ADVANCED 1

Supplementary (8): Phrasal verbs 1

A. EXPLANATIONS

This unit (and Grammar 24 and 25) assume that a wide range of phrasal verbs, and their grammatical types, are already known. These units focus on multiple meaning, and other meanings of known phrasal verbs. Note that there may be other meanings for the verbs listed here.

Add up (make sense)
*His evidence just doesn't **add up.***
Ask after (inquire about)
*Jim was **asking after** you.*
Back down (yield in an argument)
*Sheila was right, so Paul had to **back down.***
Bargain for (take into account)
*We hadn't **bargained for** there being so much traffic, and we missed the plane.*
Bear out (confirm the truth)
*Helen's alibi was **borne out** by her sister.*
Break down (lose control of the emotions)
*David **broke down** and wept when he heard the news.*
Break off (stop talking)
***He broke off** to answer the phone.*
Break up (come to an end)
The party finally broke up at 3.00 am.
Bring about (cause to happen)
*The crisis was **brought about** by Brenda's resignation.*
Bring off (succeed in doing something)
*The team tried for years to win the competition and they finally **brought** it off.*
Bring on (cause the onset of an illness)
*Sitting in the damp **brought on** his rheumatism.*
(cause trouble to happen to oneself)
*You have **brought** this **on/upon yourself.***
Bring round (influence someone to your point of view)
*After much discussion, **I brought** the committee **round** to my point of view.*
Bring up (mention)
*I feel I ought to **bring up** another small matter.*
Call up (mobilise for military service)
*Mark was **called up** when the war broke out.*
Carry off (complete successfully - perhaps despite a problem)
*Jane had a difficult role to play, but she **carried** it **off.***
Carry out (complete a plan)
*The attack was successfully **carried out.***

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Catch on (become popular - colloquial)
*This new hair style is beginning to **catch on.***
Come about (happen)
*Let me explain how the situation **came about.***
Come down to (be in the end a matter of)
*It all **comes down to** whether you are prepared to accept less money.*
Come in for (receive - especially *criticism, blame)*
*The government has **come in for** a lot of criticism over the decision.*
Come off (take place successfully)
*I'm afraid that deal didn't **come** off after all.*
Come out (appear)
*All the flowers have **come out.***
*When the news **came out,** everyone was shocked.*
*My photos didn't **come out** very well.*
Come up (occur - usually *a problem* - colloquial)
Look, something has come up, and I can't meet you.
Come up against (meet a difficulty)
*We've **come up against** a bit of a problem.*
Come up to (equal - especially *expectations, standard)*
*The play didn't come **up to** expectations.*
Come up with (think of - especially *an answer, a plan, a solution)*
*We still haven't **come up with** a solution to the problem.*
Count on (rely on)
*Don't worry, you can **count on** me.*
Crop up (happen unexpectedly - colloquial)
*I can't come to your party, something has **cropped up.***
Do away with (abolish - colloquial)
*Dog licences have been **done away with.***
(murder - colloquial)
*What if they **do away with** the old man?*
Do up (decorate - colloquial)
*We are having our living room **done up.***
Draw up (come to a stop)
*A white sports car **drew up** outside the door.*
Draw up (organise - especially *a document)*
*The contract is being **drawn up** at the moment.*
Drop in (pay a visit - colloquial)
***Drop in** any time you're passing.*
Drop off (fall asleep - colloquial)
*The baby has just **dropped off.***
End up (finish in a certain way, or place)
*We **ended up** staying there for lunch.*
*The car **ended up** in a ditch.*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Face up to (have courage to deal with - especially *responsibilities)*
*You have to **face up to** your responsibilities.*
Fall about (show amusement - especially *laughing* - colloquial)
*Everyone **fell about** when Jane told her joke.*
Fall back on (use as a last resort)
*If the worst comes to the worst, we've got our savings to **fall back on.***
Fall for (be deceived by - colloquial)
*It was an unlikely story but he **fell for it.***
(fall in love with - colloquial)
*I **fell for** you the moment I saw you.*
Fall out with (quarrel with)
*Peter has **fallen out** with his boss.*
Fall through (fail to come to completion)
*The plan **fell through** at the last minute.*
Feel up to (feel capable of doing)
*Old Mr Smith didn't **feel up to** walking all that way.*
Follow up (act upon a suggestion)
*Thanks for the information about that book. I'll **follow it up.***
(take more action)
*We'll **follow up** this lesson next week.*
Get across (be understood - especially *get an idea across)*
*I had the feeling I wasn't getting the meaning **across.***
Get at (imply - about personal matters - colloquial)
*What are you **getting at** exactly?*
Get down to (begin to seriously deal with)
*It's time we **got down to** some real work.*
Get off with (avoid punishment)
*They were lucky to **get off with** such light sentences.*
Get on for (approach a certain age/time/number)
*He must be **getting on for** seventy.*
Get on (make progress - especially *in life)*
*Sue is **getting on** very well in her new job.*
Get over (be surprised)
*I couldn't get **over** how well she looked.*
Get over with (come to the end of something, usually unpleasant)
*I'll be glad to get this awful business **over with.***
Get round to (find time to do - also *around)*
*Sorry, but I haven't got **round to** fixing the tap yet.*
Get up to (do something - usually bad when about children - colloquial)
*The children are **getting up to** something in the garden.*
*What have you been **getting up to** lately?*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B. PRACTICE

1

Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

a) Jim completely fell for my *joke/story.*
b) The *conversation/meeting* didn't break up until late.
c) It seems that we've come up against rather a tricky *idea/problem.*
d) It must be getting on for *six o'clock/extremely well.*
e) The witness's evidence bore out *what Peter had said/as Peter said.*
f) I really should get down to *my homework/the weather.*
g) Unfortunately my *plan/suggestion* didn't quite come off.
h) Mary's new novel doesn't come up to her usual *expectation/standard.*
i) Last night I dropped off *at 11.30/from 11.30* until 7.00 this morning,
j) When David started speaking everyone fell about *in laughter/laughing.*



2

Put one suitable word in each space.

a) When I give an order I expect it to be carried out.
b) Getting up so early really gets me.....,
c) It was a good idea, but I'm afraid it didn't quite.....off.
d) I'm afraid that your story doesn't really.....up.
e) I was so surprised when Harry got the job, I couldn't.....over it.
f) Terry's new book.....out next week.
g) Someone was.....after you in the club yesterday.
h) I tried to get an early night, but just as I was.....off, the phone rang,
i) Neil was too embarrassed to.....up the question of who would pay.
j) The police didn't.....up Bill's complaint about his neighbours.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

The Terrys were sitting calmly having afternoon tea in their lounge when the van (1) ...A..... up outside. The words 'Reliable Removals - you can (2).....us' were printed on the side of the van in large blue capitals. Soon afterwards, an enormous man covered in tattoos appeared on the doorstep. Tim opened the door. 'Sorry we're late, guv,' said the tattoo man, 'we hadn't (3).....all the traffic on the motorway, otherwise we'd have been here sooner. Isn't that right, Lester? His companion, an unshaven man roughly half his size, joined in: 'We didn't budge for a good half hour, and we (4).....up coming off the motorway and going through the villages. I did try and phone, but I couldn't get (5).....Anyway, we're here now, so let's (6).....some serious work.' Tim said, 'Erm, I think there's been some sort of misunderstanding, gentlemen.'

1) A drew	B followed	C cropped	D called
2) A ask after	B bear out	C count on	D draw up
3) A got up to	B faced up to	C bargained for	D added up
4) A brought	B ended	C broke	D came
5) A down	B across	C over	D through
6) A do away with	B come up against	C fall out with	D get down to

4 Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

When the war (1) ..C.... out I must have been (2).....18 years of age, and like most boys of my age, I received the news with a kind of naive enthusiasm, born out of youthful ignorance and inexperience. When I was (3).....', I still had a romantic vision of marching quickly to victory and being home in time for tea. I have an old picture of myself standing proudly in my new uniform - a young man about to (4).....his responsibilities in life. I look like a boy pretending to be a man - and not quite managing to (5).....it off. Little did I realise just what I had (6).....

1) A came	B bore	C broke	D carried
2) A getting on for	B falling back on	C getting round to	D feeling up to
3) A counted on	B broken up	C called up	D asked after
4) A draw up	B face up to	C do away with	D bring about
5) A call	B break	C get	D carry
6) A come in for	B come up against	C come down to	D come up with

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given.

a) They didn't punish Karen, only gave her a warning.
got
Karen *..got off with*.....a warning.

b) What sort of progress are you making in your new job?
getting
How are .....in your new job?

c) There were no taxis so in the end I had to walk home.
up
Because there were no taxis I.....home.

d) I'm doing more work than I bargained for.
be
I didn't expect.....much work.

e) Brenda doesn't get on with her next-door neighbour any more.
fallen
Brenda has.....her next-door neighbour.

f) I broke down and cried when I heard the news.
into
I.....when I heard the bad news.

g) The best solution was thought of by Sally.
came
Sally.....the best solution.

h) Soon it will be time for lunch.
getting
It's.....lunch time.

i) What happened confirmed the truth of Jack's prediction.
borne
Jack's prediction.....by subsequent events.

j) Carol has trouble communicating her ideas to others.
her
Carol has trouble .. .. across.

-THE END-

LIVEWORKSHEETS