

*Have fun while learning*



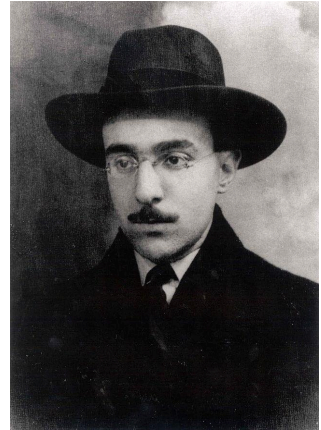
# ALTERNATIVE GRAMMAR ACTIVITIES

# Fernando Pessoa “If after I die, they want to write my autobiography”

## Activity on Conditionals B1

If, after I die, they want to write my biography,  
There couldn't be anything simpler.  
There are only two dates – the one of my birth and that of my death.  
Between the two all the days are mine.

I'm pretty easy to define.  
I saw myself as a fool.  
I loved things without any sentimentality at all.  
I never had a desire that I couldn't realise, because I never blinded myself.  
Even hearing was never to me but an accompaniment to seeing.  
I realised that things are real and all are different from each other;  
I realised this with my eyes never with my thought.  
If I had understood this with thought, I would have found everything the same.



One day I got sleepy like a child.  
I closed my eyes and slept.  
Beyond that, I was Nature's only poet.

Fernando Pessoa (*Poems of Alberto Caeiro*), 8/11/1915



**Read the poem and underline the conditional sentences.  
Which types are they (1st-2nd-3rd)?**



**Do you like reading poems? What is the reason for that?**



**If you could talk to the poet, what would you like to ask him? Something about his life, his poetry or about the specific poem that has made you wonder?**





**Fernando António Nogueira Pessoa** (13 June 1888 – 30 November 1935) was a **Portuguese poet, writer, literary critic, translator, and publisher**. He has been described as one of the most significant literary figures of the 20th century and one of the greatest poets in the **Portuguese language**. He also wrote in and translated from English and French. Pessoa was a prolific writer both in his own name and approximately seventy-five other names, of which three stand out: **Alberto Caeiro, Álvaro de Campos, and Ricardo Reis**. He did not define these as *pseudonyms* because he felt that this did not capture their true independent intellectual life and instead called them *heteronyms*, a term he invented. **(source Wikipedia)**

**You can read more poems by Pessoa here:**

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/fernando-pessoa>

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