



# Newsletter

May 2024



**A very happy May** to you all. For the very observant among you, no there wasn't an April edition. I used the Easter hols as an opportunity to get my dates back on track. This month sees the Portuguese language being celebrated on 5th May. I also have another Language of the Month for you, spoken by just 1 Emmbrook student and tips on how EAL learners can be effective writers. As always, please let me know if you have any queries as to supporting your EAL students, I'm here to help!

**World Portuguese Language Day** is celebrated on 5th May each year. In 2009, a group of countries where people speak Portuguese decided to start a special day. They chose 5th May as a way of remembering a significant meeting in 2005, where culture ministers from these countries gathered. The idea was to celebrate these nations' Portuguese language and rich cultures. This language connects countries across oceans, from Brazil in South America to Mozambique in Africa and several others. Over 265 million people speak Portuguese worldwide, including 15 Emmbrook students 😊



There are many different ways to mark the occasion, for example, learning some Portuguese phrases, focusing on greetings and common expressions to connect with the language. Try cooking a traditional Portuguese dish like pastéis de nata or bacalhau, which are staples of their cuisine. Dive into Portuguese culture by listening to Fado music, known for its emotional depth. Explore the language further by reading a poem or short story from a Portuguese-speaking author, immersing yourself in the language's nuances.

Olá, como vai?

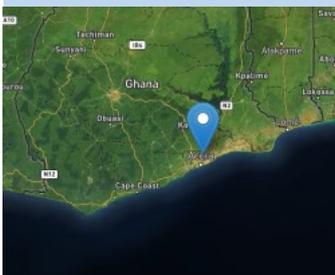
Não há fragata como um livro  
Para nos levar à Terras distantes  
Nem um Corcel como uma Página  
De uma poesia saltitante -  
Esta travessia os mais pobres difama  
Sem cobrar os que estão de passagem -  
Quão frugal é a Carruagem  
Que carrega a alma humana -  
*Giovanna Begotti*

There is no frigate like a book  
To take us to distant lands  
Not a Steed like a Page  
Of a bouncing poetry -  
This crossing defames the poorest  
Without charging those passing through -  
How frugal is the Carriage  
That carries the human soul -  
*Giovanna Begotti*



**How do EAL learners become effective writers?** A recent article explains how linguists including Derewianka (2001), Droga and Humphrey (2003), Knapp and Watkins (2005), and Gibbons (2009) suggest that scaffolding writing is critical in helping English as an additional language (EAL) learners become effective writers. Scaffolding involves a teaching and learning cycle that incorporates a sequence of activities that take an explicit approach to the teaching of writing and support increasing learner independence in writing. To read the full article, please visit: <https://axcultures.com/effective-writers>.

## Language of the month...



### Ga

Ga is a Kwa language (a family of languages spoken in the south-eastern part of Ivory Coast, across southern Ghana, and in central Togo) spoken in Ghana, in and around the capital Accra, by the Ga people. There are also some speakers in Togo, Benin and Western Nigeria...and 1 Emmbrook student. Ga descends from immigrants who came down the Niger River and across the Volta during the 17th century.



Have a go...

Hello - Miiŋa bo

How are you? - Te oyoɔ tɛŋɔ?

See you later - kɛ fee sɛɛ mli



The **Emmbrook** School