**ABSTRACT:** It is our proposal to discuss the semantic values of ‘ficar’ (to remain / to stay) in contemporary European Portuguese. Dealing with some theoretical and methodological controversy on the categorisation of this verb in literature (presented as an auxiliary verb, or a semi-auxiliary verb), we assume that it is possible to describe it, in order to unify the different syntactic configurations of this verb. The concept of schematic-form will support the argument in which the stability of any lexical unit supports and defines all the possibilities of different meanings of this lexical unit. In this presentation we will also take in consideration the hypothesis of Lehmann (2008). For this author ‘ficar’ as an auxiliary verb derives from a grammaticalization process.