

An imperfectly perfect day

Read the following story and work in the exercises below.

When I **set off** (*went*) for work this morning, my car **broke down**, so I **ended up** taking the bus. As soon as I **got off**, I **bumped into** an old schoolmate, Mark. While we were talking, he **brought up** something I had already **found out** from some mutual friends- that he had **come into** some money and had **set up** his own business. He told me that there was a lot to **sort out**, and offered to **take me on**, but I **turned him down** straight away.

When I **clocked in**, my boss **had a go at** me, **telling me off** in front of everyone. When I **got over** the initial shock, I told her I would **make up for** being late, but it **turned out** that she had **blown up** over a deal that had **fallen through**, after a client of mine had **pulled out of** a contract. She told me that I wouldn't **get away with** it, that I would **let everyone down**, and just **went on** and on.

Eventually, I **ran out of** patience and **answered back** – I said I was not going to **put up with** it anymore, and if she wanted to **lay me off**, she should **go ahead**.

Anyway, to cut a long story short, I **stormed out**, phoned Mark's secretary, who **put me through** to him. I told Mark I would like to **take him up on** his offer. So, in the end, everything has **worked out** perfectly.

Exercise A. Match the phrasal verbs from the column 1 – 7 with its meaning a - g.

1. I set off for work this morning	_____	a. dismiss
2. He come into some money	_____	b. went, left
3. my boss had a go at me	_____	c. left, abandon
4. She wants to lay me off	_____	d. accept
5. His client pulled out of a contract	_____	e. inherited something
6. I am not going to put up with it anymore	_____	f. criticized, attacked
7. I would like to take him up on his offer	_____	g. tolerate

Exercise B. Read the text and answer the questions

- Why did Mark travel by bus in the morning?
 - Because his car broke down
 - Because his motorbike broke down
- Who did he **bump into** when he **got off** the bus?
 - He bumped into his boss
 - he bumped into an old schoolmate
- What did Mark **bring up** while they were talking?
 - He had **come into** some cash and had begun his own business
 - He had inherited a business and had **set up** a new branch
- What happened when he **clocked in** his office?
 - his boss **had a go at** him
 - His boss **laid him off**
- What did he do at the end?
 - he **made up for** being late
 - He **stormed out** his office