**ABSTRACT**: The main goal of this article is the description of aspects of complex predicates with support verbs registered in Brazilian and European Portuguese texts, based on a research about the formation of constructions with *dar*, *fazer* and *ter* (to give, to make and to have) and about both use and perception of such constructions. Thus, it aims at showing, from a functionalist perspective, properties that contribute to the semi-grammatical status of support verbs, some characteristics of the verb-nominal periphrases configuration which lead to the perception of different degrees of incorporation between its components, the sociolinguistic status of such constructions and its discursive functions.