



*YOUR DEFINITIVE
GUIDE FOR ENGLISH CACD*

*200 termos
essenciais para
passar no CACD!*

Diplomacia - Política - Economia - Direito

Welcome

A photograph of a desk with a laptop, a potted plant, and a stack of books. The desk is light-colored wood, and the background is a plain white wall. A person's hand is visible on the desk, and a wire basket is on the floor in the foreground.

Introduction

Welcome to this EN-PT glossary designed by Angela Beck specifically for CACD candidates who want to write and speak with the precision expected in diplomatic, economic, political, and legal contexts. In the CACD, vocabulary is not a “nice-to-have”: it is a performance multiplier. The right term at the right moment strengthens your argument, improves clarity, and signals maturity of analysis—especially in essays, that require style-reasoning.

How this glossary works

This e-book is divided into four core themes aligned with the CACD’s intellectual demands:

1. Diplomacy (A-Z)
2. International Politics (A-Z)
3. International Economics (A-Z)
4. Legal (A-Z)



Within each theme, terms are listed in alphabetical order. Every entry follows the same structure:

- Term (Portuguese translation)
- Meaning: a concise, exam-ready definition in English
- Synonyms / related terms: close equivalents and conceptually adjacent expressions to expand your active vocabulary and help you paraphrase with confidence

Why this matters for CACD approval?

Success in the CACD is built on content + form. You may know the substance, but the exam rewards candidates who can express it with accuracy, nuance, and coherence. A strong command of specialized English helps you:

- avoid vague wording and generic expressions,
- write more persuasive and structured arguments,
- read international sources faster and with less friction,
- speak with greater confidence and credibility under pressure.



How to use it (and actually retain it)?

Use this glossary actively:

- Review one theme per week and recycle the terms in your own sentences.
- Build mini-lists for recurring topics (sanctions, treaties, deterrence, trade, jurisdiction).
- Practice paraphrasing: swap a term for a synonym without changing meaning.
- Turn definitions into flashcards and test yourself daily.

You are not memorizing words—you are building the language of a future diplomat. Consistency beats intensity. Keep going, keep refining, and let your vocabulary become one of your competitive advantages.

Diplomacy Glossary

A curated EN-PT glossary for intermediate-to-advanced learners. Each entry includes the English term (single Portuguese translation), a concise meaning, and synonyms/related terms.

DIPLOMACY (A-Z)

Accreditation (Credenciamento) – Formal recognition of a diplomat's status by the receiving state. – Recognition; authorization; validation

Adjournment (Adiamento) – Suspension of a meeting to a later time/date. – Postponement; recess; deferral

Agenda-setting (Definição de agenda) – Shaping which issues are prioritized in talks. – Prioritization; framing; issue selection

Ambassador-at-large (Embaixador itinerante) – Senior envoy with a broad or thematic mandate. – Special envoy; roving ambassador; plenipotentiary

Amity (Amizade diplomática) – Friendly relations between states. – Friendship; cordiality; goodwill

Annex (Anexo) – Supplementary document attached to an agreement. – Appendix; addendum; schedule

Arbitration (Arbitragem) – Dispute settlement by a neutral third party whose decision may be binding. – Adjudication; mediation (related); dispute resolution

Asylum (Asilo) – Protection granted to a person fleeing persecution. – Refuge; sanctuary; protection

Backchannel (Canal informal) – Confidential communication outside formal diplomatic channels. – Secret channel; informal channel; quiet diplomacy

Bilateralism (Bilateralismo) – Conducting relations between two states. – Two-party diplomacy; dyadic relations; bilateral engagement

Briefing (Briefing) – Concise informational update before/after engagements. – Update; debrief; situation report

Cables (Telegramas diplomáticos) – Official written communications between missions and capitals. – Dispatches; diplomatic messages; reports

Ceasefire (Cessar-fogo) – Agreement to stop hostilities, often temporary. – Truce; armistice (related); cessation of hostilities

Chancery (Chancelaria) – Administrative offices of an embassy/mission. – Embassy offices; mission headquarters; diplomatic office

Communiqué (Comunicado) – Joint public statement after talks. – Statement; declaration; press release

Confidence-building measures (Medidas de confiança) – Steps to reduce mistrust and prevent escalation. – CBMs; de-escalation measures; reassurance steps

Consular protection (Proteção consular) – Assistance provided to nationals abroad. – Consular assistance; citizen services; consular support

Credentials (Credenciais) – Documents proving a diplomat's authority to represent a state. – Letters of credence; authorization papers; mandate

Crisis diplomacy (Diplomacia de crise) – Negotiation under urgent, high-stakes conditions. – Emergency diplomacy; shuttle diplomacy (related); conflict management

Cultural diplomacy (Diplomacia cultural) – Using culture to advance foreign policy goals. – Public diplomacy; soft power (related); cultural outreach

Démarche (Démarche) – Formal diplomatic representation/request to another government. – Formal approach; diplomatic protest; official démarche

Detente (Détente) – Easing of strained relations between states. – Thaw; relaxation of tensions; rapprochement (related)

Diplomatic immunity (Imunidade diplomática) – Legal protection from certain local jurisdiction under international law. – Immunity; inviolability (related); privilege

Diplomatic note (Nota diplomática) – Formal written communication between governments. – Note verbale; memorandum; official note

Dispatch (Despacho) – Official report sent from a mission. – Cable; report; communication

Embargo (Embargo) – Official restriction on trade with a state. – Trade ban; prohibition; sanctions (related)

Envoy (Enviado) – Diplomatic representative sent on a mission. – Emissary; delegate; representative

Exequatur (Exequatur) – Authorization for a consul to perform duties in the host state. – Consular authorization; recognition; permit

Extradition (Extradição) – Surrender of a person for prosecution or punishment. – Rendition (related); transfer; surrender

Facilitation (Facilitação) – Helping parties reach agreement without imposing outcomes. – Mediation support; convening; process management

Good offices (Bons ofícios) – Neutral assistance to bring parties to negotiation. – Facilitation; mediation (related); conciliation

Host country (País anfitrião) – State receiving a mission or delegation. – Receiving state; host state; venue state

Impunity (Impunidade) – Lack of accountability for wrongdoing, often a negotiation concern. – Non-accountability; exemption; lack of prosecution

Inviolability (Inviolabilidade) – Protection of diplomatic premises/persons from intrusion. – Sanctity; immunity (related); protection

Joint statement (Declaração conjunta) – Coordinated public message by multiple parties. – Communiqué; declaration; joint communiqué

Legation (Legação) – Diplomatic mission historically below embassy rank. – Mission; diplomatic post; representation

Mandate (Mandato) – Authorized scope of action for a mission/operation. – Authorization; remit; terms of reference

Mediation (Mediação) – Third-party assistance to reach a voluntary settlement. – Facilitation; conciliation; arbitration (related)

Memorandum of understanding (Memorando de entendimento) – Non-binding framework outlining intent and cooperation. – MoU; framework agreement; understanding

Multilateralism (Multilateralismo) – Cooperation among multiple states through institutions/rules. – Collective diplomacy; multilateral engagement; institutional cooperation

Non-paper (Documento informal) – Unofficial text used to float ideas without commitment. – Informal proposal; discussion paper; aide-mémoire (related)

Normalization (Normalização) – Restoring formal relations after rupture. – Rapprochement; restoration; re-engagement

Persona non grata (Persona non grata) – Diplomat declared unacceptable by host state. – Unwelcome person; expulsion basis; barred diplomat

Plenipotentiary (Plenipotenciário) – Representative with full powers to negotiate/sign. – Fully empowered envoy; authorized delegate; signatory

Protocol (Protocolo) – Rules of diplomatic ceremony and precedence. – Etiquette; precedence; ceremonial rules

Ratification (Ratificação) – Formal approval of a treaty by domestic procedures. – Confirmation; approval; endorsement

Repatriation (Repatriação) – Return of persons to their home country. – Return; resettlement (related); homecoming

Reservation (Reserva) – Statement limiting a treaty obligation upon joining. – Qualification; proviso; conditional acceptance

Shuttle diplomacy (Diplomacia itinerante) – Mediator travels between parties to broker agreement. – Back-and-forth mediation; itinerant negotiation; indirect talks

Summitry (Diplomacia de cúpula) – High-level leader meetings to advance policy. – Summit diplomacy; leader-level talks; high-level engagement

Treaty (Tratado) – Binding international agreement governed by international law. – Convention; pact; accord

Ultimatum (Ultimato) – Final demand with consequences if unmet. – Final demand; last offer; deadline threat

Verification (Verificação) – Monitoring compliance with agreements. – Inspection; monitoring; compliance checking

Visa diplomacy (Diplomacia de vistos) – Using visa policy as leverage or signaling. – Mobility policy; entry policy; travel restrictions (related)

International Politics Glossary

A curated EN-PT glossary for intermediate-to-advanced learners. Each entry includes the English term (single Portuguese translation), a concise meaning, and synonyms/related terms.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (A-Z)

Alliance (Aliança) – Formal cooperation for security/political goals. – Coalition; partnership; bloc

Anarchy (Anarquia) – Absence of a central authority in the international system. – Systemic anarchy; decentralization; self-help (related)

Appeasement (Apaziguamento) – Concessions to avoid conflict with an aggressor. – Conciliation; accommodation; yielding

Arms race (Corrida armamentista) – Competitive military buildup between rivals. – Military competition; buildup; escalation dynamic

Balance of power (Equilíbrio de poder) – Distribution of capabilities preventing dominance. – Power equilibrium; counterweighting; balancing

Bandwagoning (Alinhamento ao mais forte) – Aligning with a stronger power for benefit/security. – Alignment; siding; accommodation (related)

Bargaining (Barganha) – Negotiation over outcomes under constraints. – Negotiation; deal-making; trade-offs

Bloc politics (Política de blocos) – Rival groupings shaping international behavior. – Camp politics; alignment politics; polarization

Border dispute (Disputa fronteiriça) – Contestation over territorial boundaries. – Territorial dispute; boundary conflict; frontier dispute

Bureaucratic politics (Política burocrática) – Policy shaped by internal agencies' interests. – Organizational politics; interagency bargaining; bureaucratic bargaining

Coercive diplomacy (Diplomacia coercitiva) – Threats/limited force to change behavior. – Compellence; pressure diplomacy; coercion

Collective security (Segurança coletiva) – Security guaranteed by joint response to aggression. – Mutual defense (related); security community; joint deterrence

Conflict escalation (Escalada de conflito) – Intensification of hostility/violence. – Spiral; intensification; worsening

Containment (Contenção) – Limiting expansion of a rival's influence. – Constraint; checking; limiting strategy

Credible commitment (Compromisso crível) – Assurance that promises/threats will be honored. – Reliability; enforceable pledge; credible pledge

Crisis management (Gestão de crise) – Preventing crises from worsening or spreading. – De-escalation; stabilization; emergency governance

Deterrence (Dissuasão) – Preventing action by threatening unacceptable costs. – Dissuasion; prevention; threat-based restraint

Domestic politics (Política doméstica) – Internal factors shaping foreign policy. – Internal politics; home politics; national politics

Election interference (Interferência eleitoral) – External manipulation of electoral processes. – Foreign meddling; influence operations; electoral manipulation

Ethnic conflict (Conflito étnico) – Violence rooted in ethnic identity divisions. – Communal conflict; identity conflict; sectarian conflict (related)

Failed state (Estado falido) – State unable to provide basic governance/security. – Fragile state; collapsed state; weak state

Foreign policy (Política externa) – Strategy guiding a state's external actions. – External policy; international strategy; diplomacy (related)

Geopolitics (Geopolítica) – Power shaped by geography, resources, and location. – Strategic geography; power politics; spatial strategy

Great power competition (Competição entre grandes potências) – Rivalry among major states for influence. – Major-power rivalry; strategic competition; power contest

Hegemony (Hegemonia) – Predominant influence of one state over others. – Dominance; primacy; leadership (related)

Hybrid warfare (Guerra híbrida) – Blending conventional, irregular, cyber, and information tools. – Gray-zone conflict; blended warfare; non-linear warfare

Identity politics (Política identitária) – Politics driven by group identities and narratives. – Group-based politics; recognition politics; communal politics

Influence operations (Operações de influência) – Coordinated efforts to shape perceptions/decisions. – Information operations; propaganda (related); persuasion campaigns

Insurgency (Insurgência) – Armed rebellion against authority. – Rebellion; guerrilla movement; uprising

International order (Ordem internacional) – Rules/institutions shaping state behavior. – Global order; rules-based order; institutional order

Intervention (Intervenção) – External involvement in another state's affairs. – Interference; involvement; intrusion

Isolationism (Isolacionismo) – Minimizing external commitments. – Non-interventionism (related); withdrawal; disengagement

Legitimacy (Legitimidade) – Perceived rightfulness of authority/actions. – Validity; acceptance; rightful authority

National interest (Interesse nacional) – Core goals a state seeks to protect/advance. – State interest; strategic interest; vital interest

Nationalism (Nacionalismo) – Prioritizing national identity and sovereignty. – Patriotism (related); nativism (related); national sentiment

Non-alignment (Não alinhamento) – Avoiding formal alignment with major blocs. – Neutralism; strategic autonomy; independent stance

Norm diffusion (Difusão de normas) – Spread of standards of appropriate behavior. – Norm spread; socialization; norm transfer

Power projection (Projeção de poder) – Ability to deploy influence/military beyond borders. – Force projection; external reach; strategic reach

Proxy war (Guerra por procuração) – Conflict fought through third parties. – Indirect war; surrogate war; delegated conflict

Regime change (Mudança de regime) – Replacement of a governing system/leadership. – Government overthrow; political transition (related); leadership replacement

Revisionism (Revisionismo) – Seeking to alter the status quo order. – Status-quo challenge; reordering; contestation

Sanctions (Sanções) – Coercive restrictions to change behavior. – Penalties; restrictive measures; embargoes (related)

Security dilemma (Dilema de segurança) – Defensive moves seen as threats, fueling escalation. – Mutual insecurity; spiral model; arms spiral

Sovereignty (Soberania) – Supreme authority within a territory. – Autonomy; self-rule; independence

Statecraft (Arte de governar) – Tools and practice of conducting state policy. – Policycraft; diplomacy; governance strategy

Strategic autonomy (Autonomia estratégica) – Capacity to act independently in key domains. – Independence; self-reliance; policy autonomy

Strategic culture (Cultura estratégica) – Shared beliefs shaping security choices. – Security culture; doctrinal mindset; strategic mindset

Terrorism (Terrorismo) – Violence to intimidate/coerce for political aims. – Political violence; extremist violence; terror campaigns

Unipolarity (Unipolaridade) – System dominated by one major power. – Single-pole system; primacy; hegemonic structure

War termination (Encerramento de guerra) – Processes ending armed conflict. – Conflict settlement; peace agreement; cessation

International Economics Glossary

A curated EN-PT glossary for intermediate-to-advanced learners.

Each entry includes the English term (single Portuguese translation), a concise meaning, and synonyms/related terms.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS (A-Z)

Austerity (Austeridade) – Fiscal tightening to reduce deficits/debt. – Fiscal consolidation; spending cuts; belt-tightening

Balance of payments (Balanço de pagamentos) – Record of a country's transactions with the world. – BoP; external accounts; international accounts

Basel standards (Padrões de Basileia) – Global banking regulation frameworks. – Capital standards; prudential rules; banking accords

Benchmark rate (Taxa de referência) – Standard interest rate guiding markets. – Policy rate; reference rate; base rate

Bilateral trade (Comércio bilateral) – Trade flows between two countries. – Two-way trade; dyadic trade; bilateral commerce

Bond yield (Rendimento de título) – Return on a bond, reflecting risk and rates. – Yield; interest return; rate of return

Capital controls (Controles de capital) – Restrictions on cross-border capital flows. – Exchange controls; flow restrictions; capital restrictions

Capital flight (Fuga de capitais) – Rapid outflow of capital due to risk/fear. – Outflows; asset exodus; financial leakage

Carry trade (Operação de carry trade) – Borrowing in low-rate currency to invest in higher-rate assets. – Interest-rate arbitrage; yield trade; currency carry

Comparative advantage (Vantagem comparativa) – Gains from specializing where opportunity cost is lower. – Relative advantage; specialization gains; trade advantage

Conditionality (Condicionalidade) – Policy requirements tied to financial assistance. – Policy conditions; lending terms; program requirements

Contagion (Contágio) – Spread of financial shocks across markets/countries. – Spillover; transmission; knock-on effects

Current account (Conta corrente) – Trade in goods/services plus income and transfers. – External balance; current balance; CA

Currency peg (Paridade cambial fixa) – Fixing exchange rate to another currency/basket. – Fixed exchange rate; peg; exchange-rate anchor

Debt restructuring (Reestruturação da dívida) – Changing debt terms to restore sustainability. – Rescheduling; renegotiation; reprofiling

De-dollarization (Desdolarização) – Reducing reliance on the US dollar in trade/reserves. – Diversification; currency substitution; reserve rebalancing

Devaluation (Desvalorização) – Official lowering of a currency's value under a fixed regime. – Currency weakening; downward adjustment; depreciation (related)

Dumping (Dumping) – Selling exports below normal value to gain market share. – Predatory pricing (related); underpricing; unfair pricing

Elasticity (Elasticidade) – Responsiveness of demand/supply to price/income changes. – Responsiveness; sensitivity; price responsiveness

Exchange rate pass-through (Repasse cambial) – How exchange-rate changes affect domestic prices. – Pass-through; transmission; price impact

Externalities (Externalidades) – Costs/benefits imposed on others not priced in markets. – Spillovers; side effects; third-party effects

FDI (Investimento direto estrangeiro) – Cross-border investment with control/lasting interest. – Foreign direct investment; greenfield (related); cross-border investment

Fiscal space (Espaço fiscal) – Capacity to spend/borrow without jeopardizing stability. – Budget room; policy space; borrowing capacity

Free trade agreement (Acordo de livre comércio) – Treaty reducing trade barriers among members. – FTA; trade pact; preferential agreement

Global value chains (Cadeias globais de valor) – Internationally fragmented production networks. – GVCs; supply chains; production networks

Hard currency (Moeda forte) – Stable, widely accepted currency. – Reserve currency (related); strong currency; safe currency

Import substitution (Substituição de importações) – Strategy to replace imports with domestic production. – ISI; domestic industrialization; protection-led development

Inflation targeting (Metas de inflação) – Monetary policy framework aiming at a set inflation rate. – IT regime; price-stability targeting; inflation goal

Liquidity trap (Armadilha de liquidez) – Low rates fail to stimulate demand; money hoarded. – Zero lower bound; monetary impotence; demand shortfall

Macroprudential policy (Política macroprudencial) – Tools to limit systemic financial risk. – Systemic-risk policy; financial stability tools; prudential regulation

Mercantilism (Mercantilismo) – Emphasis on trade surpluses and state-led accumulation. – Protectionism (related); export-led strategy; trade nationalism

Moral hazard (Risco moral) – Risk-taking increases when protected from consequences. – Incentive problem; risk shifting; bailout expectation

Non-tariff barriers (Barreiras não tarifárias) – Regulations/standards restricting trade. – NTBs; technical barriers; regulatory barriers

Portfolio flows (Fluxos de portfólio) – Cross-border investment in securities without control. – Capital flows; hot money (related); securities inflows/outflows

Purchasing power parity (Paridade do poder de compra) – Exchange rate implied by price level comparisons. – PPP; price parity; real exchange parity

Quantitative easing (Afrouxamento quantitativo) – Central bank asset purchases to ease financial conditions. – QE; asset purchases; balance-sheet expansion

Real effective exchange rate (Taxa de câmbio efetiva real) – Currency value adjusted for inflation and trade weights. – REER; competitiveness index; real exchange index

Remittances (Remessas) – Money sent by migrants to home countries. – Transfers; migrant money; cross-border household transfers

Reserve accumulation (Acumulação de reservas) – Building foreign exchange reserves for stability. – FX reserve buildup; reserve hoarding; buffer building

Risk premium (Prêmio de risco) – Extra return demanded for bearing risk. – Spread; compensation for risk; yield premium

Sovereign default (Calote soberano) – Failure of a government to meet debt obligations. – Debt default; nonpayment; sovereign insolvency

Sterilization (Esterilização) – Offsetting FX interventions to control money supply. – Neutralization; liquidity absorption; monetary offset

Terms of trade (Termos de troca) – Ratio of export prices to import prices. – ToT; trade price ratio; external price balance

Trade diversion (Desvio de comércio) – Shifting imports due to preferential agreements. – Diversion; reallocation; preference effect

Trade facilitation (Facilitação do comércio) – Reducing border frictions and procedures. – Customs modernization; logistics easing; process simplification

Twin deficits (Déficits gêmeos) – Concurrent fiscal and current-account deficits. – Dual deficits; budget-external gap; macro imbalance

Volatility (Volatilidade) – Degree of fluctuation in prices/flows. – Instability; variability; turbulence

Lingue

Idiomas

Legal Glossary

A curated EN-PT glossary for intermediate-to-advanced learners.

Each entry includes the English term (single Portuguese translation), a concise meaning, and synonyms/related terms.

LEGAL (A-Z)

Acquiescence (Aquiescência) – Tacit acceptance inferred from silence or conduct. – Implied consent; tacit approval; passive acceptance

Admissibility (Admissibilidade) – Whether a claim/evidence can be considered by a tribunal. – Acceptability; receivability; procedural eligibility

Advisory opinion (Parecer consultivo) – Non-binding legal opinion by a court/tribunal. – Consultative opinion; legal advice; opinion

Amicus curiae (Amicus curiae) – Non-party offering information/argument to a court. – Friend of the court; intervenor (related); third-party submission

Annulment (Anulação) – Declaration that a legal act/decision is void. – Invalidation; setting aside; nullification

Appeal (Recurso) – Request for review of a decision by a higher body. – Review; challenge; appellate proceeding

Arbitrability (Arbitrabilidade) – Whether a dispute can be settled by arbitration. – Eligibility for arbitration; arbitral competence; arbitrable nature

Attribution (Atribuição) – Linking conduct to a state/entity under responsibility rules. – Imputation; assignment; linkage

Breach (Violação) – Failure to comply with a legal obligation. – Violation; non-compliance; infringement

Burden of proof (Ônus da prova) – Duty to prove allegations in proceedings. – Onus probandi; evidentiary burden; proof obligation

Capacity (Capacidade) – Legal ability to act or enter obligations. – Legal competence; standing (related); ability

Causation (Nexo causal) – Connection between act and harm required for liability. – Causal link; causality; nexus

Choice of law (Escolha da lei aplicável) – Determining which jurisdiction's law governs. – Applicable law; governing law; conflict-of-laws rule

Compliance (Conformidade) – Adherence to legal rules/obligations. – Observance; conformity; adherence

Consent (Consentimento) – Voluntary agreement creating legal effects. – Assent; approval; authorization

Countermeasure (Contramedida) – Otherwise unlawful act taken in response to a prior wrongful act under strict conditions. – Retorsion (related); response measure; lawful reprisal (related)

Customary international law (Direito internacional consuetudinário) – Law derived from general practice accepted as law. – Custom; unwritten law; customary norms

Due diligence (Devida diligência) – Required standard of care to prevent harm/violations. – Reasonable care; proper diligence; standard of care

Enforcement (Execução) – Implementing or compelling compliance with a decision/rule. – Implementation; execution; compulsion

Equity (Equidade) – Fairness-based principles used to interpret/apply law. – Fairness; justice; equitable principles

Estoppel (Preclusão) – Preventing a party from contradicting prior conduct/representations. – Preclusion; bar; reliance-based restraint

Exhaustion of remedies (Esgotamento de recursos) – Requirement to use available domestic remedies first. – Prior recourse; domestic exhaustion; remedy exhaustion

Force majeure (Força maior) – Unforeseeable event excusing non-performance under conditions. – Act of God; unavoidable event; supervening impossibility (related)

Forum shopping (Escolha estratégica de foro) – Selecting the most favorable jurisdiction/venue. – Venue selection; jurisdiction shopping; strategic filing

Good faith (Boa-fé) – Principle requiring honest, fair conduct in obligations. – Bona fides; honesty; fair dealing

Immunity (Imunidade) – Protection from jurisdiction or enforcement. – Jurisdictional immunity; privilege; inviolability (related)

Injunction (Ordem judicial) – Court order requiring or prohibiting an act. – Court order; restraining order; prohibition order

Interim measures (Medidas provisórias) – Temporary orders to preserve rights pending decision. – Provisional measures; protective measures; urgent relief

Jurisdiction (Jurisdição) – Authority of a court/tribunal to hear a case. – Competence; authority; adjudicatory power

Liability (Responsabilidade civil) – Legal responsibility for harm or breach. – Responsibility; accountability; obligation to repair

Locus standi (Legitimidade) – Right to bring a claim before a tribunal. – Standing; legal capacity to sue; entitlement

Mens rea (Dolo) – Mental element/intent required for certain crimes. – Intent; guilty mind; criminal intent

Nullity (Nulidade) – Condition of being legally void. – Invalidity; voidness; ineffectiveness

Obligation erga omnes (Obrigação erga omnes) – Duty owed to the international community as a whole. – Community obligation; universal obligation; obligations to all

Pacta sunt servanda (Pacta sunt servanda) – Agreements must be kept; core treaty principle. – Treaty compliance; binding force; obligation to perform

Precedent (Precedente) – Prior decision guiding later cases (varies by system). – Case law; prior ruling; authority

Proportionality (Proporcionalidade) – Measures must be suitable/necessary and not excessive. – Reasonableness; balance; measured response

Reparation (Reparação) – Remedy for wrongful acts (restitution/compensation/satisfaction). – Remedy; compensation; restitution

Reservation (Reserva) – Unilateral statement modifying treaty effects for a state. – Qualification; proviso; conditional acceptance

Retorsion (Retorsão) – Unfriendly but lawful act in response to another state. – Unfriendly act; lawful reprisal; diplomatic retaliation

Self-defense (Legítima defesa) – Use of force under strict conditions to repel an armed attack. – Defense; lawful defense; defensive force

State responsibility (Responsabilidade do Estado) – Rules on consequences of internationally wrongful acts. – International responsibility; attribution and breach; responsibility regime

Statute of limitations (Prescrição) – Time limit for bringing claims/prosecution. – Limitation period; time bar; prescription

Treaty interpretation (Interpretação de tratado) – Determining meaning of treaty terms under accepted rules. – Construction; reading; interpretive method

Ultra vires (Ultra vires) – Acts beyond legal authority/powers. – Beyond powers; unauthorized act; excess of authority

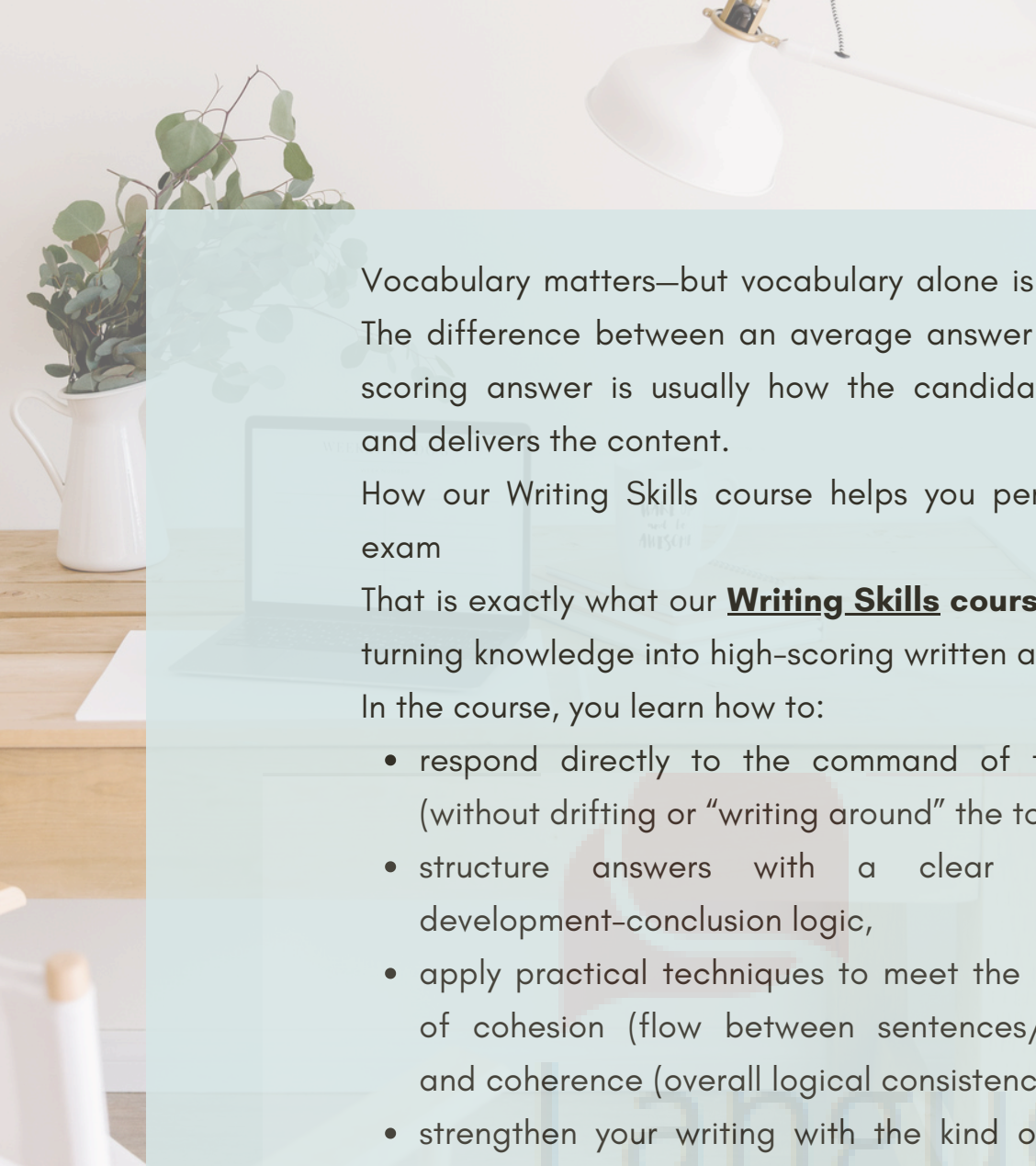
Waiver (Renúncia) – Voluntary relinquishment of a right/claim. – Relinquishment; abandonment; forfeiture (related)

For CACD candidates, English is not just a subject—it is a performance tool. The exam rewards candidates who can read complex material efficiently, extract arguments, and express them with precision, structure, and nuance. That is why “studying English” in a generic way (random vocabulary lists, isolated grammar drills, passive reading) often produces slow progress and weak transfer to the actual demands of the exam. Studying CACD English the right way is purpose-driven and exam-oriented. It means training the exact skills the CACD evaluates:

- **Command comprehension:** understanding what the prompt is truly asking (define, compare, assess, discuss, justify, evaluate).
- **Argumentation under constraints:** building a clear thesis, selecting relevant evidence, and maintaining focus.
- **Cohesion and coherence:** connecting ideas logically, using accurate transitions, and ensuring paragraph unity.
- **Lexical precision:** choosing the right term for the right context (and paraphrasing without losing meaning).
- **Register and tone:** writing in a formal, analytical style consistent with diplomatic and academic standards.

*Studying “CACD English” the Right Way
(and Why It Changes Your Results)*





Vocabulary matters—but vocabulary alone is not enough. The difference between an average answer and a high-scoring answer is usually how the candidate organizes and delivers the content.

How our Writing Skills course helps you perform on the exam

That is exactly what our **Writing Skills course** is built for: turning knowledge into high-scoring written answers.

In the course, you learn how to:

- respond directly to the command of the question (without drifting or “writing around” the topic),
- structure answers with a clear introduction–development–conclusion logic,
- apply practical techniques to meet the requirements of cohesion (flow between sentences/paragraphs) and coherence (overall logical consistency),
- strengthen your writing with the kind of vocabulary and phrasing that signals maturity and control—the standard expected from CACD candidates.

If you use this glossary actively and combine it with the right writing method, you stop “studying English” and start training for approval. Consistency, strategy, and feedback-driven practice are what turn preparation into results.



About Me

I'm the founder of Langue Idiomas Cursos CACD, where we help CACD candidates build the kind of English that actually performs on exam day: precise vocabulary, clear argumentation, and disciplined structure. My work focuses on bridging the gap between "knowing the content" and "delivering it" in high-stakes written answers—especially in topics that demand diplomatic, international political, economic, and legal register.

This glossary was created as a practical tool for intermediate-to-advanced learners who want to expand their active vocabulary and write with more accuracy and confidence. If your goal is approval, treat language as strategy: learn the terms, practice paraphrasing, and train your writing to meet the command of the prompt with cohesion and coherence.

For more information, Let's chat.

Visit: <https://www.langueidiomascacd.com/curso-frances-ingles>



Angela



Beck