

Phrasal Verbs and formal equivalents

Phrasal verbs are very common in informal English. In formal writing, however, the use of phrasal verbs is not always appropriate. Can you drag the formal word in the centre to its correct place in the gap on the right.

He checked up on his accountant.	a. increased	1. He [] his accountant
They put up with their neighbours.	b. postponed	2. They [] their neighbours
She caught on very quickly.	c. reduce	3. She [] very quickly
She made up for it with an early night.	d. investigated	4. She [] <i>for</i> it with an early night
He went down with a fever.	e. deceived	5. He [] a fever
The cost of living went up .	f. tolerated	6. The cost of living []
The research team tried to find out the truth	g. compensated	7. The research team tried to [] the truth.
The project managed to get hold of a new scanner.	h. fluctuate	8. The project managed to [] a new scanner.
His discovery enabled school heads to cut down on the time lost between classes	i. contracted	9. His discovery enabled school heads to [] the time lost between classes.
The levels go up and down as a result of the pressure changes.	j. understood	10. The levels [] as a result of the pressure changes
The government put off a decision until they had heard the report .	k. establish	11. The government [] a decision until they had heard the report .
The inspector was taken in by the apparent calm in the building.	l. acquire	12. The inspector was [] by the apparent calm in the building.