
fact that "Events like points on a line in space, can be
meaningfully organized only in terms of one axis of orientation
at a time" (Bull:24). It is to make this clear that Bull has
devised four time lines.

Celso Cunha (1977) identifies tenses with 'natural'
time and says that the Present, Past and Future tenses express,
respectively, the moment of speech, a time prior to the moment
of speech and a time after the moment of speech. Only one axis
and three order relations account for the whole system.

Lyons (1971:305), however, states that the natural
division of time into 'Past', 'Present' and 'Future', are not
necessarily reflected in language. He regards tense as a
'deictic' category, that is, it relates "the time of the action,
event or state of affairs referred to in the sentence, to the
time of the utterance (the time of the utterance being 'now')".

Comrie (1976:2) agrees with Lyons when he refers to
tenses as 'deictic' categories; they are "those features that
relate the time of the situation described to the present moment".

Leech (1969:134) defines tenses as "Those grammatical
features of the verbal group which express relations of simul-
taneity or overlap of time (e.g. relations involving the system
⇌ TIM) or else relations of 'before - after' involving the
system ⇌ BEF)". Tense forms are arranged relative to two
points of orientation - 1 PR and 2 PR - as seen in 1.3, which
somehow correspond to Bull's prime axes. AP and RAP, however,are

not considered as points of reference, but as order
relations. Leechs's representation of the relationship
between time and tense, although apparently similar to
Bull's, differs considerably from it. In Leech's scheme,
one may have more than one axis of orientation at a time,
for instance:

Future Perfect -
$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{1PR} & \text{2PR} \\ \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \\ \longleftarrow \end{array}$$
(148)

According to Castilho, three points of orientation
locate the process in time: the moment of speech (speaker),
the moment another process takes place (sequence of tenses),
and an ideal or hypothetical moment. These three points
originate three absolute tenses: Present, Past and Future.
Like Cunha, Castilho seems to identify tense with 'natural'
or 'absolute' time. He does not present order relations
between processes; tense is rather a relationship between
moments than between processes.

3.1.3. Bull's Contribution

Bull's major contribution to the study of tenses
may be summed up as having proved that:

1) Tense systems do not deal with the abstract concept of
   time;

2) More than one axis of orientation is necessary to explain how a tense system works.

3) The hypothetical tense system can serve as a frame of reference for the analysis of the tense system of any language.

3.2. The Functions of Tense Forms

Different criteria have been used to determine the functions of tense forms. One of them, the criterion of markedness, can be applied either to the morphology of the tense forms or to the semantics of their use.

Twaddell (1968) uses the morphological criterion of markedness. Instead of the traditional tense labels, he uses 'modifications'. The Simple Present is, in his terminology, 'zero modification'.

According to Bull, a form is marked when it performs the function indicated by its mark; a form is unmarked when it has the potential to perform other functions which are determined by context.

Comrie (111-122) says that an unmarked form is felt to be "more usual, more normal, less specific" than the marked one. He sets up a number of criteria that can be used to distinguish between a marked and unmarked form, for intuition alone is not sufficient.

Another criterion, which is the one we will use,

divides, the functions of tense forms into systemic and nonsystemic. It is based on the assumption that each tense form has a "unique exchange value used to organize the set" (Bull:70) - that is, a systemic function. A tense form is used nonsystemically "whenever it exemplifies a concept of order or aspect which is in conflict with the exchange value assigned the form in organizing the set" (Bull:70).

e.g.:

<u>Está</u> <u>cantando</u> agora.   (Systemic) (Bull:71)

He <u>is</u> <u>singing</u> now.

<u>Estará</u> <u>cantando</u> agora. (Nonsystemic)

He <u>will</u> <u>be</u> <u>singing</u> now.

3.3. <u>Factors Involved in Temporal Meaning</u>

Among the factors that contribute to the temporal meaning of an utterance, the most important are common focus, and the presence or absence of time adverbials.

3.3.1. <u>Common Focus</u>

Common focus is the agreement between the speaker and the listener as regards the axis of orientation. The axis may be established without using a morpheme. Many

extra-linguistic factors may be involved such as the environment, man's experience, emotions, gestures, etc. In short, communication is established where the people involved interpret events from the same axis of orientation.

3.3.2. Specification

The relationship between tenses and a temporal lexical item will be called 'specification' after Crystal (1966:4), who calls specification the temporal elements (adverbs, adverbial phrases or clausés) that co-occur with the tense form in order to produce the desired meaning. He calls special attention to the 'unmarked' Simple Present, which can refer to Past, Present or Future.

Palmer (1974:44), using the criterion of compatibility, distinguishes four kinds of adverbials:

- Those that may be used with the Present Tense only:
  e.g. Now, at this moment, at present.

- Those that may be used with the Past Tense only:
  e.g. Last week, yesterday, last year, etc.

- Those that may be used with either tense though the period includes the present moment;
  e.g. Today, this week, this year.

- Those that can indicate past or present time depending on the time of the utterance.

    e.g. This morning, this afternoon, this summer, etc.

He also mentions 'zero specification' as a characteristic of the statements called 'timeless' (that are valid for all time), e.g. 'The sun rises in the East'. Further points on the distinction between 'timeless/habitual' will be discussed in section 4.4.

Leech (1969:107-134; 1971:39-41) views adverbials as the primary indicators of time. They are organized into units of public and personal calendars (see section 2.1.). They are bound to either of the two points of reference - 1PR or 2PR; for instance, the adverbials associated with the Perfect are not the same as those associated with the Past because the Perfect is oriented to 1PR while the Past is oriented to 2PR.

In 'A University Grammar of English' (232), time adjuncts are classified into four main semantic classes:
1) Time 'when'
2) Duration
3) Frequency
4) Other relationships (sequence of tenses, duration up to or before a given time, e.g. yet, still, etc.). Time duration adjuncts are divided into two groups: those denoting length of time and those denoting duration from a preceding point of time. These and the frequency adjuncts will be discussed in 4.6.1.

With position-bound units of time, the axis of orientation is indicated by the tense with or without an adjective e.g. Chegou domingo (passado/último)/He arrived on/last Sunday.

Axis-bound time units, associated with tense may either:

1) Not require an axis-bound tense form, e.g.

Chegando <u>ontem</u> / on <u>arriving</u> yesterday.

or

2) Duplicate the function of the tense form, e.g.

Ele <u>chegou</u> ontem / he <u>arrived</u> yesterday.

Since the prime tenses are not marked, calendar time units - more specifically axis-bound units - are important to locate events in time. The combination of calendar time with prime tenses may produce:

1) A time relationship (oriented to PP)

2) An order relationship (not oriented to PP)

A time relationship oriented to PP, is observed when the two systems are synchronized with PP, e.g.

Ele <u>canta agora</u> mesmo

He <u>is singing right now</u>

An order relationship is produced when the systems are not synchronized with PP, and may be oriented to AP or RP, e.g.

Ele <u>canta amanhã</u>

He <u>is singing tomorrow</u>

4.0. Aspect

Aspect is closely related to the semantic features of the verb and to the measurement of events.

The definitions of aspect found in the literature do not only differ in terminology but point to differences in conceptualization. The main divergences, however, concern aspectual categories, especially Perfective/Perfect, Habituality/Iterativity.

4.1. Definition

Bull sees aspect as a category based on the concept of order: order of the aspects of events relative to an axis of orientation. This axis of orientation may be either PP, RP, AP or RAP. An event has three aspects: initiative, imperfect and terminative. There are five possible relations between these aspects and an axis:

1) The initiation and termination may be prior to the axis;

2) The termination may be simultaneous with the axis;

3) The initiation may be simultaneous with the axis;

4) The initiation is posterior to the axis;

5) The initiation is prior to the axis and therefore the middle of the event is simultaneous with the axis.

Only four of these relations are possible at PP:

1) The initiation is prior to PP

2) The termination is prior to PP

3) The middle is simultaneous with PP

4) The initiation (and therefore middle and termination) is posterior to PP.

Comrie (1976:3-5) presents some similiarity with Bull when he admits that the situation has three aspects - beginning, middle and end - and that these aspects are related to the time of the situation (in other words, to the axis of orientation).

Joos (1964) presents a different conceptualization of aspect and a new terminology. He mentions aspect and phase as the distinguishing categories of the verb phrase. Aspect and phase are defined in terms of 'validity of the predication'.

Mattoso Câmara Jr. and Eunice Pontes (1972:80) adopt the definition of 'aktionsart' ('A maneira de ser da´ação'), which means the manner in which the verbal process is seen from the point of view of its duration. Unlike E. Pontes, however, Câmara Jr. says that aspect is not necessarily related to time or tense. Eunice Pontes (1972:80-84) relates aspect to tenses: the Present, Imperfect and Past Tenses.

Ataliba Castilho (1968:42) rejects the definition of aspect as 'aktionsart', because, according to him, it is closely related to the semantics of the verb (e.g. aspectos intensivo, di minutivo, pejorativo, reflexivo, recíproco, etc.) and not to the opposition duration/completion. He defines aspect as "a visão ob jetiva da relação entre o processo e o estado expressos pelo ver bo e a idéia de duração ou desenvolvimento" (14). He emphasizes the contrast between the characteristic objectiveness of the aspectual concept and the subjectiveness of the temporal concept. Aspect is a lexico-syntactic category, since it is influenced by both the meaning of the verb stem and the syntactic elements such as complements, adverbials and type of clauses.

4.3.2. Perfective and Imperfective Aspects

Bull recognizes two primary aspects: Perfective and Imperfective. The Perfective marks either the initiative or the terminative aspect of events and is more likely to be limited - it may describe completeness or extend beyond PP. The Imperfective signals the Imperfect (middle) aspect and cannot be delimited owing to its incompleteness.

Although Comrie's view is similar to Bull's concerning the aspects of events, their definition of the perfective seems to differ. Comrie says that the perfective looks at a situation as a complete whole without focussing on any specific part - beginning, middle or end of the situation. Thus, although the perfective is more likely to describe limited situations, it may as well refer to:

- Iterative situations: e.g. He knocked at the door

    (series of knocks)

    Ele bateu na porta

- 'Completed' but not necessarily 'complete' situations:

    e.g. I tried to persuade her

    Tentei persuadi-la

- Ingressive situations: e.g. Suddenly we knew what was happening.

    De repente percebemos o que acontecia.

- Resultative situations: e.g. I <u>succeded</u> in passing the exam.

<div align="center"><u>Consegui</u> passar no exame.</div>

The Imperfective looks at the situation from its internal structure and comprises the habitual and the continuous. The continuous (duration) may be progressive or non-progressive.

According to Comrie, both English and Portuguese have a free progressive form. In English this form is obligatory to mark progressiveness. In Portuguese, a non-progressive form may denote progressiveness, e.g.

João <u>está</u> <u>cantando</u> agora	João <u>is</u> <u>singing</u>
João <u>canta</u> agora	now

The progressive can be more freely combined with stativity in Portuguese than in English, e.g. <u>Estou</u> <u>te</u> <u>vendo</u>. In English stativity occurs with the progressive when:

1) Emphasis is put on a gradual process:

e.g. I'<u>m</u> <u>understanding</u> more about it.

2) Temporariness (limitation of duration is emphasized):

e.g. I'<u>m</u> <u>living</u> in Florianópolis now.

Leech (1969:153) associates the Perfective with the Present Perfect, distinguishing between 'state' and 'event' predications. The meanings he derives from this association correspond to Comrie's and will be dealt with in 4.3. He criticizes the definition according to which the perfective

aspect refers to a past event or state which has current relevance. The 'continuous' is characterized by the feature situation (149-151).

It expresses:

- Duration. e.g. He is picking up the book.

- Limited time extension. e.g. I am living at Highgate.

- Happening not necessary complete. e.g. I was playing the piano from 10 to 12 o'clock.

- Continuousness. e.g. The earth is turning on its axis.

Eunice Pontes (1972:80) associates aspect with tense. The contrast between Imperfective/Perfective is defined as "uma ação que se prolonga no tempo / uma ação que se realizou num período de tempo mais determinado". The Perfective is associated with the Past which is concerned with punctual, non-linear or non-durative actions. The Imperfective has to do with the Present Indicative, Subjunctive and Past Imperfect, which are concerned with duration, and can, therefore, be compared to a line, of which neither the initiative nor the terminative point can be defined.

Unlike E. Pontes, Mattoso Câmara Jr. (1964:168) does not associate aspect with tense but with the semantics of the verb, suffixes, and auxiliaries. He is not primarily concerned with the contrast Perfective/Imperfective but with specific aspect: "Pontual, durativo (progressivo, cursivo, frequentativo ou iterativo), permansivo, inceptivo, cessativo, resultativo, etc.

Ataliba Castilho (1968:51) presents the same classification of aspect as Mattoso Câmara, but groups these aspects under the basic dichotomy Perfective/ Imperfective. The Imperfective denotes duration and comprises the following aspects: 'inceptivo', 'cursivo' and 'terminativo'; the Perfective denotes completeness and comprises: 'pontual', resultativo' and 'cessativo'. The iterative aspect may be either Perfective or Imperfective. The forms neutralized for aspect are said to carry 'Indeterminate' aspect.

Joos' (1968:101) classification of aspect into temporary and generic has to do with limitation of duration. He discusses the inaccuracy of the traditional labels: 'Progressive' - "adds the meaning that the action is done headway; 'Continuous' - "emphasizes the fact that the verb lacking this mark refers to habituality or iterativity;" 'Imperfect' is also inadequate because the English marked aspect is not confined to a past tense as it occurs in latin languages, from which this label is taken. Phase is the term adopted to refer to the contrast- Perfect/Non-Perfect. Current and perfect phases are based on the criterion of cause and effect which will be discussed in the next section.

4.3. Perfect - Non-Perfect

Comrie (52-60) considers the Perfect a rather different aspect from the other two, "Since it tells us nothing directly about the situation itself, but rather

relates some state to a preceding situation". Associated with the Present, the Perfect denotes "The continuing present relevance of a past situation".

Four meanings of the Present Perfect are listed in terms of 'continuing relevance':

1) Perfect of Result - e.g. Bill has gone to America

2) Experiential Perfect - e.g. Bill has been to America

3) Perfect of Persistent Situation - e.g. We've lived here for 10 years.

4) Perfect of Recent Past - e.g. Bill has just arrived.

These meanings of the Present Perfect may be equated with Leech's: The Perfect of Recent Past and the Perfect of Result with the Resultative Use, The Experiential Perfect with the Indefinite Past, the Perfect of Persisting Results with both 'A State - Leading - Up - To - The Present' and 'A Habit - Leading - Up - To - The - Present'.

Although adopting a different terminology and a rather complex conceptualization, Joos (1968:138-140) also seems to be dealing with some kind of 'relevance'. As mentioned in the previous sections, Phase is the term used by Joos for the distinction Perfect/Non-Perfect, which is based on the criterion of cause and effect. Current Phase (Non-Perfect or lacking have + - en) means that the effects of the event are 'in phase' or simultaneous with the cause of the event when the event exhibits completion. E.g. The judge came on swiftly (the simultaneous effect is that he is seen to come, the immediate effect is that he is there). (139). Perfect Phase is denoted

when the effects of the events are 'out of phase' with the cause of this event, or are 'delayed'; the event seems - to use Comrie's terminology - not 'completed' but 'complete'. E.g. The high-backed chair has been pulled, helped forward, the figure is seated, has bowed.... (139).

Tregidgo (1974:98) discusses the problem of 'current relevance' and points out that in Bull's diagram, the Perfect tenses are placed on the left, that is, they are marked with a minus vector. The Present Perfect Tense, as a result, would be a 'present looking backwards into the past', and therefore a 'Retrospective Tense' as Jespersen calls it. Since the Past is also a Retrospective Tense, the difference between the Past and the Present Perfect would be that while the Past is associated with Definite Past Time Reference, the Present Perfect is associated with Indefinite Past Time Reference. Comrie, however, views the Present Perfect as a 'Past looking forwards into the present'.

In Portuguese the opposition 'Definite/Indefinite' is not criterial; the 'Pretérito Perfeito' is used with either type of reference to indicate complete situations. Celso Cunha (1977: 435) contrasts the two forms:

- The 'Pretérito Perfeito Simples' refers to definite or past action, e.g.

    Vi-te uma vez e estremeci de medo

- The 'Pretérito Perfeito Composto' usually describes the repetition of an action or its continuation up to the present, e.g.

    E coisas assim se têm repetido nos últimos tempos.

According to Cunha (435) "o Pretérito Perfeito Simples, de notador de uma ação completamente concluída, afasta-se do Presente; o Pretérito Perfeito Composto, expressão de um fato repetido ou contínuo, aproxima-se do presente".

While the Present Perfect in English is viewed (by Jespersen, Bull, and also Tregidgo) as a 'present looking backwards into the Past', in Portuguese the Pretéri to Perfeito Composto is seen (by Cunha) a a 'past looking forwards into the present'.

4.4. Habituality and Iterativity

When there is repetition of the same event, specification is usually required to indicate the frequency with which the repetition takes place. This frequency is concerned with habituality and iterativity.

Comrie (1967:27) says that habituality is sometimes equated with iterativity. However, the two should be distinguished as there may be iterativity, that is, repetition of the same event, without the implication of habituality. The reverse is also true, there may be habituality without iterativity. These examples illustrate the two cases, that is, iterativity alone and habituality alone respectively.

1) The lecturer stood up, coughed five times, and said...

   O professor levantou-se, tossiu cinco vezes e disse...

2) The temple of Diana used to stand at Ephesus.

O templo de Diana _ficava/costumava ficar_ em Éfeso.

Habituality is defined as describing "a situation which is characteristic of an extended period of time, so extended in fact that the situation refered to is viewed not as an accidental property of the moment but, precisely, as a characteristic feature of a whole period" (27-28).

According to Crystal (1966), however, habituality means frequency or iterativity "the emphasis being on specific instances" and it can be defined by its answering the question 'how often'? He dissociates habit from habituality, the argument being that habit is an extra-linguistic judgement. He makes a distinction between the notion of habituality (specific frequency) and the notion of 'timeless' (non-specific frequency).

Palmer (1974:62-64) also equates habituality with iterativity, but says that one can hardly distinguish between 'timeless' and 'habitual' senses, since this difference is a non-linguistic' one. In other words, there may be either a repetitive or habitual activity implied throughout an infinite or extended period of time described by the 'timeless' statements. He suggests that a distinction can be made by dividing 'habitual - timeless' activities into three groups:

1) Habitual, iterative activities - e.g. I go to work every day.

2) Inductively known facts - e.g. Oil floats on water.

3) 'General truths' - e.g. The severn flows into the Atlantic.

It seems to us that the crucial problem is not the distinction between habit and habituality or between habituality and iterativity, but the distinction between a single event and

the repetition of the same event in cases where such a
distinction is meaningful.

For Bull (52), serial events are not associated
with the verb form and may be distinguished from single
events through six non-verbal devies.

1) Common focus and interpretation of the objective
   situation; e.g. I sleep well / Eu durmo bem;

2) By combining a unit of measurement with an Imperfective
   form; e.g. We do this in two hours / Nós o fazemos
   em duas horas.

3) By measuring the length of the events between
   repetitions. e.g. He does it once in a while./ Ele
   o faz de vez em quando.

4) By counting the repetitions; e.g. He does it many
   times / Ele o faz muitas vezes.

5) By placing the events in a series of time intervals;
   e.g. He does it on Sundays / Ele o faz aos domingos.

6) By asserting that the event takes place at all times.
   e.g. He always does this / Ele sempre faz isto.

4.5. Nature of Verbs and Uses of Verbs

A distinction must be made between verbs per se
and uses of verbs. When we deal with the first, we are
concerned with the inherent meaning of the verb in
isolation, while when studying the uses of verbs, it is
not only the verb that is taken into account, but also

its complementation. In this study we will take into consideration the environment in which verbs occur.

According to their use they may be classified in a number of ways.

4.5.1. Stative and Dynamic

Stative verbs have to do with the existence of a state. Dynamic verbs are associated with activities which are more transitory than states. This notion of stativity and non-stativity applies to uses of verbs, since a 'stative' verb can be used dynamically. This distinction is very important in English, especially as regards the use of the progressive aspect. It should be noted here that not all languages, Portuguese for instance, behave in the same way as regards the use of the progressive with stative verbs. But this is not the only criterion to be taken into consideration in the study of aspectual meaning.

4.5.2. Telic/Atelic and Cyclic/Non-cyclic

Some authors, for instance, Comrie, Ataliba Casti lho and Vendler, make a distinction between 'telic and atelic' verbs. Telic verbs, or rather, telic uses, have the aspectual property 'termination', that is, they focus on the terminative aspect. Atelic verbs or uses express unlimited duration, since their terminal point is not focused on. It is their initiative or inceptive aspect that matters.

William Bull classifies verbs (events) into cyclic and non-cyclic. Cyclic verbs comprise both the verbs that do not denote any interval of time between one cycle and the next (e.g. Spin/Girar) and those that denote an interval between the end of one cycle and the beginning of the next (e.g. Get up/Levantar-se). Non-cyclic verbs indicate unlimited duration (e.g. Sleep/Dormir). The distinguishing feature of cyclic events is the termination, and that of the non-cyclic events is the initiation. The cyclic and non-cyclic distinction may be observed in, for instance, eating (comer) - non-cyclic; eating apples (comer maçãs) - non-cyclic, too.

But

eating an apple (comer uma maçã) - cyclic. (46)

4.5.3. Punctual and Durative

Ross MacDonald (1972) divides verbs into punctual and durative: verbs that have the inherent semantic feature 'point of time' or 'duration of time' respectively, e.g. explode (explodir) and last (durar). However, when these verbs are combined with syntactic specification of opposite aspectual meaning, they express a new meaning, which is different from either, e.g. 'It was exploding (estava explodindo)'. In such cases the syntactic specification is incompatible with the inherent aspect of the verb and a new meaning is produced, as in the example, which denotes a series of explosions.

Zeno Vendler's sub-classification of dynamic verbs, into activity and accomplishment verbs, corresponds to Comrie's atelic and telic distinction. Activity verbs describe a time continuum (e.g. run/correr). Accomplishment verbs describe a process that indicates a terminative point (e.g. draw a circle/desenhar um círculo). State verbs comprise two classes: state verbs proper and achievement verbs. State verbs extend along a period of time, either short or long (e.g. love/amar); achievement verbs mark the point of fulfilment of the state, e.g. reach/chegar - in 'He reaches the hill top'/Ele chega ao topo da colina.

Comrie refers to achievement verbs as punctual. They should not be viewed as verbs but as situations. Situations do not indicate the process and the terminal point simultaneously, e.g. cough/tossir. They simply do not have duration and therefore, no internal structure. He refers to Vendler's example 'reach the hill top' as a punctual situation. However, when combined with the progressive, this situation may imply either 'approach to transition' or iterative meaning, e.g. (of approach to transition)

He's reaching the summit

Ele está chegando no topo

4.5.4. The problem of the nature and uses of verbs is complex in a comparative study like this, since uses differ in the two languages. The differences in use, however, can be explained in terms of two aspectual contrasts: stative/

dynamic and cyclic/non-cyclic, as will be seen later.

4.6. Aspectual lexical items

Aspect is not restricted to verbal forms. Other lexical items such as adverbials, adjectives and complements, may contribute to aspectual meaning.

4.6.1. Aspectual Adverbials

We have seen in section 3.3.2. that it is customary to treat 'frequency and 'duration' adverbials under the head of 'time' adverbials.

Frequency adverbials have nothing to do with 'time' or 'tense'; they are concerned with 'times'. There are no temporal or tense co-occurrence restrictions on 'how often', either when indicating definite frequency or indefinite frequency:

I take the medicine twice a day.

I took it twice yesterday.

I will take it twice tomorrow, etc.

He always/never does it.

He always/never did it.

He has always/never done it, etc.

Frequency adverbials interest us only to the extent to which they differentiate between a single event and a series of the same event.

Purely durational adverbs-those denoting length of time and answering 'how long' - may also occur with any tense and 'time when' adverbial. They are, therefore, aspectual and are used to measure the length of an event or the time interval between aspects of events.

Adverbials of duration, denoting duration from some preceding point of time - since..., lately, and recently - do not occur freely with tense. They are not purely aspectual adverbials. It is important to note that the co-occurrence restrictions on tense are not the same in Portuguese and English. The subject will be dealt with more thoroughly in the following chapters.

4.6.2. Adjectives

Adjectives used predicatively can be used either statively or dynamically. In English, adjectives used dynamically require progressive aspect, eg.

'He's being careful/kind'

The difference between these and

'He's careful/kind'

is that in the former examples, there is not only limited duration but also the meaning of 'deliberate behaviour'. This aspectual distinction is also found in Portuguese, but there is a difference in the verbs: 'Ser' is used with adjective with stative meaning while 'Estar' + the marker of progressive aspect, is used to indicate a dynamic situation. Compare

'Ele é cuidadoso' and
'Ele está sendo cuidadoso'.

5.0. Present Time and Present Tenses

Having discussed the concepts involved in tense systems, we can now focus on the subject in question.

5.1. Present Time

Present time has already been defined as a stretch of time of any lenght which contains PP (Point Present). It is the Extended Present, "The time interval between the recalled event A and the antecipated event A'" (Bull:12).

5.1.1. Present Time Reference

We locate events in the Present in two ways: either without indicating limits - the beginning or end - or by indicating limits. The latter case involves measurement, which poses two questions: how is Present Time measured and what is measured.

5.1.2. Present Time Measurement

The answer to the first question is now obvious: Present Time is measured from the order present (PP), which was seen to be the initiation of the speech act.

All measurement is oriented to PP, in other words, up to the 'now' of the utterance. What is measured is related to the aspects of events: we may measure the interval between the initiative aspect of an event and 'now' or the terminative aspect of an event and 'now', e.g.

He has been here for two hours.

Ele.está aqui há duas horas.

It's been two years (now) since I graduated.

Faz   dois anos (agora) que me formei.

5.2. The Semantics of Present Tenses

In the review of the literature it is possible to distinguish two distinct approaches to the semantics of Present Tenses. In one, we find a number of descriptions which, differing superficially, are nevertheless based on criteria of compatibility, either implicitly or explicitly identifying tense with time. In the other approach, the descriptions are systemic: each tense form is described in terms of its unique characteristics and role and stands in contrast with the characteristics and roles of the other tense forms. Each tense represents a semantic choice which is realized in the grammar by structure. It follows that the same concept or semantic choice may be realized by different structures in different languages, as incidental examples have demonstrated.

The following two sections will illustrate the two approaches.

By way of illustration, a brief account will be given of the meanings attributed to the Simple Present in English and Portuguese.

5.2.1. Nonsystemic Approaches

Most of the authors recognize the fact that the Simple Present is a very versatile tense since it may

have Past, Present or Future reference, or no time reference at all.

The Simple Present may refer to the Past, in which case it is usually called 'Historic Present'. It describes past time in the present in order to make the description more dramatic and appealing. M. Rodrigues Lapa says "o nosso espíri to tende a tornar presentes, vividos atualmente, os fatos que se deram no passado ou sucederão no futuro. A nossa imaginação e o nosso futuro procuram referir tudo ao presente" (155). Some gramarians include stage directions and narratives under the 'historic present'. Celso Cunha calls it also 'Presente Narrati vo'.

The Present Tense may refer to the future when it combines with a future adverbial, e.g.

He leaves tomorrow

Ele parte amanhã

In either case it is obvious that time reference is not indicated by the tense form but most of the divergences relate to the Present Tense with Present time Reference. It is very common to have the Simple Present Tense treated as indicating 'habituality' and 'timelessness'.

"A Grammar of Contemporary English" groups the 'habitual' and 'timeless' meanings under the heading of 'Present whithout reference to specific time', pointing out that these are the most important uses of the Present Tense. This is due to the fact that "there is no limitation of the state through the present into the past and future time" (85). It is remarked, however, that is possible to have stative or dynamic verbs with

both meanings and in either case, a dynamic verb would indicate repetition of the event, e.g.

Two and two make four   The sun sets in the west

John knows the answer   We cycle to work every day

According to Palmer (63), such a classification is misleading, for the distinction between timelessness and habituality is not clear-cut besides not being a linguistic distinction. Apart from the habitual - timeless uses, the Simple Present is little used to describe activities which are taking place at the present moment. Two reasons account for that: 1) Present activities seldom need to be verbalized or re ported since they are assumed to be perceived by both the speaker and hearer simultaneously. 2) When present activities happen to be reported, this is usually done by means of a progressive form. Thus, the Present Tense is generally confined to commentaries, demonstrations, stage directions, and with 'performative' verbs and verbs of reporting.

Leech (1971:2-5) describes the meanings of the Present Tense under three main 'uses':

1) Unrestrictive use (state verbs) - describes long duration events:

2) Instantaneous use (event or 'performative' verbs) - describes events simultaneous with the present moment;

3) Habitual use (event verbs) refers to a series of events.

Joos (109-112) does not list all the possible meanings of the Simple Present, since he claims that meanings can only be

derived from context; - "Generic aspect" - he says - "has no meaning of its own". The meanings he illustrates in the context - Characterization, Demonstration and Asseveration correspond to Leech's Unrestrictive (first two) and Instantaneous uses.

E. Pontes (82) associates the Simple Present with habituality and duration. It is closely related with Imperfective aspect, and because of this she defines it as a <u>Linear</u> Tense, whose initiative and terminative points are unlikely to be delimited.

Besides the habitual and durative uses, Cunha (429) includes the Instantaneous use in Portuguese, which is quite different from the instantaneous use in English, mentioned by Palmer and Leech ('Performative verbs'). In Portuguese, this use is interchangeable with the present progressive:

Escrevo estas linhas de Paris.

Estou escrevendo estas linhas de Paris.

Calver (321-324) organizes the meanings of the Simple Present in a rather complex way. It is a "Tense of character, of insight". The meanings are arranged into:

1) Logical, Universal (timeless) e.g. Two plus two equals four.

2) Order of nature e.g. Roses smell

3) Habitual e.g. He smokes

4) Ability e.g. He sings double bass

5) Directions e.g. Enter king and his Queen

These differences are set up in terms of aspect, context or vocabulary.

The definitions of the Simple Present are basically concerned with the idea of (Present) time. Since Time extension cannot be successfully delimited many interpretations are offered.

5.2.2. A Systemic Approach.

The systemic descriptions that we have found are Bull's description of the Spanish Tense system and P.S. Tregidgo's 'English tense usage: a Bull's eye - view'. Tregidgo does not describe all the English tenses; he uses Bull's system to clarify what he calls "dark corners", among which the Present Perfect.

One of the advantages of Bull's hypothetical tense system is that it is language independent. Thus, based on it, it is possible to generalize about the meanings that the English and Portuguese Present Tenses have.

In their systemic functions, they will tell us that:

A) An event or a series is simultaneous or Imperfect at PP;

B) The initiative or terminative aspect of an event oriented to PP is either anterior to PP or simultaneous with PP.

In their nonsystemic functions they may indicate axis-free and time-free events or axis desynchronization.

In sum, the Present Tenses contribute to 'Present' Temporal meanings, with indications of aspect and order. Any other notions, such as habituality, general or eternal truths, current relevance, etc, are either implicit or explicit in the linguistic context or are inferred from

the non-linguistic context, that is, from the context of the situation or factual knowledge.

Temporal meaning, then, derives from the interaction of tense forms with a number of other items and factors, as was pointed out in preceding sections.

A FORM FUNCTION should be understood as "the product of the interaction of the form and the other factors involved in communication, that is, the systems combining with the form and the active participation of the hearer" (Bull:82).

5.2.3. Present Tense Forms

The English Present Tenses have been traditionally referred to as: the Simple Present, the Present Progressive or Continuous, the Present Perfect, and the Present Perfect Progressive or Continuous.

In Portuguese, tenses are divided into two sets: one comprising the simple tenses and the other the compound tenses. There are two simple present tenses: 'Presente do Indicativo' and 'Presente do Subjuntivo'. The formal equivalent to the English Present Perfect belongs to the set of compound tenses, it is the 'Pretérito Perfeito Composto' and it is formed with the Present Tense of the auxiliary verb Ter (have) plus the Past Participle of the main verb, e.g. 'tenho visto'.

The other two English Present Tenses do not have labels in Portuguese. They are treated as 'locuções verbais' (periphrastic forms) used to indicate duration. The

periphrastic form which corresponds to the English Present Progressive is formed with the Present Tense of the auxiliary verb estar (be) plus the 'Gerund' of the main verb, e.g. 'estou trabalhando'. Another periphrastic form, formed with the Present Tense of the auxiliary verb ter plus the Past Participle of the auxiliary verb estar plus the 'Gerund' of the main verb, e.g. 'tenho estado trabalhan do', is the formal equivalent of the English Present Perfect Progressive.

The labels used to name tenses both in English and Portuguese have been variously criticized. A proposal for a new terminology is not, however, within the scope of our study. But, for the sake of clarity and simplicity, we will use the English traditional labels both for the English and Portuguese tense forms. Thus:

Simple Present	=	Presente do Indicativo
Present Perfect	=	Pretérito Perfeito Composto
Present Progressive	=	Locução verbal 'estar+gerúndio'
Present Perfect Progressive	=	Locução verbal 'ter+p.p. estar+gerúndio'.

5.3. Conclusion

Although as was seen in 5.2.2. the meanings of the present tense forms can be predicted, the tense forms which realize those meanings may differ structurally from language to language, even when the languages have the same conceptual tense system, as is the case with English and Portuguese.

It is a well-known fact that the English Present Tenses and their structurally equivalent Portuguese Present Tenses do not always express the same meanings. We are now led to conclude that the English and Portuguese Present Tense forms reflect a somewhat different organization of how events are located relative to PP.

We believe that the discovery of the differences in the organization of reality is the key to the understanding of the formal differences which cause confusion to Brazilian learners of English and not infrequently also to their teachers.

C H A P T E R   2

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE PRESENT TENSES IN ENGLISH

Having defined the criteria which distinguish systemic from nonsystemic functions, and having also derived the potential meanings of Present Tense forms in general from the concepts discussed, we can now describe the systemic and nonsystemic functions of the English and Portuguese Present Tenses. The functions of the English Present Tenses will be described in this chapter and those of the Portuguese Present Tenses will be dealt with in Chapter 3.

We will analyse the systemic and nonsystemic functions of the four English Present Tenses as well as the nonsystemic functions of other tenses which have present time reference. Each temporal meaning is illustrated with examples taken from various sources. The indications contain the abbreviation of the titles of the books and magazines and the page number; the titles, abreviations and authors are given at the end of the chapter.

1.0. Simple Present

What characterizes the systemic functions of the Simple Present is imperfectiveness at PP. Any deviation from either of these features or from both - imperfective aspect and orientation to PP - will be considered to be a nonsystemic function.

1.1. Systemic Functions

1.1.1. A Single Event is Imperfect at PP.

This is the basic function of the Simple Present. Imperfectivity is established by the participation of the speaker and hearer in the perception of the event. There are three cases to consider:

A) Both the speaker and hearer can perceive the event at PP;

B) The speaker alone perceives the event and reports it;

C) Neither the speaker nor the hearer observes the event - the speaker reports on an event that he infers to be still in progress.

A) The speaker and hearer can both observe the event at PP

1) Now I ask you, can anybody stand this kind of thing ? (y-12)

2) That makes no difference (OMS-46)

3) I'm going now, I tell you (SEM-244)

4) That sounds good (DOS-26)

5) Here comes the mensahib (SEM-8)

6) Here she goes (SEM-247)

7) What's that ? (RD-123)

8) Do you <u>want</u> it with water ? (SEM-274)

9) But now I'll stay and I <u>swear</u> to you, I'll apply myself. (DOS-60)

10) How do you <u>mean</u> ? (FG-312)

11) Time is slipping by and here you <u>muddle</u> along with your old Perrelli (Carly Silva - 8).

B) <u>The speaker alone perceives the event and reports it</u>

12) Tell her we <u>are</u> very ill and <u>have</u> no money (SEM-294)

13) I <u>suppose</u> I expected to see them convulsed with horror (y-112)

14) I <u>hope</u> no fish will come along (OMS-23)

15) And I <u>know</u> I cannot keep it if I eat it since my face was in it (OMS-85)

16) All I <u>want</u> is an even break (SEM-238)

17) You <u>look</u> terrible (DOS-18)

18) I <u>have</u> the feel of the oar in my hand (y-123)

19) I <u>worry</u> about property I got in Florida (SEM-305)

20) I <u>miss</u> the wife (SEM-304)

21) I <u>need</u> a man to look after things for me (DOS-85)

C) <u>Neither the speaker nor the hearer observes the event</u>

22) She <u>knows</u> that (DOS-41)

23) He just <u>wants</u> to make good,that's all (DOS-21)

24) He <u>loves</u> the sun (SEM-339)

25) His wife <u>weighs</u> two hundred twenty five pounds (SEM-451)

26) Signs <u>point</u> to the likehood of a short trip in the near future (RD-125)

27) It <u>has</u> its perils and its merits (OMS-75)

28) Do you know if he <u>belongs</u> to the National Geographic Society ? (SEM-434)

29) He <u>hasn't</u> much faith (OMS-10) (Speaker reporting)

30) He <u>looks</u> easy to hit (SEM-300) (Speaker reporting)

31) All he <u>needs</u> is to have Corbett pick him... (SEM-305)

32) He <u>admires</u> Pop (DOS-55)

The examples in this section show a great incidence of stative verbs: verbs of inert perception and cognition, and relational verbs.

Dynamic verbs have not been frequently found. In only two cases have they occurred: 1) with verbs of reporting and appealing such as <u>ask</u>, <u>tell</u>, <u>say</u>, e.g. (1); (2) with expressions beginning with 'here' and 'there' - e.g. (5) and (6).

Time adverbs have not proved to be necessary.

1.1.2. A Series Composed of Repetitions of the Same Event is Imperfect at PP

No component of the series is taken to be happening at PP. All that occurs is that the series is reported at PP on the basis of previous experience of observation; it is assumed that the repetitions of the event have not come to an end.

Here we must distinguish between iterativity and habitual or customary actions. As Crystal points out, habituality is a more semantic and subjective view and signals a situation which is characteristic of a period of time; on the other hand,

iterativity seems to be more objective and refers to the recurrence or repetitions of a single event. The latter corresponds to Bull's notion of 'Seriality' or series.

For the perception of seriality, the subject, that is, the performer, is of great importance, for according to Bull, there is no morpheme in English to indicate that the referent of a verb form is a single event or a series of events. We will describe two situations. A series performed by one actor and a series performed by various actors.

A) All the events in a series are performed by the same actor

33) I eat with my mouth (DOS-42)

34) Instead of walking, he talks now (DOS-57)

35) Everytime she waxes the floor, she kneels over (DOS-41)

36) My heart's slow. It only beats forty a minute (SEM-132)

37) Sometimes he comes here (SEM-283)

38) Do you ever read what this fellow Brisbane writes ? (SEM-369)

39) He stays up because he likes it (SEM-380)

40) Your oldest son practices hockey at 7 a.m. (RD-70)

41) I pay him $ 100 a week, plus half of what he collects and all the jewlery (RD-105).

42) But now I see it always from a small boat (y-122)

43) He buys the ones he wants (SEM-117)

B) The events in the series are performed by various actors

44) Anyway, they sleep like pigs (SEM-368)

45) Women upset (SEM-5)

46) We never <u>talk</u> about our clients (SEM-7)

47) The good people there <u>live</u> on casualities of the sea...
   (y-104)

48) They (the rats) <u>leave</u> a good ship for an old rotten hulk,
   where there is nothing to eat, too, the fools! (y-106)

49) 75 per cent of the school-children <u>fail</u> to attain the
   level of literacy required for available employment
   (RD-127)

50) Some people <u>call</u> that the hand of God (RD-104)

51) But, thank God, they are not as intelligent as we who
   <u>kill</u> them (OMS-63)

52) ... They always <u>believe</u> what you <u>tell</u> them (DOS-27)

In the first case (A), the subject is nonabstract and
singular; in the second case (B) the subject is also nonabs-
tract but plural. In both cases, seriality is established by
common focus, or lexically by means of adverbials of frequency.

The majority of the verbs in the examples are dynamic.
When a stative verb is used, specification is usually needed.
E.g. (42) and (52). Although specification may not appear with
dynamic verbs, it is a usual characteristic of a series.

The complement may also help to indicate seriality.
Leech (1971:6) says that a plural object points to a series of
events. E.g.

He <u>buys</u> the ones he <u>wants</u>.

1.1.3. A Preliminary Phase of the Event is Imperfect at PP

The commitment to perform the event is prior to PP.
Antecipation is indicated by adverbials and common focus.

53) After this payment, Willy, the house <u>belongs</u> to us (DOS-73)

54) I <u>go</u> now for the Sardines (OMS-18)

55) I <u>take</u> you to witness the light's out (y-125)

    - With '<u>be</u> <u>going</u> <u>to</u>'

56) <u>Is</u> Helen <u>going</u> <u>to</u> <u>have</u> a baby ? (SEM-187)

57) Tomorrow <u>is</u> <u>going</u> <u>to</u> <u>be</u> a good day with this current (OMS-14)

58) <u>Aren't</u> you <u>going</u> <u>to</u> <u>shut</u> it ? (SEM-385)

59) I'<u>m</u> <u>going</u> <u>to</u> <u>get</u> out of this town (SEM-289)

This systemic meaning is rare with the Simple Present in English. The Present Progressive and 'be going to' forms are used instead.

'<u>Be</u> <u>going</u> <u>to</u>' is considered by Leech (1971:56). Tregidgo (101) and Comric (64) as prospective aspect. According to them, it describes a different meaning from 'will' because it comprises what Bull calls the Extended Present. In other words. 'be going to' is concerned with antecipation prior to PP, and 'will' with antecipation from PP.

1.2. <u>Nonsystemic Functions</u>

1.2.1. <u>The event is not oriented to PP, it is an axis-free continuum potentially simultaneous with all axes of orientation.</u>

The tense form only indicates imperfective aspect. The subject is abstract or generic.

60) The capital of Alabama _is_ Montgomery (DOS-77)

61) Pigeons _aren't_ people (T-48)

62) True education _emerges_ from an understanding of the social order, from the nature of man and from no other source (SR-34)

63) Everything _kills_ something else in someway (OMS-106)

64) Education _is_ what _happens_ to any person at an important moment (SR-34)

65) Educational change _implies_ primarily changes in techniques and methodology (SR-34)

66) You _sneeze_ in here and, in my house hats blow off (DOS-42)

67) There _is_ nothing cut that _means_ anything (OMS-111)

68) Cancer _kills_ but it does _degrade_ (RD-109)

This meaning derives from a combination of some factors:

- the nature of the subject, which is either abstract or generic;

- the absence of time adverbials; or

- the presence of axis-free adverbials, which belong to the personal calendar.

1.2.2. The event is oriented to a time free axis

Differently from above, the event acquires specific time reference according to the speaker and hearer's common focus. The axis cannot be defined by the calendar, by specification, or by other devices. The time reference is established by the duration in which the event takes place.

69) Is such world really possible ? Skinner <u>believes</u> that it is (T-45)

70) The curtain <u>rises</u>, before us is the Salesman's house (DOS-11)

71) He <u>unlocks</u> the door, <u>comes</u> into the kitchen, and thankfully <u>lets</u> his burden down, feeling the soreness of his palms (DOS-12)

72) The process as explained by Skinner: "I <u>watch</u> a hungry pigeon carefully, when he <u>makes</u> a slight clockwise turn, he'<u>s</u> instantly <u>rewarded</u> for it" (T-48)

73) Nancy Hawthorne <u>is</u> obliged to make her own soundings in the sea of life. Bravely and sensibly she <u>faces</u> the problems which come to every girl of eighteen (SEM-361)

- With hypothetical meaning

74) Explains Skinner: "If a mother <u>goes</u> to her baby only when he <u>yells</u>, she <u>reinforces</u> fussing. But when she <u>goes</u> to him while he'<u>s</u> happy and perhaps saying 'Mama' softly, the baby will always speak to her that way" (T-50)

75) Dr. Feffer recommends - if your physician <u>approves</u> doing this set of eight execises twice a day... (RD-206)

76) But if you <u>rule</u> <u>out</u> these diseases and other rare situations, such as arthritis, then you'll find that... (RD-28)

This meaning is associated with stage directions (70) (71), commentaries about books, magazines, etc (69) (73), descriptions of experiments (72), and hypothetical situations.

1.2.3. The event is perfected prior to PP, but is not oriented to RP.

The event happened a little before PP and is still valid: aspect is marked by context or by common focus. The axis is marked by the verb form.

77) She says that she wasn't driving fast at all, and that he didn't skid. She says he came to that little bridge and...
(DOS-59)

78) John says you want to see me (Crystal-24)

79) I'm told you want... (IBID)

80) Sir A dies (news headline) (IBID)

81) His book is just out (SEM-533)

82) John tells me that there was a car accident last night
(U.G.E. - 43)

1.2.4. The event is recalled at PP but is oriented to RP.

Since the event is not oriented to PP, the axis is said to be desynchronized. One has to move from present into past time, and from there view the situation as present. Specification, surrounding tense forms, or other lexical items, define the axis.

83) It is all in that moment when I opened my young eyes on it
(y-126)

84) Well, we stay there for a while, but no one comes, so...
(Crystal-25)

In (83) the axis is defined primarily by the past

tense of the verb in the adverbial clause and also by the adverbial phrase 'in that moment'. In (84), RP is suggested by the adverb of place 'there'.

1.2.5. The event is antecipated at PP

This function is usually considered as a standard substitution for (APOV). However, it may be taken to be desynchronized.

85) The train comes in forty minutes (SEM-423)

86) Tomorrow is Saturday (Leech-60)

- With hypothetical meaning

87) When Elemie dies we must never have another dog (RD-196)

88) As soon as I get my clothes on (SEM-149)

89) Then, if you hook something truly big we can come to your aid (OMS-14)

90) I'll be back when I have the sardines (OMS-17)

91) Soon as summer comes (DOS-31)

92) What I will do if he decides to go down, I don't know (OMS-45)

93) If I have to have it, I will open it, whatever it costs (OMS-60)

Unlike Bull, Leech (1971:60-62) says that the Simple Present may function as a substitute for the Future, describing two meanings: 'A factual' and a 'Prediction' Future. The factual Future attributes some certainty to the Future reference, as in

(86). The prediction future refers to unalterable plans or arrangements, as in(85).

Bull remarks that this function (APOV) does not have a referent form in his hypothetical system. Since it is desynchronized (oriented to AP), the Simple Present functions as a standard substitution to this 'zero slot'. But in either Bull's or Leech's interpretation the function may be considered nonsystemic.

In English, hypothetical forms are commonly used to express anticipation. They are usually found in dependent clauses beginning with as soon as, if or when.

The large number of functions of the Simple Present derives from the concept of the Extended Present, and from the fact that the form is unmarked. However, when the Simple Present combines with certain factors it is axis - bound and has a unique value in the system.

2.0. Present Progressive

Before dealing with the Present Progressive we should refer back to the distinction between continuousness and progressiveness. Continuousness is concerned with duration without the consideration of habituality. Progressiveness is the combination of continuousness and nonstativity.

The various meanings attributed to the progressive, such as progression, iterativity, habituality, etc, are not determined by aspect alone but are rather a result of the association of the meaning of Imperfectiveness with the inherent

aspectual meaning of the verb. The most general meaning of
the Present Progressive is limited duration or temporariness.

2.1. Systemic Functions

2.1.1. A single event is Imperfect at PP

This meaning is based on the participation of the
speaker and hearer in the perception of the event. Three
cases are again considered:

A) The speaker and hearer can both observe the event AT PP

94) Are you trying to insult me ? (SEM-382)

95) I'm not being funny. I'm just talking through a sheet
(SEM-351)

96) What the hell are you offering me a new job for ?
(DOS-43)

97) Why are you fighting ? (DOS-49)

98) I'm not talking rot. I'm disgusted (SEM-12)

99) Are you spiting me ? (DOS-113)

100) Are you feeling better, Francis, my pearl ? (SEM-8)

B) The speaker alone perceives the event and reports it

101) He's coming up (OMS-62)

102) I am falling into the after hatch (y-111)

103) You're holding him again, but you can't get line
(OMS-84)

104) I'm expecting someone (DOS-101)

105) Honey you're just not thinking logically (RD-124)

106) It's pouring - John says (SEM-319)

C) Neither the speaker nor the hearer perceive the event

107) Mom's hearing that (DOS-27)

108) He is dying Biff (DOS-58) (speaker reports the event)

109) Ben, nothing's working out DOS-85) (speaker reports the event)

110) He's making the far part of his circle now (OMS-86)

111) He's comanding the battalion (SEM-404)

The Progressive in English is more frequently combined with dynamic verbs. In some instances, however, it can be combined with stative verbs; we will adopt Leech's (1971:18-22) classification and arguments in order to explain the meanings found in the corpus.

Stative verbs combined with the Progressive:

- Verbs of bodily sensation,

(100) Are you feeling better, Francis ?

When referring to a temporary state, this verb can occur with or without the Progressive.

- Verbs of 'having' and 'being' (Leech),

(95) I'm not being funny

Here the adjective is used dynamically to express a temporary deliberate act. Not all adjectives allow dynamic use, e.g.

* I'm not being ill

- Verbs of inert perception and cognition

(105) You're just not thinking logically

(107) Mom's hearing that

In these two examples, the stative verbs are used dynamically, as 'activity' verbs.

The dynamic verbs found in the corpus are mostly 'activity' verbs: talk, try, offer, fight, hold, demonstrate, argue, come up, make and comand. These, and the 'process' verb - 'expect' in (103), in combination with the Progressive express non-completion. Besides 'activity' and 'process' verbs another type of verb was found:

- Momentary verbs, as in:

(102) I am falling into the after hatch, which indicates approach to transition.

2.1.2. A series composed of repetitions of the same event is Imperfect at PP.

Two situations are described: a series performed by one actor and a series performed by various actors.

A) A series is performed by one actor

112) He's making his living (DOS-86)

113) I'm praying that it will (SEM-481)

114) You're making money, aren't you ? (DOS-23)

115) I think of the rent I'm paying (DOS-23)

116) He's <u>driving</u> the car without a license (DOS-40)

117) But you're <u>doing</u> wonderful, dear. You're <u>making</u> seventy to a hundred dollars a week (DOS-37)

118) He <u>is</u> <u>hitting</u> the wire leader with his spear (OMS-87)

119) I'm constantly <u>lowering</u> my ideals (DOS-24)

120) Here is the organization that <u>is</u> <u>carrying</u> the fight into phase two (RD-78)

B) <u>A series is performed by various actors</u>

121) The billboards <u>are</u> <u>falling</u> (headline) (RD-53)

122) Those who continue to receive S/R every week, and thereby <u>are</u> <u>receiving</u> what amounts to four new montlies (SR-34)

123) It's what everybody <u>is</u> <u>playing</u> and that includes two of our sons (RD-68)

124) Then what're you <u>walking</u> in here every week for ?(DOS-96)

125) By Jove! We <u>are</u> <u>being</u> <u>blown</u> up   (y-111)

We have already seen, that activity verbs combined with the progressive indicate duration. Momentary verbs, however, besides indicating approach to transition (102), may indicate seriality or iterativity:

(118) He's <u>hitting</u> the wire leader with his spear.

There are other means to indicate iterative aspect:
- an adverbial of frequency,as in (119);
- the countability of the object although the object is singular, it may imply repetitive situations, as in (112);
- the number of actors that perform the event, as in (123) it's what everybody <u>is</u> <u>playing</u> and that includes two of our sons

- by common focus or, as Crystal puts it, by implicit (frequency) specification, (113) (115).

2.1.3. A preliminary phase of an event is Imperfect at PP

126) They're not coming back, I said. They are not ever coming back. Ever. (RD-245)

127) Come on, we better go. He's not coming (SEM-285)

128) We're going after buff in the morning (SEM-7)

129) I'm not going in the tent tonight (SEM-67)

130) What are we eating ? (OMS-19)

131) John's coming tomorrow (Palmer-38)

We have said in 1.1.4 that this meaning is more common with 'be going to' forms and the Present Progressive than with the Simple Present. This has been confirmed by the data, which show that the meaning is determined either by common focus or specification.

2.2. Nonsystemic Functions

2.2.1. The event is perfected prior to PP but is not oriented to RP.

132) Mrs. X is telling me you are... (Crystal:24)

No examples were found in the corpus. This function seems to be restricted to verbs of reporting and commenting.

2.2.2. <u>The event is recalled at PP but is oriented to RP.</u>

The axis is desynchronized. Adverbials are necessary to mark the axis.

133) Three weeks ago, I'<u>m</u> <u>walking</u> along this street, when...
(Crystal-25)

This use of the Present Progressive adds vividness to the description. The progressive here provides a temporal frame during which something happened.

3.0. <u>Present Perfect</u>

We have seen in 1.3.3. that there are two different views of the Present Perfect. The traditional view associates it with the criterion of 'current relevance'; A more recent view considers it a present with a 'negative backward-looking aspect' (Tregidgo-1974:98).

Thus, while the former view interprets the Present Perfect as a 'past looking forwards into the Present', the latter view suggests that it is a 'present looking backwards into the past'. This latter view seems to explain better the meaning of the Present Perfect, since, according to Tregidgo's arguments, it does not only express 'current relevance'.

Leech (1971:30-38), although critical of the current relevance definition, which he finds too vague, says that the Present Perfect relates a past event to the present in two ways: by a time period lasting up to the present or

by persisting results.

According to Bull, the basic function of the Present Perfect is to indicate perfective aspect. But perfective is not to be equated with terminative aspect, since perfective may also indicate initiative aspect. Aspects of events may be either initiated or terminated prior to PP.

Tregidgo (99-100) says that this tense is primarily concerned with the present. The sequence of tenses proves this, e.g.

I think he is sorry. He's <u>told</u> me he is anyway.

I think he is sorry. He <u>told</u> me he was anyway.

With the Present Perfect, there's a strong tendency to use a present form.

With the Present Perfect, the present extends backwards towards the Past, as the event is seen from PP. The distance between the Present and Past is however, undefined.

Thus, the Present Perfect may be said to have two basic temporal meanings:

- reference to a period of time extending up to the present

and

- reference to an indefinite period or moment terminated before PP.

3.1. <u>Systemic Functions</u>

3.1.1. <u>A single event or a series is terminated before PP but is not oriented to RP</u>.

This function marks the difference between the Present

Perfect and the Simple Past. The perfect refers to an undefined past whereas the Simple Past always refers to a definite Past.

The auxiliary establishes the axis, while the participle marks perfective aspect. The terminative aspect of the event is determined by context, common focus, or the nature of the verb.

Seriality is indicated by context of adverbials of frequency.

3.1.1.1. A single event.

134) President Nixon has already established that he has the capacity for taking drastic actions (RD-109)

135) I've been asleep. Manuel Rubbed his forehead with the back of his fist (SEM-242)

136) Malcom has just been assassinated (J.M. - 104)

137) Max has been fired (IBID-104)

138) He's just gone down (SEM-320)

139) I've outlined eight exercises (RD-204)

140) We're sure your father will pay the ramsom we have asked in less than one week (RD-241)

141) Billy, I've already been here - protested mackle (RD-262)

3.1.1.2. A series of events.

142) By a similar process Skinner has taught pigeons to dance with each other (T-48)

143) Shakespeare has written most of the best plays we know (P-53)

144) He <u>has</u> <u>been</u> <u>conditioned</u> to want what serves groups of interests (T-45)

145) I'<u>ve</u> <u>prayed</u> and I'<u>ve</u> <u>done</u> everything and nothing helps (SEM-394)

146) Others <u>have</u> <u>written</u> about Paris in the 20's (SEM-Back cover)

147) Often in the Past, I'<u>ve</u> <u>lied</u>, I'<u>ve</u> <u>cheated</u>, I'<u>ve</u> <u>done</u> anything for money (TG-99)

148) ... A mother who <u>has</u> <u>known</u> seven different men in her lifetime of "loving", and <u>has</u> <u>borne</u> seven children, one fathered by each (SR-105)

3.1.2. <u>A single stative event initiates prior to PP and extends</u> <u>up to PP.</u>

Initiative aspect is determined by context, common focus or adverbial specification. The event does not necessarily end at PP.

149) How long <u>have</u> you <u>been</u> this way ? (SEM-352)

150) My brothers <u>have</u> <u>had</u> this note for sometime (RD-248)

151) We'<u>ve</u> <u>lived</u> in London since last September (London is where we are living now) (L-31)

152) He'<u>s</u> always <u>been</u> fine to me (SEM-302)

153) He'<u>s</u> <u>been</u> in his room all day (SEM-288)

154) How long <u>have</u> you been <u>stewed</u> Billy ? (SEM-352)

155) I don't know but I've got my wolf back,... I'<u>ve</u> <u>had</u> him for a week (SEM-352)

3.1.3. <u>A series composed of repetitions of the same event is</u> <u>initiated prior to PP and extends up to PP.</u>

156) In my lifetime I <u>have</u> <u>tried</u> to be a confort to them in time of sorrow, and a reason for added joy in their happiness (RD-194)

157) Recent years <u>have witnessed</u> concern in Washington for the future of Micronesia (RD-163)

158) It <u>has</u> <u>done</u> so, and will continue to do so (SR-34)

159) I've <u>seen</u> it a thousand times (DOS-86)

160) I've <u>seen</u> grown men cry about that (SR-105)

161) True education - as wise men from Aristotle on <u>have</u> <u>suggested</u> - emerges from an understanding of the social order and of the nature of man and from no other source (SR-34)

162) I <u>have</u> <u>beaten</u> the bus every single day (RD-188)

163) For years scholars <u>have</u> <u>struggled</u> with the line from Hamlet, "He's fat and scant of breath" that Chris Chase quotes in her article "Fat boys are better than no boys" (SR-31)

With stative verbs, seriality is marked by means of specified frequency (159), countability of the object (160). With dynamic verbs, it is marked by an adverbial of duration (156) (157) (163), an adverbial of frequency (162), or by implied specification suggested by context (and it will continue to do so) (158).

Sections 3.1.2. and 3.1.3. illustrate what Leech calls 'a state - up - to - the - present' and a Habit - in - a - period - leading - up - to - the - present' respectively.

3.2. Nonsystemic Functions

3.2.1. The event is antecipated at PP but is anterior to AP.

164) Eat that Galanos, and make a dream you <u>have</u> <u>killed</u> a man (OMS-119)

No other examples were found in the corpus. The axis is desynchronized.

3.2.2. The event is oriented to a time-free axis.

165) Light <u>has</u> <u>risen</u> on the boy's room (DOS-19)

166) The woman <u>has</u> <u>come</u> from behind the screen and is standing putting on her hat (DOS-38)

167) Happy in pajamas <u>has</u> <u>come</u> down the stairs (DOS-41)

168) Well, before they <u>have</u> <u>finished</u> <u>speaking</u>, Willy's form is dimly seen below in the darkened room (DOS-27)

Similarly to the Simple Present, the time reference is given by the speaker and hearer's common focus. In the above instances, the context is a play and the sentences are stage directions.

3.2.3. The event is recalled at PP but is oriented to RP.

169) "I <u>have</u> not <u>wished</u> to open the container until you were ready".

"I'm ready now", the old man said (OMS-20)

170) When I was your age, I was before the mast on a square
     rigged ship that ran to Africa and I <u>have</u> <u>seen</u> lions
     on the beaches in the evening (OMS-22)

171) I <u>have</u> <u>nominated</u> a scientist from Vevey and a colleague
     of mine from Lauzanne and they were both elected
     (SEM-434)

The axis is desynchronized for it is not oriented
to PP. Context, a surrounding Past Tense or adverbial
specification is necessary to define the axis.

4.0. <u>Present Perfect Progressive</u>

The Present Perfect Progressive, like the Present
Progressive, also presents some restrictions of occurrence
with stative verbs. It primarily stands for imperfectivity,
but not necessarily simultaneity with PP.

According to Leech (1971:44-45), because of its
semantic element of duration, the Present Perfect Progressive
is not used with momentary verbs and does not require an
adverbial of duration.

4.1. <u>Systemic Functions</u>

4.1.1. <u>A single event or a series is initiated prior</u>
         <u>to PP and extends up to PP.</u>

Both the event and the series may extend into
the future.

Stative verbs are used dynamically when
followed by adverbials of duration.

172) This is Mr. Doyle. He's been training Jack (SEM-306)

173) I've been waiting for you to explain... (DOS-108)

174) But psychologists have been issuing warnings on this matter
of strict equality of the sexes (RD-211)

175) How've been feeling ? (DOS-90)

176) Well, he's been doing very big things in the west (DOS-91)

177) He's been trying to kill himself (DOS-58)

178) Bernard, that question has been trailing me like a ghost
for the last fifteen years (DOS-93)

179) He has been meaning/trying/pretending to start the book
(L-44)

This is the basic meaning of the Present Perfect
Progressive. It is the Progressive aspect that indicates that
the situation comprises PP. Without the Progressive a single
event would have indifinite past time reference:

(173) I've been waiting for you to explain

I've waited for you to explain

Without the progressive or an adverbial of frequency
or duration, the meaning of iterativity is lost, and the situation
would be seen as a complete whole in an indefinite past:

He has been training Jack

He has trained Jack

According to Leech (1971:45), 'state' verbs used
with the Present Perfect Progressive, do not require an adverbial
of duration:

I've been waiting for you

4.1.2. <u>An event or a series is terminated prior to PP and is not
    oriented to RP.</u>

180) We've been having a lesson (C-26)

181) Why didn't you answer ? I've been knocking for five minutes
    (DOS-117)

182) I've been doing it during your absence (the wife is asking
    her husband, who has just come home from a business trip,
    permission to enrol in a hockey course) (RD-68)

183) I've been finishing off your letters (C-26)

184) I've been writing - he said. But I got tired (SEM-74)

With a single event, the results of the action are usually
perceivable; no specification is required, e.g. (180). When
iterativity is implied, specification is usually necessary,
especially an adverbial of duration, e.g. (181), (182).

Terminative aspect may be indicated by a surrounding verb
(181) (184), by the semantics of the adverbial (182), by the
semantics of the verb (183), or by an implicit adverbial ('just')
(180).

5.0. <u>Forms Other than Present</u>

Other tense forms can be used with Present Time Reference.
We will consider the nonsystemic functions of the Simple Past
and Simple Past Progressive together. The auxiliary 'will' with
Present Time Reference has modal meaning, and as modality is not
within the scope of this study it will not be dealt with.

5.1. Simple Past and Past Progressive.

A Past Tense may be used with Present Time Reference. 'A Grammar of Contemporary English' calls it Attitudinal Past.

5.1.1. The situation is Imperfect at PP.

185) I thought I might come and see you later this evening (L-11)

186) I wondered if you'd look after my dog while I go shopping (IBID)

187) I hoped you would give me a hand with the painting (IBID)

188) Listen, I was just dying to tell you... (DOS-75)

189) Did you want to see me ? (U.G.E. - 43)

190) I just wanted to tell you (DOS-68)

191) I wanted to say good night to you, sport (DOS-67)

The Present and the Past Tenses are interchangeable, the only difference being that with the Simple Past Tense or Past Progressive the statements indicate politeness or tentativeness.

There are no grammatical indications in the above sentences of the axis of orientation; it is marked by common focus.

5.1.2. The situation marks hypothetical meaning at PP.

192) It is time I said good-bye, before I become too sick a burden on myself and on those who love me (RD-194)

193) I wish I knew (C-26)

194) I'd rather you listened to me (L-112)

195) "I wonder what he did ?" Nick said (SEM-289)

196) I wish we had them both here (SEM-119)

197) I wish he was here now (SEM-119)

The axis marker in these examples is the Present Tense form with which the main clauses begin. The Past Tense marks unreal meaning with negative implication, as in

(197) I wish he was here now (but he isn't here now)

5.2. Future - in - the - Past

There is only one systemic function which fits our present concern. It is used in hypothetical main clauses with an implicit conditional clause. It typically indicates wishes, preference, likes and dislikes.

5.2.1. The situation marks hypothetical meaning at PP.

198) Now I would ask her, for love of me, to have another (RD-196)

199) What I would like to feel is that, having once had him in? the family, now she cannot live without a dog (RD-196)

200) Would you like to take some of that ham and some bread with you ? (SEM-138)

201) I'd like to meet Chesterton (SEM-118)

202) Wouldn't you like some more broth ? (SEM-71)

All the sentences indicate a polite or tentative form of expressing one's wishes.

6.0. Conclusion

Marianne Celce Murcia (Forum 1977:23) points out that before Bull's analysis of tense systems, the English tense-aspect system had proved to be very difficult to teach and learn, because lisguists had not been able to provide a semantically-complete and accurate description of it. Besides, and as a consequence, most teachers and texbooks writers did not understand how it worked, and could not explain and teach it effectively. Bull's framework, however, came to uncover dark points which had not been successfully explained by other linguists.

6.1. Summary of the functions of the English Present Tenses.

6.1.1. Using Bull's framework, we will try to represent the systemic and nonsystemic functions of the present tenses in diagrams.

6.1.1.1. Systemic functions.

Present Perfect		Simple Present	
Present Perfect Progressive		Present Progressive	Future
(PP-V)		(PP0V)	(PP+V)
Has worked		Works	
Has been working		Is working	

6.1.1.2. <u>Nonsystemic functions</u>.

Present Perfect	Simple Present	Future
(PP-V)	(PPOV)	(PP+V)

| Has worked | | Works | | Will work |

Future Perfect   (APOV)   (AP+V)
(AP-V)

| Will have worked | | zero | | zero |

Past Perfect	Simple Past	Future in the Past
(RP-V)	(RPOV)	(RP+V)

| Had worked | | Worked | | Would work |
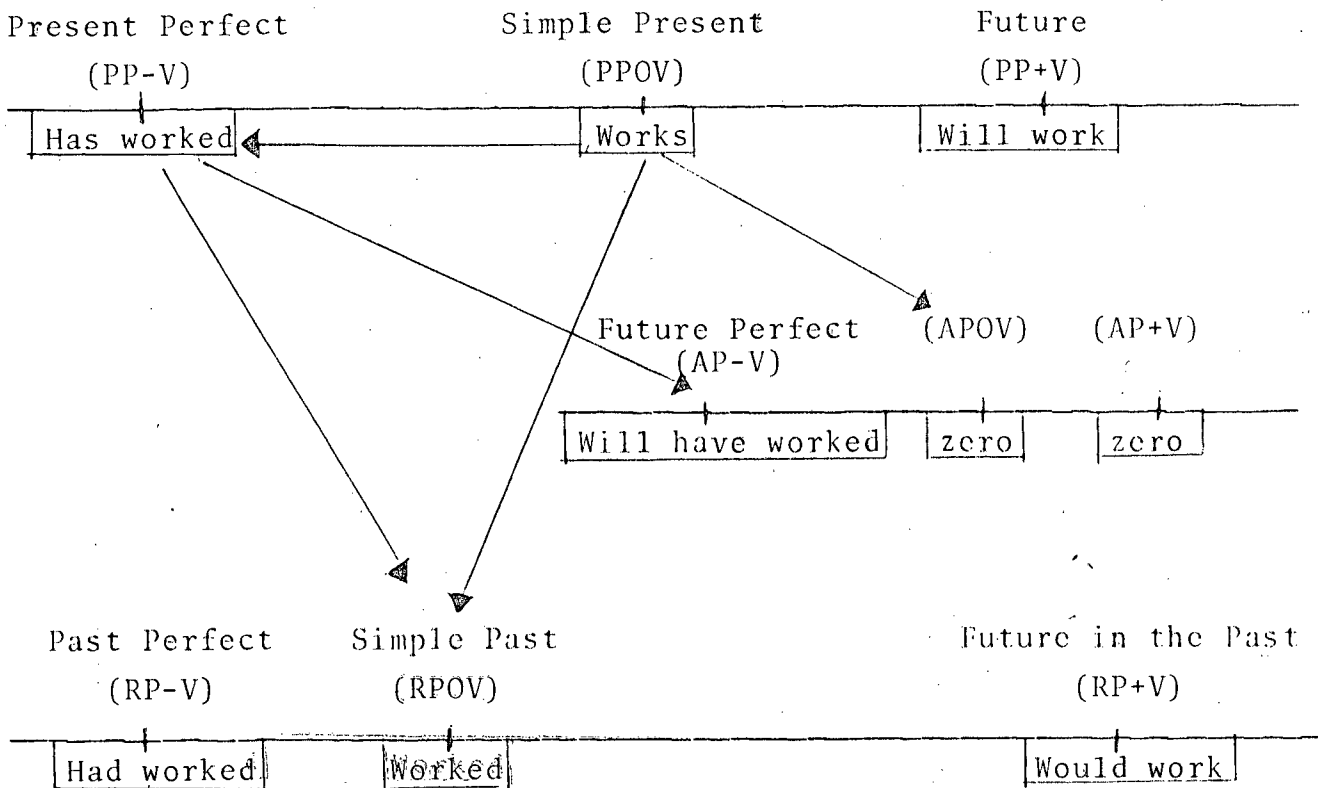
6.2. <u>Tense Forms and Present Time</u>.

The following is a table of the functions of the tenses that have or may have Present Time reference. Examples will be given for each meaning. Systemic and nonsystemic functions are not distinguished as they have already been described. The tenses appear with their traditional labels. The arrow indicates orientation to the axis PP: Point Present.

PRESENT TIME REFERENCE

ASPECT ORDER / TENSE	EVENT SIMULTANEOUS WITH PP	INITIATIVE ASPECT OF EVENT PRIOR TO PP ⟺ PP	TERMINATIVE ASPECT OF EVENT PRIOR TO PP ⟹ PP	PRELIMINARY PHASE OF EVENT PRIOR TO PP ⟹ PP
SIMPLE PRESENT	– A single event: That makes no difference – A series of events: I eat with my mouth – Time-free: The curtain rises... – Axis-free: Man is mortal		– A single event: John says you want to see me	I go now for the Sardines
PRESENT PROGRESSIVE	– A single event: He's coming up – A series of events: You're making money, aren't you?		– A single event: Mr. X is telling me you are...	I'm not going in the tent tonight
PRESENT PERFECT	– Time-free: Light has risen on the boy's room (stage directions)	– A single event: How long have you been this way? – A series of events: I've seen it a thousand times	– A single event: The taxi has arrived – A series of events: Haven't I done my works?	
PRESENT PERFECT PROGRESSIVE		– A single event: I've been waiting for you to explain – A series of events: He has been doing very big things in the west	– A single event: We've (just) been having a lesson – A series of events: He's been knocking for five minutes	
SIMPLE PAST	– A single event: Did you want to see me?			
PAST PROGRESSIVE	– Hypothetical: I wish I knew			
FUTURE IN THE PAST	– Hypothetical: I'd like to see him			

7.0. Corpus

The examples were taken from the following English books and magazines. The abbreviations used in the study to indicate the source appear in brackets.

Books:

- Conrad, Joseph. Three Short Novels (Youth: 95-127), New York, Bantam Books, 1960 (y).

- Hemingway, Ernest. The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway, New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1966 (SEM).

- Hemingway, Ernest. The Old Man and the Sea, New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1952 (OMS).

- Miller, Arthur . Death of a Salesman, New York, The Viking Press, 1968 (DOS).

Magazines:

- Reader's Digest, New York, December, 1971 (RD).

- Saturday Review, Education, New York, October, 1972 (SR).

Other Sources:

- Crystal, D. Specification and English Tenses. Journal of Linguistics, Vol. 2, number I, April 1966 (C).

- Quirk, R. & Greenbaum, S.   A University Grammar of English,
  London, 1975 (UGE)'.

- Leech, Geoffrey N.   Meaning and the English Verb, London,
  Longman, 1971 (L).

- McCawley, James D.   Tense and Time Reference in English,
  Studies in Linguistic Semantics in C. Fillmore and D.T.
  Langendoen, ed., New York, 1972 (JM).

- Palmer, F.R.   The English Verb, London, Longman, 1974 (P).

- Tregidgo, P.S.   English Tense Usage: A Bull's Eye - view.
  English Language Teaching Journal, Vol. 28, N° 2, January
  1974 (TG).

C H A P T E R   3

The same procedure used in the description of the English Present Tenses will be adopted here.

The examples are again followed by the indication of the souret the titles and authors are given at the end of the chapter.

1.0. Simple Present (Presente do Indicativo)

1.1. Systemic Functions

1.1.1. A Single Event is Imperfect at PP

Said Ali (1961:161) and Cunha (1976: 430) say that the Simple Present may refer to an action which takes place at the moment of speech or within an interval which contains the moment of speech. The Simple Present in Portuguese, may, therefore, represent monetary or prolonged events. While Said Ali includes these two meanings of the present under the label of 'Presente Durativo', Cunha distinguishes between 'Presente Durativo' and 'Presente Momentâneo'. Eunice Pontes (1972:75) denies that the Simple Present may refer to an event

simultaneous with PP; this is rather done by the Present Progressive (periphrastic form 'estar' + gerund):

"Estou interessada não no que você está falando (= agora), mas no que você fala (= habitualmente)" (76).

The distinction between 'simultaneous' (i.e. of short duration) and prolonged events is made through the observation of the event by the speaker and the hearer, in a given situation.

A) <u>Both the speaker and the hearer can perceive the event.</u>

1) <u>Quer</u> saber o meu nome ? (III-33)

2) Os senhores <u>acreditam</u> que em vez de guardar a nota de mil, eu de burro devolvi o troco ? (II-44)

3) Quem <u>fala</u> aqui é o Valdemar (II-35)

4) Que lhe <u>parece</u> ? (III-36)

5) Que <u>desejam</u> os senhores ? (VG-71)

6) Entre para o escritório, que eu <u>quero</u> falar muito com você (SG-73)

7) Boa tarde, como <u>vai</u> o senhor (SG-93)

8) Será que você <u>precisa</u> disso ? (N-42)

9) Como você <u>vê</u>, o tratamento psicoterápico às vezes dá certo e às vezes não dá. (N-94)

10) <u>Peço</u> ao senhor que me esqueça... (SG-97)

11) <u>Percebo</u> sim, mas não concordo (II-27)

12) Mulher, <u>sabes</u> o nome da Pipoca ? (II-32)

13) <u>Veja</u> que também tem boa memória (I-62)

B) Only the speaker can perceive the event.

14) Sou um homem de bem (I-52)

15) Gosto tanto dela que estou disposto a qualquer sacrifício (I-55)

16) Não tenho de modo algum esta impressão (V-6)

17) Concordo plenamente com Houaiss (V-12)

18) Admiro gente assim com a mais pura e selvagem simpatia de meu espírito (III-61)

19) Gosto de cumprir religiosamente as minhas obrigações (III-15)

20) O caso é que adoro minha mulher (I-55)

21) Preciso sonhar outras coisas (III-44)

22) Tenho convicção profunda que não é através da violência que vamos conseguir a mudança (V-4)

23) Resta-me a vaidade vulgar de saber que não presto para nada (III-62)

C) Neither the speaker nor the hearer observes the event.

24) É uma mulher que chefia o bando (III-13)

25) Tom tem um admirável instinto político (N-50)

26) ... Mora numa cidadezinha gelada quase na fronteira do Canadá, tem um ordenado que lhe basta... (III-60)

27) Procure uma senhorita loura que mora na terceira casa. (III-33)

28) Ora, a Igreja sabe que a eternidade começa agora e aqui.

29) Vais perguntar-me se ele gosta de mim. (CR-239)

30) Aqui havia mulheres e criancinhas. Agora felizmente só há
   pulgas e ratos (III-32)

31) Pois hoje ela _tem_ um ótimo relacionamento afetivo com o
   pai e o irmão Peter... (N-50)

32) Ela _sabe_ exatamente quem é (N-55)

33) Ela já _sabe_ tanta coisa ! (II-42)

34) Esta menina é uma boba mesmo, não _gosta_ de injeção,   nem
   de vitamina, e a irmãzinha dela _adora_ (II-20)

   With verbs that are neutral in terms of duration,
such as the ones found in these examples, it is the situation
that tells us whether the event has short or prolonged
duration.

   The event is 'momentary' or 'simultaneous' with the
moment of speech, when both the hearer and speaker are
observing the event. In this case the event is more likely to
be replaced by a Present Progressive Form:

e.g.

Como você $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\underline{vê} \\ \underline{está\ vendo}\end{array}\right\}$ o tratamento psicoterápico às vezes dá certo.

   Although adverbials are not necessary, they may
occur with some events to shorten duration, e.g. (31)

1.1.2. A series composed of repetitions of the same event is
      Imperfect at PP.

      M. Said Ali (1961:161), Celso Cunha (1976:430)
and E. Pontes (1972:75) list a 'frequentative' or habitual

use of the Simple Present, which is characterized by a habit or intermittent event that may or may not coincide with the moment of speech. This contradicts Bull's view in that he considers seriality as being unlikely to be taking place at PP.

A series may be performed by one or various actors or it may be indicated by reflexive constructions. The reflexive passive construction expresses an indefinite actor, equivalent to the English 'one', 'people', or the passive construction 'It is said..., It is known, etc'.

A) <u>All the events in a series are performed by the same actor.</u>

35) Ele <u>canta</u> muito bem (SG-3)

36) <u>Leio</u> desesperadamente, <u>trabalho</u> trancado no meu gabinete, um silêncio medonho no apartamento (VC-21)

37) D. Conceição em seu apartamento em Laranjeiras, RJ, mui tas vezes se <u>assusta</u> com as cartas que recebe pela revista 'Isto É' (V-78)

38) Mas o que eu <u>prometo</u>, eu <u>cumpro</u> (I-55)

39) Hoje é ela quem <u>lava</u> as roupas da casa, <u>arruma</u> as camas, <u>dá</u> banho no cachorro, <u>faz</u> comida para a família e <u>leva</u> seus filhos para a escola (N-52)

40) Quando tem comida para levar, eu <u>almoço</u>; mamãe <u>faz</u> um embrulho de comida para mim (III-59)

41) E quanto é que você <u>ganha</u> ? (III-59)

42) Quando ela <u>fala</u> com ele, ele se <u>arrepia</u> todo (I-26)

43) <u>Andas</u> pensativo. Que tens ? (CR-103)

44) Na civilização cristã, a mulher <u>toma</u> conta da casa, o homem em geral <u>trabalha</u> fora (III-29)

45) Ele <u>bate</u> de novo (II-30)

B) <u>The event in the series is performed by various actors.</u>

46) Aqui pelo menos as coisas <u>funcionam</u> (V-78)

47) Mas tá certo: <u>mentem</u> para ganhar a vida (II-71)

48) ... A gente coisa nenhuma, eles <u>inventam</u> uma besteira qualquer, depois <u>empurram</u> a mercadoria (II-31)

49) <u>Respeitam</u> o senhor. <u>Atacam</u> lá fora, mas aqui <u>põem</u> a viola no saco (SG-24)

50) Vocês é que parecem carrapatos, não me <u>largam</u> (SG-67)

51) Os ouvidos dessa gente são terríveis, <u>escutam</u> até o que não <u>ouvem</u> (SG-70)

52) E não é o caso, pois vocês <u>aparecem</u> aqui diariamente (SG-70)

53) Quando eu peço eles dão, mas <u>descontam</u> no ordenado (III-59)

54) Parece que eles se <u>assustam</u> com os aviões (II-41)

C) <u>The object can be abstract or non-abstract, singular or plural. The construction is reflexive passive.</u>

55) <u>Diz-se</u> muita coisa feroz a respeito da amizade das mulheres (CR-236)

56) <u>Comenta-se</u> em Hollywood que ela provavelmente seja indicada novamente para o Oscar... (N-52)

57) <u>Aperta-se</u> o cerco contra o cancer nos E.U.A. (III-61)

58) Não há sentido em uma relva na qual não se <u>pode</u> pisar (I-21)

59) Geralmente se <u>cria</u> em casa é casal de tuim, especialmente para se apreciar o namorinho deles (I-31)

60) Música de Wagner, não se <u>toca</u> mais nessa casa, não se <u>toca</u>

   mais nessa casa (VC-38)

61) Mas aquele tuim macho foi criado sozinho e, como se <u>diz</u> na

   roça, criado no dedo (I-31)

   Imperfectivity is indicated by the Present Tense form;

seriality depends on:

1) <u>The nature of the verb</u> - Telic verbs are more usual with

   this meaning. However, when telic verbs are specified by an

   axis-bound adverbial, they usually refer to a single event

   and, in this case, the Simple Present form may be inter-

   changeable with the Present Progressive, e.g.

      Ele <u>canta</u> muito bem (seriality)

      Ele   <u>canta</u>   agora (a single event)

         <u>está</u> <u>cantando</u>

   There are verbs that have either inherent habitual / customary

   meaning, e.g. (43), or inherent iterative meaning, e.g. (45).

2) <u>The use of adverbials of frequency</u>, e.g. (37) (53).

3) <u>The context</u> - e.g. (41), (46), (47).

4) <u>A sequence of different series of repetitions of events</u>,

   e.g. (36), (38), (39).

5) <u>The countability of the subject</u> - Plural subjects and

   generic subjects tend to express seriality. Generic subjects

may be expressed by the reflexive passive constructions, or
simply by a singular.subject (44).

1.1.3. A Preliminary Phase of the Event is Imperfect at PP.

An axis-bound adverbial, indicating future
reference, is usually necessary in order to avoid ambiguity.
Celso Cunha (430), Said Ali (161) and E. Pontes (75) call this
use of the Simple Present - 'Near-Future' or 'Present-Future'.

62) Estou convencido. Compro o aspirador. (I-47)

63) Minha filha, daqui a pouco você leva o Artur (SG-4)

64) Desço já (SG-30)

65) Eu vou embora (II-18)

66) Tu vais lá uma tarde (SG-117)

67) Mas se eu disser isso, este povo me mata (II-45)

68) Quando voltar do Japão, te telefono (SG-101)

69) Depois o senhor se muda (SG-38)

70) Qual, não atravesso este muro de Berlim (I-49)

71) E o comandante casa mesmo, João ? (VC-111)

72) A senhora escreve uma carta dizendo que... (SG-97)

73) Não, ele agora me paga (SG-13)

74) Hoje no jantar vocês comem perdiz (I-38)

- With periphrastic forms:

75) Fico, mas vou empurrar esta cadeira (II-19)

76) Vou chamar o próximo (III-66)

77) Vamos ouvir de perto esses barulhos da madrugada (III-42)

78) Você vai criar um cajueiro aí ? (II-24)

79) <u>Vou</u> <u>apanhar</u> o carro (SG-7)

80) Eu <u>vou</u> <u>comprar</u> um cofre (III-36)

81) As nossas elites políticas são umas irresponsáveis e <u>vão</u>
<u>terminar</u> levando o Brasil para o abismo (SG-104)

82) Não <u>vou</u> <u>pagar</u> nada, não <u>vou</u> lhe <u>tomar</u> nada (II-31)

      Eunice Pontes (75) says that we do not find among
the indicative forms, one to express future, but the Simple
Present itself indicates what is about to happen (Near Future).
The periphrastic forms ('Ir + Infinitive) are used to indicate
a more 'remote' future. Bull (24), however, denies this
distinction between the near and remote future, when he argues
that the present does not by itself express only future; it
carries a present concern or intention that the event should
be fulfilled in the future. The periphrastic forms are basic-
ally associated with this idea of 'Present-Future' reference.
The evidence that the event has present orientation is found
in the use of the Simple Present Tense form used alone or
combined with an infinitive form.

1.1.4. The event has initiated prior to PP and extends up to PP

83) <u>Sou</u> advogado há mais de quarenta anos (I-61)

84) <u>Estamos</u> casados há 5 anos (N-50)

      Adverbials of duration are necessary to determine
the initiation of the event prior to PP. The fact that the
event is presumed to extend up to PP, is suggested by the Simple
Present form.

1.2. <u>Nonsystemic Functions</u>

    1.2.1. <u>The event is not oriented to PP; it is an axis-free</u>

          <u>continuum potentially simultaneous with all axes of</u>

          <u>orientation</u>

        The subject is abstract or generic. The tense form only indicates imperfective aspect.

85) Um 'ash-tray' <u>é</u> um cinzeiro (II-65)

86) O caso é que o homem não <u>presta</u> (II-71)

87) O crime não <u>compensa</u> (I-40)

88) Deus <u>escreve</u> direito por linhas tortas (VC-82)

89) ... E desceu as escadas pensando no amor - este mal

    que <u>tempera</u> a vida (SG-85)

90) O amor contrariado, quando não <u>leva</u> a um desdém subli-

    me da parte do coração, <u>leva</u> à tragédia ou à asneira

    (CR-130)

91) O importante <u>é</u> o homem ganhar a vida; o resto <u>é</u> bestei

    ra (II-71)

92) <u>És</u> pó e em pó reverterás (I-47)

    - With hypothetical meaning:

93) Se a fruta <u>cai</u> no chão, já não é de ninguém; <u>é</u> de qual

    quer um, inclusive do portador (III-13)

        The examples are proverbs, citations from books, the Bible, etc, and general truths.

        M. Said Ali (161) and Cunha (430) include this use of the Simple Present within the scope of "Presente Du rativo".

The hypothetical meaning is usually more common with the Future Subjunctive form, e.g. 'Se a fruta cair/cai no chão...'

1.2.2. The event is oriented to a time-free axis

94) O futurólogo Alvin Toffer, autor de "O Choque do Futuro", vê o alargamento do espectro televisivo como parte de uma tendência de "desmassificação" dos meios da comunicação... (V-86)

95) A linguagem da arte se torna, assim, em Siron Franco, a expressão de uma furiosa discrepância com o mundo em que vivemos (V-138)

96) Segundo Freud, todas as neuroses, todos os conflitos humanos, originam-se em conflitos de infância (N-60)

97) Nesta foto você pode ver bem de perto como Silvia arruma duas bandejas individuais (N-84)

98) A porta se abre e você aparece. Linda, dentro de um pijama molengo de seda... (N-69)

99) O que nos leva a escrever é a luta pela exatidão da informação e nossa antipatia ao elitismo (V-12)

100) Aqui deixa de falar o leitor para falar o protagonista (CR-131)

101) O médico segura o microscópio, focaliza-o dentro da boca de Rosinha, pede uma colher, manda a paciente dizer aaá. (II-20)

The examples illustrate commentaries and criticism, table arrangements, descriptions of dress styles, instructions and demonstrations. Typically, adverbials are not used.

1.2.3. The event is perfected prior to PP but is not oriented to RP

102) Um amigo meu me ensina a diferença entre "chatear" e "encher". "Chatear" é assim... (II-35)

103) Acabo de ler duas páginas dos Salmos de Davi (CR-211)

104) Porém - diz um Dr. Mereje - não foi o primeiro (III-41)

105) - Buh Bah... - concordou a menina.

- O senhor entende o que ela diz ? - Perguntou o guarda ?

(I-21)

106) O polivalente Dirceu trocou o que chama de incompreensão da crônica esportiva, por um contrato milionário (V-110)

The terminative aspect may be indicated by context (102) (106), by a verb which has inherent terminative meaning (103) and by verbs of reporting and commenting (105). In case a terminative verb is used the Simple Present form may be replaced by a Past Tense without change of meaning, e.g.

Acabo de ler   duas páginas dos Salmos de Davi

Acabei de ler

Although the event has been completed prior to PP, it is oriented to PP. Past time adverbials are not used.

1.2.4. An event is recalled at PP but is oriented to RP

107) Um tio deu-lhe outra vez um canário, o carinho foi demais, o passarinho morreu. Não há nada a fazer, por enquanto, e ele dedicou-se à arte de desenhar bichos (III-69)

108) Reparei que se lá fico mais tempo, destruia dois princípios de minha vida (CR-62)

109) Entro numa venda para comprar anzóis, e o velho está me atendendo, quando chega um menino da roça com um burro e dois balaios de lenha (I-42)

110) Pois olhe só - em dois tempos o gordinho pôs a engenhoca a funcionar, esfrega daqui e dali, praticamente mudou a cor do meu tapete (I-46)

111) Em 1944 muda-se para o Rio, onde vive até hoje (I-8)

112) E voltou prá mim o cano da arma, que num terrível chupão quase me leva a manga do paletó (I-46)

113) É claro que não parava aí. Vêm depois outras belezas; eu chamo a lágrima de "traidora inconsciente dos segredos d'alma" (III-71)

The axis is desynchronized. The retrospective axis is indicated by a past time adverbial (111), by a surrounding Past Tense form (107) (108) (110) (112) (113) or context (109). This meaning illustrates what is called 'Presente Histórico'. The speaker may simply make use of Present Forms or insert the Present Form within past narratives to suggest that the events are still vivid in his mind.

1.2.5. The event is anticipated at PP

The axis is desynchronized. Implicit or explicit adverbials are essential to this meaning.

114) Do dia 27 em diante "as flores de maio" do Jardim Botânico estão gloriosamente em flor (II-34)

115) ... É claro que se ela não quiser, né, vai ficar muito ma-
     grinha que até o vento <u>carrega</u> (II-21)

116) Daí por diante a leitura ficará sendo um hábito e esse há-
     bito <u>leva</u> a novas descobertas (I-S)

117) Escuta: quando ele vier a gente <u>fica</u> quieta aqui dentro, não
     <u>faz</u> barulho, para ele pensar que não tem ninguém (III-15)

The antecipated axis is indicated by means of an adverb (114) (116) or by a surrounding future form (115) (117). The event suggests an antecipation from AP; this antecipation, however, (AP+V) does not have any corresponding tense form in Portuguese. The Simple Present is used as a standard substitution for the 'zero slot'.

2.0. <u>Present Progressive</u>

As mentioned in Chapter 1, the Present Progressive is treated as a 'locução verbal' or periphrastic form. The most common periphrastic forms are the ones formed by the present of the auxiliary (estar) plus the Gerund of the principal verb. There are many others, however, either followed by the Gerund or by the Infinitive which will be dealt with throughout this section; their main attribute is to indicate duration.

2.1. <u>Systemic Functions</u>

2.1.1. <u>A single event is Imperfect at PP</u>

A) <u>Both the speaker and hearer observe the event</u>

118) Não <u>estás</u> <u>vendo</u> que é o Barroso ? (VC-50)

119) E creio que não o <u>estou</u> <u>caceteando</u> com minha conversa (VC-83)

120) Mas eu <u>estou</u> lhe <u>telefonando</u> por outro motivo, general! (SG-30)

121) E não <u>adianta</u> <u>ficar</u> aí chorando feito bobo (I-18)

122) O amigo <u>está</u> <u>descansando</u> ? (SG-106)

123) Perdão, deputado, o senhor <u>está</u> <u>ofendendo</u> o senhor minis-tro (I-60)

124) Pois fique sabendo que <u>estou</u> <u>gostando</u> muito de sua senho-ra (I-55)

125) Então <u>fica</u> se <u>chamando</u> Pipoca (II-32)

B) <u>Only the speaker can observe the event</u>

126) Pois eu <u>estou</u> <u>suando</u> (I-72)

127) E enquanto tomo café <u>vou</u> me <u>lembrando</u> de um homem modesto que conheci antigamente (I-64)

128) Eu <u>estou</u> me <u>referindo</u> a este mal (I-60)

129) Não <u>estou</u> <u>pensando</u> em casar-me (SG-83)

130) <u>Estou</u> <u>entendendo</u> tudo (I-16)

131) Vendo-as caminhar lentamente, <u>fico</u> a <u>imaginar</u> que Mère Blandine tem razão... (AC-74)

132) Nem eu <u>estou</u> <u>querendo</u> tanto para ele (I-58)

133) Não <u>estou</u> <u>vendo</u> nada (I-37)

134) <u>Estou</u> aqui <u>pedindo</u> esmola (II-72)

135) Sujeito atrevido, <u>fica</u> ali me <u>esperando</u> (II-68)

136) Contemplando esta gente do 2º andar me <u>ponho</u> <u>imaginando</u> a classe a que pertence (AC-65)

C) <u>Neither the speaker nor the hearer observes the event</u>

137) <u>Vem baixando</u> o crepúsculo de leve (CC-381)

138) A idéia de recenseamento, pouco a pouco, <u>vai-se insta-</u>
<u>lando</u> naquela casa, <u>penetrando</u> naquele espírito (II-31)

139) O monstro <u>vai espalhando</u> terror ao seu redor (II-22)

140) Dizem que <u>está havendo</u> revolução (SG-118)

141) O Rio <u>está mudando</u> muito. Já <u>estão começando</u> a roubar
até as crianças (SG-106)

142) Quem <u>está escrevendo</u>a notícia ? (SG-13)

143) Mas <u>estão</u> é <u>fazendo</u> propaganda do comunismo junto aos
pobres, oprimidos e humilhados (V-6)

144) Maria <u>está morando</u> aqui há 5 anos (AN-61)

145) ... e a certeza que Deus <u>continua</u> a <u>ouvir</u> o clamor de
seu povo e vai defender a justiça (V-6)

Pontes (76) says that contrasted with the Simple
Present, the Present Progressive makes precise reference to the
present moment. Bull suggests that both tenses may refer to
either the present moment or to the present century, e.g. in A)
the events are simultaneous with PP; in B) and C) they are more
prolonged. A) may include 'performative' or punctual events,
e.g. (125).

Adverbials are not necessary, since the progressive
by itself expresses duration. However, the adverbials may be
used when we want to measure the interval between the initiation
of the event and PP, e.g. (144).

2.1.2. <u>A series composed of repetitions of the same event is Imperfect at PP</u>.

A) <u>All the events in a series are performed by the same actor</u>.

146) Também tenho este hábito. De vez em quando <u>estou</u> <u>olhando</u> o relógio mesmo sem ter pressa (VC-62)

147) Agora <u>estou</u> me <u>segurando</u> à minha maneira, <u>deixando</u> as coisas lá em casa e <u>convidando</u> os fregueses a fazer o mesmo (III-36)

148) O Araújo sempre se <u>metendo</u> a entendido (III-75)

149) O senhor veio da praia, que água pode ser essa que <u>está</u> <u>pingando</u> se não for água do mar ? (I-72)

150) <u>Estou</u> <u>fazendo</u> o censo da população e lhe peço o favor de me ajudar (II-30)

151) Você <u>anda</u> ultimamente <u>precisando</u> de fósforo (I-51)

152) Desconfiam que ele <u>anda</u> <u>frequentando</u> cassinos (SG-56)

153) É um tapete que arrasto comigo há anos por todos os lugares que <u>venho</u> <u>morando</u> (I-46)

154) <u>Venho</u> <u>dizendo</u> isto há tempos (AC-75)

155) Os jovens de hoje vão descobrir as linhas mestras deste socialismo humano que <u>vem</u> <u>sendo</u> <u>ensaiado</u> aqui e ali (V-4)

156) Faz mais de um mês que <u>venho</u> <u>fugindo</u> do Paraná para cá (AC-75)

B) <u>The events in a series are performed by various actors</u>

157) <u>Estamos</u> <u>pedindo</u> às senhoras que não venham de jóias. É o mais difícil, mas algumas <u>estão</u> <u>atendendo</u> (III-34)

158) Estamos sugerindo aos nossos fregueses que façam este pe-
     queno sacrifício (III-34)

159) Mas ainda estão sendo reveladas (SG-15)

160) ... Pessoas que ficam se referindo às mulheres de 28 anos
     e solteiras como "pobres solteironas" (N-22)

161) Olha aí, já estão chamando de novo (II-47)

                    Seriality is indicated by:

A) Adverbials of frequency, e.g. (146), or duration, e.g. (148)
   (151) (153) (154) (156)

B) Countability of the object; plural object, e.g. (152)

C) Plural or generic subject, e.g. (155) (161)

D) Aspectual meaning of periphrastic forms, e.g. (151) (160) or
   verbs, e.g. (149)

E) Context, e.g. (157)

2.1.3. A preliminary phase of the event is Imperfect at PP.

162) Estou deixando uma inflação sem componentes reprimidos (V-
     107)

163) Já estou indo. Prepara o meu café, daqui a quinze minutos
     estou pronto (AC-74)

        The form 'estar + Gerund is not very common with
this meaning. This is probably due to the fact that Portuguese
has many other periphrastic forms to indicate this meaning, as
can be seen in the examples given. The Present Time Reference

is given by the auxiliary. These forms cannot be replaced by the Future Tense forms. Adverbials are unnecessary.

2.2. Nonsystemic Function

2.2.1. The event is perfected prior to PP but not oriented to RP.

164) Eu naõ estou dizendo isso (III-30)

165) Estou dizendo uma coisa simples, uma coisa que a gen-
te pode ver a toda hora (III-31)

166) Porque o senhor está me contando isso ? (J-55)

167) Não estou dizendo o contrário, mas o senhor sabe que
o caso é melindroso (VC-108)

Only the context can define that the event itself is prior to PP; verbs of reporting and commenting are often used with this function.

3.0. Present Perfect (Pretérito Perfeito Composto)

The 'Pretérito Perfeito Composto' is formed by the Present Tense of the auxiliary 'ter' plus the Past Participle of the principal verb.

Cunha (435) and Pottier et al (129) describe it as a tense which indicates a past action that may be continuous or repeated lasting up to the present moment. Pontes (51) treats it as a present form, because it cannot co-occur with definite past time adverbials and is associated with

habituality or frequency, these also being characteristic of the Simple Present. The Present Perfect can only occur with temporal adverbials which indicate a period lasting up to PP, which are, however, optional:

John tem estudado muito   *ontem
                            *amanhã
                            *agora (= neste momento)
                            ultimamente/recentemente;
                            estes dias, esta semana, etc.

3.1. Systemic Functions

We consider systemic the functions which are oriented to PP. The restriction on the occurrence of definite past time adverbials, noted above, justifies the adoption of this criterion.

3.1.1. A Series comprised of repetitions of the same event is presumed to be, Imperfect at PP.

This function indicates that the continuous or repeated event has begun in the past and extends over a period lasting up to the present moment, that is, it marks initiative aspect.

168) Mas identificado com essa ou aquela posição, é certo que D. Hélder tem sido uma das personagens mais combatidas da Igreja no Brasil (V-3)

169) Tenho vivido uma parte de minha vida no meio dos livros (II-64)

170) A senhora não sabe o mal que fêz à minha vida. O que per-
di, o que <u>tenho.perdido</u> (SG-97)

171) Minha vida também não <u>tem sido</u> sopa (SG-97)

172) Desde a estréia, a platéia do galpão <u>tem estado lotada</u>   e
os aplausos, muitas vezes até em cena aberta, são entusiás
ticos (V-76)

The initiative aspect of the event may be marked by
an adverbial (172) or by a surrounding Past Tense Form (170). The
indication that the series of events is Imperfect at PP may be
given by context alone (171).

3.1.2. <u>A series of repetitions of the same event is - terminated</u>
<u>before PP but is not oriented to RP.</u>

173) General, ontem uma agência divulgou que o senhor é o homem
que mais <u>tem dado</u> entrevista em toda a América Latina (SG-
67)

174) A rigor os programas dos projetos de partido que <u>temos tido</u>
se equivalem (V-6)

175) <u>Tenho lido</u> alguma coisa a seu respeito, Dr. Artur! (SG-58)

176) Não o <u>tenho visto</u> na casa do general (SG-104)

177) Tentem narrar erros em que <u>tenho caído</u> ao longo de   minha
vida e dos quais Deus me <u>tem livrado</u> (V-6)

178) <u>Tenho vivido</u> muito senhores, e conheço profundamente os ho
mens e as coisas (CR-121)

179) <u>Tem passado</u> aqui por nossa rua, às tardes, entre as cinco
e seis horas (CR-239)

180) ... Porque mal o <u>tenho visto</u> passar às tardes, de cavalo
(CR-241)

181) Não tens sonhado ? Conta-me tudo (CR-242)

182) Me permita um dia estudar com toda a calma a nossa língua, e me penitenciar dos abusos que tenho praticado contra a sua pulcritude (III-23)

Adverbials are not required to indicate terminative aspect. A single event does not occur with this meaning. Seriality is indicated by adverbials of duration (178), frequency (179) (180), or by context.

3.2. Nonsystemic Functions

3.2.1. The event is oriented to RP

183) A vitória final se dará, como se tem dado no passado, quando a conjuntura interna puder favorecer um dos grupos... (V-32)

184) Foi a coisa de mais virtude que tens feito (AC-88)

185) O Camacho abraçou o Afonso Costa ao fim da leitura: "É a melhor lei que você tem feito (Ibid)

186) O Rogério tem quase conseguido os papéis falsos (Ibid)

The retrospective axis is marked by a Past Tense or Past Time Adverbials.

3.2.2. A hypothetical event is antecipated from RP

The axis is desynchronized.

187) Se ela tem vindo mais cedo, nada disso acontecia (MO-222)

According to Madre Olívia (1979:222), in conditional sentences the tense of the 'Conditioner' may vary considerably. It may be a Present Indicative, an Imperfect Indicative, or a Present Perfect, which she illustrates with the example above. In Portuguese, this form functions as a substitute for the Imperfect Subjunctive, e.g. Se éla tivesse vindo mais cedo, nada disso acontecia.

4.0. Present Perfect Progressive

This tense is formed by the Present Tense of the auxiliary 'ter', plus the Past Participle of the auxiliary 'estar', plus the gerund or the Infinitive of the principal verb. Cunha (435) does not make a distinction between the functions of the Present Perfect and the Present Perfect Progressive. We find that there is a difference between them: the Present Perfect Progressive adds the notion of duration, usually implying that the action goes on without interruption in the case of a single event or that the intervals are short between the repetitions of an event.

4.1. Systemic Functions

4.1.1. A single event or a series comprising repetitions of the same event is presumed to be Imperfect at PP.

188) Eu, filho da utopia e primo do ideal tenho estado ri-
     mando esta canção florida, que seria melhor não sen-
     do tão comprida (CC-435)

189) Eu tenho estado estudando desde as cinco (AN-47)

190) João tem estado sendo humilhado (EP-54)

Imperfectivity is suggested by the Progressive form. Adverbials indicate initiative aspect. The axis is marked by the first auxiliary.

5.0. Tense Forms Other Than Present Tenses - Indicative Mood - Used With Present Time Meaning

The functions of these tense forms are of course nonsystemic.

5.1. Past Imperfect ('Pretérito Imperfeito)

The Simple Past Imperfect and the Past Imperfect periphrastic forms are used to convey tentativeness and hypothetical meaning not oriented to RP.

5.1.1. The event is presumed to be Imperfect at PP

5.1.1.1. With the Simple Tense

191) Desejava ter uma obrigação que me arrancasse de casa (VC-21)

192) Verbas, meu amigo, era disso que eu precisava para ir adiante, para realizar meus sonhos (VC-86)

193) Alô, Vitorino, aqui é o Fausto. Escute, tem um abacaxi que eu achava melhor você descascar (SG-9)

194) <u>Queria</u> que o senhor me desse informações sobre um inventário (1-61)

5.1.1.2. <u>With the periphrastic forms</u>

195) Eu tenho aqui uma dúvida que o senhor <u>podia</u> me <u>esclarecer</u> (III-36)

196) Então eu <u>queria</u> te <u>pedir</u> um favor (1II-61)

197) <u>Vinha</u>-lhe <u>pedir</u> este favor (CC-433)

198) <u>Vinha</u> <u>perguntar</u>-lhe se conhece um sujeito de fora que lá está na eira (CC-433)

199) O senhor <u>podia</u> <u>permitir</u> que eu acendesse a minha vela na sua ? (Ibid)

The axis may be determined by context (199),
by an implicit or explicit adverbial (195), by Present Tense
forms (193) and by demonstrative pronouns (197). In the
first set the meaning is hypothetical: (191) (192) refer
to aspirations and (193) (194) to requests. In the second
set the Imperfect Tense form is used for polite requests.

5.2. <u>Simple Past (Pretérito Perfeito)</u>

The Simple Past in its nonsystemic function may
occur with adverbials of present time. This is the function
which is of our primary concern.

5.2.1. A single event is perfected before PP but is not oriented to RP.

200) Nunca <u>soube</u> o que fosse escardichar (III-24)

201) Que foi que ela te <u>disse</u> agora ? (I-21)

202) Não. Já <u>escolhi</u> (I-22)

203) <u>Saiu</u> agora mesmo com uma trouxinha (II-19)

204) Onde você já <u>viu</u> caçada sem cachorro, rapaz ? (I-36)

205) Sempre <u>tive</u> vontade de ter um revolver desses (III-27)

206) Agora mesmo ela <u>voltou</u> da feira (II-24)

207) Ganhou uma bolsa para estudar Anatomia Patológica nos E.U.A. e nunca mais <u>voltou</u> (III-60)

208) Mas agora <u>chegou</u> a minha vez de perguntar (II-38)

209) Nunca <u>vi</u> coisa igual na vida (III-46)

210) Hoje <u>saí</u> mais cedo (III-58)

211) Você já <u>jantou</u> ? (Ibid)

212) Como é que eu não <u>reconheci</u> ! (II-69)

The axis is indicated by common focus (211), present personal time (206) (207), and public time (210) adverbials. The present time adverbials and/or indefinite time adverbials such as 'Já' combined with the Past Tense form convey immediate past meaning. Personal time adverbials (nunca, sempre, etc) added to the Past Tense convey an Indefinite Past meaning which comprises <u>PP</u>.

5.3. <u>Future (Futuro do Presente)</u>

In Portuguese, Future Tense forms are much used to refer back to the Present when the speaker wants to give his

opinion or express his surprise. There are two forms of the Future with this meaning. A simple and a periphrastic one.

5.3.1. The event is Imperfect at PP

The event is simultaneous with PP. The axis is not indicated by the verb form but by the combination of the verb form with an implicit or explicit present time adverbial.

5.3.1.1. With the Simple Future form

213) Que casa será esta ? (CC-433)

214) Por que não me falarás com franqueza Carlota ? (CR-221)

215) Álvaro estará em casa ? (SA-165)

216) O prisioneiro a estas horas estará morto (Ibid)

217) Que farei agora ? (CR-109)

5.3.1.2. With the Periphrastic form

The periphrastic form usually consists of the Future of the auxiliary verb 'estar' plus the progressive form of the lexical verb. These compound forms, because they carry the Progressive, put more emphasis on the duration of the event.

218) Conhecem meu temperamento explosivo: estarão achando exqui-
     sita a minha reação quando me falam nela, me perguntam   o
     que houve (VC-20)

219) Quem estará batendo ? (S.A. - 165)

The axis in both cases is marked by context (213),

by an implicit or explicit adverbial, or by common focus.

The meanings conveyed by the conflict between the future form and present time adverbials are wonder (213) (214) (215) (217), probability (216), and supposition (218).

5.4. Future - in - The Past (Futuro do Pretérito)

The systemic function of this tense is antecipation from RP. Nonsystemically, it is used to convey the meaning of hypothetical antecipation or imperfectivity at PP. Besides this use, we find it in polite or tentative statements and questions, the latter usually being requests and suggestions.

5.4.1. A hypothetical event is antecipated at PP.

220) Se o encontrasse na rua, passaria indiferente (CC-441)

221) Se soubesse rezas compridas para se livrar daquilo, rezaria todas (Ibid)

222) Vamos supor que tenha nascido às cinco horas. Cinco horas ! Um amigo meu, por nome Carlos, diria... (III-41)

223) Arrancar a plantinha com minha mão - disso eu não seria capaz; nem mesmo dar ordem para que ela o fizesse (II-24)

The axis is implicit in the context and in (222) it is suggested by the Present Tense of the periphrastic forms. Antecipation is determined by the 'Conditioners' - the Imperfect Subjunctive forms. The meanings expressed are unreality, supposition and probability.

5.4.2. A hypothetical event is Imperfect at PP

224) Quem _seria_ ? Quem poderia ir procurar o poeta àquela hora ? (CR-131)

225) Como explicar o procedimento de Daniel ? _Amaria_ a ambas ? Im possível. _Enganaria_ ambas ou uma só ? (CR-250)

226) Não havia mais remédio. O médico disse que o crânio se esfa celaria. _Estaria sofrendo_ ? Quem _poderia_ saber ? (VC-57)

227) Hoje quais _seriam_ as suas bases sociais de apoio ? (V-6)

228) _Seria_ melhor dizer que não teve infância (II-62)

229) Eu _seria_ capaz de jurar que o senhor era turco (II-38)

This form differs from the Future (5.3.1.) only in that it is more tentative. The axis is determined by context or by an adverbial (227).

5.4.3. The event is Imperfect at PP

This use of the Future - in - the - Past form conveys politeness or tentativeness.

230) O senhor não _poderia_ arranjar aí o endereço de uma baila rina chamada Elisa ? (SG-79)

231) Porque _seria_ melhor do que os outros ? Quem _teria_ culpa de vez por outras surgir uma seca terrível, afugentando do va le onde ele tinha nascido homens e bichos ? (VC-33)

232) _Seríeis_ capazes, minhas senhoras, de amar um homem deste feitio ? (CC-441)

In colloquial language, the Past Imperfect is preferred. Compare:

230) O senhor não _podia_ arranjar...

6.0. The Subjunctive

There is a distinction between the Indicative and Subjunctive Moods. The Indicative deals with certain or real events. It is usually used to complete the meaning of some verbs such as affirming, understanding, believing, telling, reporting, thinking, verifying, etc. The Subjunctive, on the other hand, is used to refer to unreal or uncertain events; it is associated with the hypothetical meaning of some verbs such as those of wishing, doubting, imploring, denying, asking, prohibiting, wanting, etc (Cunha, 442-3). Mendes de Almeida (1979:226) refers to the Subjunctive as the "Mood of Possibility".

In this section, we will include the Imperfect and Present Perfect Tenses of the Subjunctive because, although they are not Present Tenses, they refer to the "Idea of Present" (Madre Olívia, 1979:37).

6.1. Present Subjunctive

6.1.1. Systemic Function

6.1.1.2. A hypothetical event or a series of repetitions of the same event is presumed to be Imperfect at PP.

233) Só não admito que as mulheres sejam culpadas pela fal ta d'água (III-30)

234) Estamos sugerindo aos nossos fregueses que <u>façam</u> este sa-
crifício (III-35)

235) Ele mesmo desmente que o Rio <u>seja</u> uma cidade sem bichos
(III-68)

236) Só que também não acredita no escritor que também não <u>sai-
ba</u> fazer uma notícia de jornal (I-10)

237) Não faça isso com ele, joga essa tempestade para cima de
outro que não <u>tenha</u> filhos, para cima dele, não (II-49)

238) A senhora é que me <u>desculpe</u>, foi muita ousadia (II-69)

239) Macacos me mordam (II-67)

    Imperfectiveness is determined by the combination of
the hypothetical forms with the Present Indicative forms, by
the absence of adverbials and by context. The examples express
either possibility (233) (234) (235) (236) (237) wishes (238),
or exclamations (239).

6.1.2. <u>Nonsystemic Function</u>

    6.1.2.1. <u>A hypothetical event or a series of repetitions
of the event is antecipated at PP.</u>

240) ... Mas que me <u>seja</u> <u>permitido</u> sonhar com outra vida e com
outro mundo, em que um homem batesse à porta e dissesse...
(I-75)

241) ... e no fim do mês bote na panela antes que <u>vire</u> galo (I-
30)

242) Se ela o fizer, darei de ombros e não pensarei mais no ca-
so. Mas que o <u>faça</u> por sua mão, por sua iniciativa (II-24)

243) Deus a <u>conserve</u> assim coitadinha, tão boa que ela é!
(CC-449)

244) ... o próximo passo a dar, para nós, cristãos,é que
se <u>proclame</u> publicamente não ser o capitalismo...
(V-3)

245) No fundo, a minha secreta esperança é de que estas
linhas <u>sejam</u> <u>lidas</u> por alguém... (II-34)

246) Como o senhor imagina que se <u>possa</u> alcançar na práti
ca esta mudança de estruturas ? (V-4)

247) ... não para pisar o direito de ninguém, mas para não
permitir que nos <u>pisem</u> (V-4)

248) Celebrei a santa missa com este cálice que desejo
que você <u>leve</u> em suas viagens, como sinal de nossa
união (V-6)

Antecipation may be indicated by means of
adverbials (241), an accompanying Future Tense form (240),
(242), (245), or context (242) (244) (246). The meanings
suggested are primarily wishes and possibility.

6.2. <u>Present Perfect Subjunctive (Pretérito Perfeito do Subjuntivo)</u>

The Present Perfect is formed by the Present
Subjunctive of the auxiliary 'ter' or 'haver' plus the Past
Participle of the lexical verb. A hypothetical event may
be antecipated or recalled at PP.

6.2.1. Systemic Function

6.2.1.1. A hypothetical event is recalled at PP but is not oriented to RP

249) É possível que ele tenha saído (S.A. 268)

250) Espero que nunca em minha vida eu tenha escardichado nin- guém (III-24)

251) Talvez me tenha enganado (PC-379)

252) Não há nada que me diga que eu haja contribuído para uma cura do câncer (III-62)

The idea of immediate past reference is suggested by context or adverbials. The form is used to express possibility (249) (251) (252) and wishes (250).

6.2.2. Nonsystemic Functions

6.2.2.1. A single event is recalled at PP but takes place at RP

The axis is desynchronized. The Past Form defines RP.

253) Foi bom que ela tenha saído daqui (PC-379)

Here the meaning may not carry a hypothetical connotation. The speaker is only giving his opinion about an event that has already taken place.

6.2.2.2. <u>A hypothetical event is antecipated at PP but is prior to AP</u>.

254) Espero que o marceneiro <u>tenha</u> <u>terminado</u> a obra quando chegarmos (CC-449)

————Antecipation is indicated by a surrounding Future Form, and the axis, by the Present Tense form of the auxiliary.

6.3. <u>Past Imperfect Subjunctive (Pretérito Imperfeito do Subjuntivo)</u>

According to Cunha (449), the Past Imperfect Subjunctive may have Present, Past or Future reference. We are only concerned with the "Present Reference" of this tense, which is, therefore, nonsystemic.

6.3.1. <u>Nonsystemic Function</u>

6.3.1.1. <u>A hypothetical event is Imperfect at PP</u>.

255) Você está agindo como se <u>fosse</u> eu a responsável (III-28)

256) Se <u>pudesse</u> me dizer como é que ela foi registrada (II-32)

257) Ah! se seu Chico nos <u>visse</u> agora ! (I-39)

258) <u>Tivesses</u> coração, terias tudo (CC-449)

259) Queria que ele <u>vivesse</u> à luz, ao vento, que <u>batesse</u> a descoberto, fora da prisão, da escuridão do peito (III-43)

260) Mas visto que tocaste neste assunto, não era mau que
    me dissesses... (CR-193)

261) Oxalá vivesses (PC-378)

The Past Imperfect Tense combined with a Present
adverbial, which may be implicit or explicit, indicates a
variety of meanings, such as supposition (255), polite
requests (261) (260), wishes (257) (259) (261), condition
(258).

Since the Subjunctive deals primarily with hy-
pothetical events, it is very difficult to establish an
aspect - vector relationship in order to produce definite
meanings. Although there may be reference to the present
moment, the Subjunctive forms are rather concerned with
attitudes, judgements or views on the part of the speaker.

7.0. Conclusion

The Portuguese verb system distinguishes five
categories, three of which we have been working with: tense,
aspect and mood. Person and number are not dealt with.
According to Eunice Pontes (67), the three categories fail
to present distinct morphemes and clear oppositions. This
being so, each linguistic form should be described and
explained in terms of its relationship to these three
categories in order to define its basic (systemic) and
secondary meaning (nonsystemic). We have tried to do this
by using Bull's framework.

7.1. As it was done with English, the systemic and nonsystemic functions of the Present Tenses are summarized diagrammatically.

7.1.1. <u>Systemic Functions</u>

Pretérito Perfeito Composto   Presente do   Futuro
    do Indicativo e   Indicativo e
      Subjuntivo   Subjuntivo
       (PP-V)   (PPOV)   (PP+V)

Tem trabalhado		Trabalha
Tem estado trabalhando		Está trabalhando
Tenha trabalhado		Trabalhe

7.1.2. <u>Nonsystemic Functions</u>

Pretérito Perfeito Composto   Presente do   Futuro
    do Indicativo e   Indicativo e
      Subjuntivo   Subjuntivo
       (PP-V)   (PPOV)   (PP+V)

Tem trabalhado		Trabalha		Trabalhará
Tem estado trabalhando		Está trabalhando
Tenha trabalhado		Trabalhe

Futuro do Pretérito
Composto

(AP-V)   (APOV)   (AP+V)

| Teria trabalhado | | zero | | zero |

Mais que Perfeito   Pretérito Perfeito Composto   Futuro do
    Composto   do Indicativo e Subjuntivo   Pretérito
    (RP-V)   (POV)   (RP+V)

Tinha trabalhado		Trabalhou		Trabalharia
		Trabalhava
		Trabalhasse

P R E S E N T   T I M E   R E F E R E N C E

ASPECT/ORDER TENSE	EVENT SIMULTANEOUS WITH PP	INITIATIVE ASPECT PRIOR TO PP ⟹ PP	TERMINATIVE ASPECT PRIOR TO PP ⟹ PP	PRELIMINARY PHASE OF THE EVENT PRIOR TO PP ⟹ PP
SIMPLE PRESENT (PRESENTE DO INDICATIVO)	-A single event: Sou um homem de bem. -A series: Ele canta bem. -Axis-free: O homem é mortal. -Time-free: Aqui deixa de falar o autor para falar o protagonista.		- A single event: Acabo de ler duas páginas deste livro.	- A single event: Desço já.
PRESENT PROGRESSIVE (LOCUÇÃO VERBAL)	-A single event: Não estas vendo que é o João? -A series: Ainda estão sendo reveladas		- A single event or a series: Você está dizendo isto sinceramente?	- A single event: Já estou descendo
PRESENT PERFECT (PRETÉRITO PERFEITO COMPOSTO)		- A series: O que perdi, o que tenho perdido...	- A series: Tenho lido alguma coisa a seu respeito.	
PRESENT PERFECT PROGRESSIVE (PRETÉRITO PERFEITO COMPOSTO)		- A single event: Ele tem estado estudando há duas horas - A series: Temos estado comprando muitas coisas.		
SIMPLE PAST (PRETÉRITO PERFEITO)			- A single event: Ela saiu agorinha mesmo.	

MOOD: INDICATIVE

CONTINUAÇÃO

TENSE	ASPECT/ORDER	EVENT SIMULTANEOUS WITH PP	INITIATIVE ASPECT PRIOR TO PP ⇒ PP	TERMINATIVE ASPECT PRIOR TO PP → PP	PRELIMINARY PHASE OF THE EVENT PRIOR TO PP ⇒ PP
	PAST IMPERFECT (PRETÉRITO IMPERFEITO)	- A simple form: Era disso que eu precisava - A periphrastic form: Era disso que eu estava precisando.			
	FUTURE (FUTURO)	- A simple form: Que casa será esta ? - A periphrastic form: Quem estará falando?			
	FUTURE-IN-THE-PAST (FUTURO DO PRETÉRITO)	- A single event: O senhor poderia me ajudar ?			
	PRESENT (PRESENTE)	- A single event: Ele mesmo desmente que o Rio seja uma cidade sem bichos. - A series: Estamos sugerindo aos nossos fregueses que façam este sacrifício.			
	PAST IMPERFECT (PRETÉRITO IMPERFEITO)	- A single event: Ah , se seu Chico nos visse agora!			

INDICATIVE

SUBJUNCTIVE

MOOD

8.0. Corpus

The corpus of this chapter was collected from the following books, magazines and theses. The abbreviations used in the study to indicate the source appear in brackets.

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- Assis, Machado de. Contos Recolhidos. Rio de Janeiro, Edições de Ouro, 1966 (CR).

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- Pontes, Eunice. <u>Verbos Auxiliares em Português</u>. Petrópolis, Editora Vozes, 1973. (EP)

- Said Ali, M. <u>Gramática Secundária da Lingua Portuguesa</u>. São Paulo, Edições Melhoramentos, 1969. (SA)

Magazines:

- Nova. São Paulo, Editora Abril, Nº 59, Agosto 78:   (N)

- Veja. São Paulo, Editora Abril, 13 de setembro de 1978.(V)

Theses:

- Castilho, Ataliba T. <u>Introdução ao Estudo do Aspecto Verbal na Lingua Portuguesa</u>. Marília, 1968. Tese submetida à Faculdade de Filosofia, Ciências e Letras de Marília, para obtenção do título de Mestre em Letras. (AC)

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C H A P T E R   4

ENGLISH   AND   PORTUGUESE   COMPARED

Our purpose in this chapter is to give a systemic explanation of the structural differences between the English and Portuguese tenses that may have Present Time reference. We will list the differences found between the English and Portuguese Simple Present, Present Progressive, Present Perfect and Present Perfect Progressive Tenses in terms of their conceptualization and systemic/nonsystemic realization.

The method of translation is used to highlight the differences.

1.0. Differences Between the Simple Present Tenses

1.1. The Event is Imperfect at PP

1.1.1. We have seen in the previous chapters that events Imperfect at PP cannot be measured, although they may indicate that the perception is in part simultaneous with verbalization. This partial simultaneity is translated as the participation of the speaker and hearer   in   the

speech act. When either the hearer or both participants are not observing the event, simultaneity is less common, mainly with cyclic events which are more likely to refer to a single event. However, even when neither the speaker nor the hearer is involved in conversation, the Portuguese Simple Present is more likely to refer to simultaneity:

É uma mulher que <u>chefia</u> o bando

The example may be understood as 1) an event simultaneous with PP, or 2) a series of repetitions of the same event Imperfect at PP.

The evidence that the Simple Present in Portuguese may express perception and verbalization of cyclic events partly simultaneous with PP, is supported by the fact that the Simple Present is interchangeable with the Present Progressive:

É uma mulher que   <u>chefia</u>   o bando.
       <u>está chefiando</u>

It's a woman who <u>is leading</u> the group.

In English, simultaneity is usually indicated by the Present Progressive. Cyclic events in the Simple Present can only suggest simultaneity with PP, when they occur with adverbials such as 'Here' and 'There':

<u>Here</u> comes the Mensahib.

Noncyclic events associated with the Simple Present may also express 'simultaneity' and are equivalent to the Portuguese Present Progressive:

Não estás vendo que é o "Barroso" ?   (Barroso=Barco)

Don't you see it's the "Barroso" ?

1.1.2. The English Simple Present cannot be measured and
       therefore cannot co-occur with adverbials of measurement.
In Portuguese, when it refers to the Extended Present, it does
not co-occur with adverbials of measurement either, although it
can occur with an adverbial indicative of initiative aspect:

Sou advogado.

I am a lawyer.

Sou advogado há 40 anos.

I have been a lawyer for 40 years.

This means that, while in Portuguese adverbials and the Simple
Present Tense may measure the interval between the initiative
aspect of the event and PP, in English this function is realized
by means of adverbials plus the Present Perfect Tense.

1.1.3. Sometimes English and Portuguese use the same tense,with
       the same conceptual meaning and the same degree of
participation by speaker and hearer, but the tenses differ in
mood, whether the situation involves a series or a single
event:

I don't think Ângelo <u>knows</u> the Studebaker.

Eu não acredito que o Ângelo <u>conheça</u> o Studebaker.

In Portuguese the difference between possible or uncertain events is structurally and systemically marked by mood. When the speaker is introducing his own opinions, suggestions, wishes, etc, whatever the degree of Imperfectiveness of the subordinate event, the form takes the Subjunctive. English does not make this structural distinction, which is systemically performed by the Indicative.

1.2. The Event is Perfected Prior to PP

While in Portuguese the Simple Present Tense combined with a periphrastic form indicative of the terminative aspect may express this meaning, English resorts to the Present Perfect in order to perform this function:

<u>Acabo</u> <u>de</u> <u>ler</u> duas páginas deste livro.

* I finish reading

   I have finished reading   two pages of this book

   I have just read

As can be observed, to indicate the terminative point of the event, Portuguese uses a nonsystemic function of the Simple Present whereas English uses a systemic function of the Present Perfect. This leads to the conclusion that, besides the fact that the scope of the Simple Present Tenses fail to correspond, English performs this function systemically.

1.3. The Event is Antecipated from PP

As in 1.1.3., this is another difference concerning mood. Although the concept and form correspond, there are situations in which Portuguese presents other alternative forms besides the Simple Present.

I promise to make a pilgrimage to the Virgin of Cobre if I <u>catch</u> him.

Prometo fazer uma peregrinação à Virgem de Cobre se o <u>apanho</u>
<u>apanhar</u>

2.0. Differences between the Present Progressive Tenses

The Present Progressive in Portuguese differs from the English tense in that it is not the exact equivalent to the English form, since the auxiliary '<u>Be</u>' corresponds to '<u>Ser</u>' and '<u>Estar</u>' in Portuguese and only one of these meanings - '<u>Estar</u>'- is used in combination with the Gerund.

2.1. The Event is Imperfect at PP

The Present Perfect Progressive in Portuguese may express simultaneity with PP and also the initiative aspect of the event (which is therefore also simultaneous with PP), when the measurement of a period lasting up to PP is involved. In English the first function is also

performed by the Present Progressive, but the second   is performed by the Present Perfect Simple or Progressive.In both languages the initiative aspect of the event   is marked by an adverbial:

Maria está morando aqui.

Maria is living here.

Maria está morando   aqui   desde 1975

                                  há 5 anos

Maria   has lived   here   since 1975

         has been living   for 5 years   ,

The Portuguese Present Perfect does not mark the initiative aspect of a single event.

2.2. A Preliminary Phase of the Event is Imperfect at PP

        This function comprises PP and has to do with antecipation prior to PP.

        Although English and Portuguese conceptualize   this meaning in the same manner, there are tense   differences. Portuguese does not use the form 'Estar + Gerund' to realize this function,

        They are washing the dishes later.

      * Eles estão lavando os pratos mais tarde.

A Simple Present form, or even a periphrastic form is used in Portuguese:

Eles <u>lavam</u> os pratos mais tarde.

Eles <u>vão</u> <u>lavar</u> os pratos mais tarde.

Thus, systemically where English uses the Present Progressive plus an adverbial to indicate the interval between PP and AP, Portuguese uses a Simple Present Tense or a periphrastic form plus an adverbial.

3.0. <u>Differences Between the Present Perfect Tenses</u>

3.1. <u>A Single Event is Terminated Anterior to PP but is</u> <u>not Oriented to RP</u>

This meaning refers to the immediate past and is realized through different tenses: in English, by a systemic function of the Present Perfect, and in Portuguese, by a nonsystemic function of the Simple Past. The Present Perfect need not necessarily occur in association with an adverbial; the recalled tense, on the other hand, must be followed by personal time adverbials in order to refer to recent past:

O táxi <u>chegou</u> agora.

The taxi <u>has</u> (just) arrived.

The primary point of reference (PP) is lexicalized in the first case by means of the adverbial, and in the second, by the auxiliary.

The fact that the same conceptual meaning is realized differently in the two languages, suggests a

difference in the order relations to the axis of orientation. Comparing

Agora mesmo ela <u>voltou</u> da feira. Trouxe um pequeno vaso com terra e transplantou para ele a mudinha.

She <u>has</u> just <u>returned</u> from the market. She brought a little vase with some earth and transplanted her little cutting into it.

In the first example, the Past Tense combined with the personal time adverbial indicating PP, brings the event towards PP; the English Present Perfect locates the event away from PP. In the diagrams drawn in Chapter 2 and 3 this difference can be observed. The English Present Perfect is systemically oriented to PP, whereas the Portuguese Past Tense is placed on the past time line but can be nonsystemically oriented to PP.

3.2. <u>A Single Non-cyclic Event or a Series is Initiated Prior to PP and Extends up to PP</u>

3.2.1. The two basic differences between the Present Perfect in the two languages are associated with:

1) The indication of the initiative aspect
2) Order relations to an axis.

Portuguese tends to use the Simple Present when the initiative aspect is indicated. The Simple Present,

is used in situations in which a single non-cyclic event is delimited by the indication of the initiative aspect of the event:

<div align="center">

Moro aqui   há 5 anos

desde 1950

I have lived here   for 5 years

since 1950

</div>

When the initiative aspect of a series is indicated, the Present Perfect may be used in Portuguese, although it does not always have the same meaning implied by the Present Perfect in English:

<div align="center">

They have worked

since 1950

They have been working

Eles trabalham

(?) tem trabalhado   desde 1950

estão trabalhando

They have worked a lot since 1950.

Eles têm trabalhado

* trabalham   muito desde 1950

* estão trabalhando

</div>

In Portuguese when the initiative aspect of the event is indicated, the Present Perfect is only used in conjunction with an intensifying adverbial.

3.2.2. Unlike English, the Simple Past in Portuguese may be used with indefinite-past time reference; English expresses indefiniteness by means of the Present Perfect:

A senhora não sabe o mal que <u>fez</u> à minha vida. O que <u>perdi</u>, o que <u>tenho</u> <u>perdido</u> !

You don't know what harm you <u>have</u> <u>done</u> to me. What I <u>have</u> <u>lost</u>, what I <u>have</u> <u>been</u> <u>losing</u> !

3.3. <u>The Event is Antecipated at PP but is not Oriented to AP</u>

This difference is similar to that mentioned in 1.1.3. and 1.3. with regard to the Simple Present, that is, it is a difference in mood:

The competitor who <u>has</u> <u>reached</u> the final mark will be the winner.

O competidor que <u>atinja</u> a marca final será o vencedor.

4.0. <u>Differences between the Present Perfect Progressive Tenses</u>

4.1. <u>A Single Event or a Series is Initiated Prior to PP and Extends up to PP.</u>

This tense is not common in Portuguese, but, when the initiative aspect of the event is indicated, it may, in conjunction with the Present Perfect, correspond to the English Present Perfect Progressive.

I've been waiting for you for the last fifteen years

Tenho estado esperando   por você durante os últi-
Tenho esperado   mos quinze anos

This question has been trailing me like a ghost for the last fifteen years.

Esta pergunta   tem estado me perseguindo   como
                 tem me perseguido

um fantasma durante os últimos quinze anos.

The English Present Perfect associated with the initiative aspect of the event does not focus on the duration of the event.

5.0. SYSTEMIC DIFFERENCES: INDICATIVE MOOD.

FUNCTION (ASPECT/ORDER)	ENGLISH SYSTEMIC	ENGLISH NONSYSTEMIC	PORTUGUESE SYSTEMIC	PORTUGUESE NONSYSTEMIC
SIMULTANEOUS WITH PP	Present Progressive: It's a woman who is leading the group. Simple Present: Don't you see it's the Barroso?		Present Progressive or Simple Present: É uma mulher que chefia / está chefiando o grupo. Present Progressive: Você não está vendo que é o Barroso?	
INITIATIVE ASPECT OF A SINGLE EVENT ⟶ PP	Present Perfect: I have been a lawyer for 40 years. Present Progressive: I have been living in Rio since 1950.		Simple Present: Eu sou advogado há 40 anos. Present Progressive: Estou morando no Rio desde 1950.	
INITIATIVE ASPECT OF A SERIES OF EVENTS ⟶ PP	Present Perfect and Present Perfect Progressive: They have worked here / have been working since 1950.		Simple Present and Present Progressive: Eles trabalham aqui / estão trabalhando desde 1950. Present Perfect + Intensifying Adverbial: Eles têm trabalhado muito desde 1950.	
TERMINATIVE ASPECT ⟶ PP	Present Perfect: She has just arrived from the market.			Simple Past: Agora mesmo ela voltou do mercado. Simple Present: Acabo de ler duas páginas deste livro.
PRELIMINARY PHASE PRIOR TO PP ⟶ PP	Present Progressive: I'm washing the dishes later.		Simple Present: Lavo os pratos mais tarde. Periphrastic Form: Vou lavar os pratos mais tarde.	

C O N C L U S I O N

The approach adopted has evidenced not only the structural differences but, also more importantly, the systemic differences between English and Portuguese Tenses.

1. The Portuguese Simple Present Tense has proved to differ from the English corresponding tense in that:

a) it may refer to 'simultaneity' with P.P, by co-occurring with a 'present point - now' adverbial, and thus being interchangeable with the Present Progressive;

b) it may, in combination with the Progressive, measure the interval between the initiative aspect and/or terminative aspect of the event (or series of events) and PP. In English this is function of the Present Perfect or Present Perfect Progressive;

c) it may, more frequently than in English, antecipate an event from a point prior to PP, where English would tend to use a Present Progressive Tense;

2. The Portuguese Simple Past is less restricted than the English tense and may:

a) show indefinite past time reference, equivalent to the English Present Perfect.

b) refer to an immediate past when combined with a personal time adverbial, again equivalent to the Present Perfect in English.

3. Unlike the English Present Perfect, the structurally equivalent tense in Portuguese does not indicate the initiative aspect of a single event. We consider this to be the most important finding of the study.

4. Unlike English, Portuguese makes a distinction between hypothetical and real events by means of mood.

5. The most relevant differences found between the English and Portuguese Tenses that have present time reference are related to aspect and order relations to the axis PP. Besides, certain form functions are systemic in one language but nonsystemic in the other.

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