

99 Phrasal verbs

A Meaning

Most phrasal verbs are very common in spoken English. They have a verb (*sit, stand, get*, etc.) and a particle (*up, on, off*, etc.). Sometimes, the meaning of the two parts is easy to understand.



sit down



stand up



lie down



fall over

Sometimes the two parts form a new meaning.

Phrasal verb	Example	Meaning
give sth up	He had to give up football.	stop doing something
look sth up	I had to look up the meaning.	try to find information in a book or on the internet
take off	The plane couldn't take off .	leave the ground and start flying
grow up	When Ben grows up , he wants to be a doctor.	slowly change from a child to an adult
find sth out	I must find out the times of the trains to Southampton.	find a fact or piece of information you need or want
go out	Let's go out this evening.	leave your home to do a social activity, e.g. go to a cinema, a club, etc.

1 Underline the correct particle.

► I'd like to lie up / down for a minute.

1 Can we find out / over how much it costs?

2 Where did she grow out / up?

3 He fell over / off when he left the house.

4 Do you want to go out / off tonight?

5 Pepe wants to give on / up his job.

6 Look it out / up in your dictionary.

7 The plane couldn't take off / up.

2 Complete the sentences with the correct particle.

► Paola doesn't want to go out this evening. She's tired.

1 I don't know the name of the hotel, but I can find _____.

2 Everyone stood _____ when he came into the room.

3 Susana lives in England now, but she grew _____ in Spain.

4 She sat _____ at the table and started eating.

5 The doctor told me to lie _____ on the bed.

6 I told my brother to give _____ smoking.

7 The plane took _____ half an hour late because of the bad weather.

8 She fell _____ in the street, but several people helped her.

9 I asked James to look _____ the meaning of a word for me.

3 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or talk to another student.

► Do you often look up English words in a dictionary? Yes, quite often.

1 Is there anything you would like to give up? _____

2 Where did you grow up? _____

3 When you fly, how do you feel when the plane takes off? _____

4 How often do you go out in the evenings? What do you do? _____



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B Grammar

Some phrasal verbs never have an object.

Phrasal verb	Example	Meaning
go up	The price of petrol will go up soon.	⬆ increase, become more OPP go down ⬇
carry on (with sth)	Can we carry on with the exercise?	continue with something
go back	She wants to go back to London.	return to a place
wake up	I always wake up at 7.00 a.m.	stop sleeping
go away	Go away! I'm working.	leave a person or a place

Other phrasal verbs need an object. In the following verbs, the object can go before or after the particle.



Take off your jacket.

Take your jacket off.



Could you turn on the light?

Could you turn the light on?



Put on your shoes.

Put your shoes on.

When the object is a pronoun (*it, them*, etc.) it must go before the particle.

Take it off. (NOT Take off it.)

Put them on. (NOT Put on them.)

4 Change the underlined noun to *it* or *them*, and put it in the correct place.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ▶ Look up <u>the word</u> . <u>Look it up.</u> | 4 Put <u>those socks</u> on. _____ |
| ▶ Look up <u>both words</u> . <u>Look them up.</u> | 5 Take off <u>your shoes</u> . _____ |
| 1 Take off <u>your jacket</u> . _____ | 6 Give up <u>chocolate</u> . _____ |
| 2 Put on <u>this tie</u> . _____ | 7 Turn on <u>the lights</u> . _____ |
| 3 Turn on <u>the TV</u> . _____ | 8 Put <u>your coat</u> on. _____ |

5 Are the sentences correct, or do they need the pronoun *it*? Where? Look at the examples.

- ▶ Look up in the dictionary. Look it up in the dictionary. ▶ Please sit down. Correct
- The price will soon go down. _____
 - Do you want to go back? _____
 - Could you turn on, please? _____
 - You can take off if you're hot. _____
 - His salary will go up soon. _____
 - Do they want to stop or carry on? _____
 - Did you put on? _____
 - What time do you usually wake up? _____

6 Replace the underlined word(s) with a phrasal verb that has the same meaning.

- ▶ The price will decrease soon. go down
- I loved Tokyo, and I want to return next year. _____
 - When we finish Exercise 1, we can continue with Exercise 2. _____
 - I was busy so I told them to leave me on my own. _____
 - Can I remove my coat? _____
 - I think my salary will increase next year. _____
 - I was so tired, I didn't stop sleeping until 9 o'clock this morning. _____



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