49/ Phrasal verbs: relationships and work

Words you need... 49.1

- **to bring someone up/bring up someone** to take care of a child until it is an adult
- **to fall out** to stop being friends
- **to get on** If people get on, they like each other.
- **to get over something** to stop being upset about something
- **to get together** to meet in order to spend time together
- **to go out with someone** to be someone's boyfriend or girlfriend
- **to look after someone** to make sure that someone stays safe
- **to look forward to something** to feel happy about something that is going to happen
- **to rely on someone** to be able to trust someone
- **to split up** to end a relationship

What are phrasal verbs?

Phrasal verbs are single units of meaning, formed with a verb and a particle (a preposition or adverb such as **in**, **up**, **around**, **off**). A few phrasal verbs (e.g. **look forward to**) have two particles.

It is often impossible to guess the meaning of a phrasal verb from knowing the meaning of the verb and the particle. For instance 'fall out' means to stop being friends with someone – it doesn't mean 'falling'. You need to learn phrasal verbs as a single unit, just like any other verb.

Phrasal verbs may seem difficult, but they are used very often, and your English will sound more natural if you use them. You probably know several already (e.g. **wake up**, **sit down**, **fall over**).

Exercise 1 49.2

Use the correct phrasal verbs to complete what each person says about their friends and families. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs. Listen and check.

rely on | bring up | look after | go out with | get over | split up

I started [1] *going out with Joe when we were both still at school. He was the first boy I really loved, and when we* [2] _____ *I cried for about a week! Of course, I* [3] _____ *it eventually, and now I'm married to Elliot.*



My parents [4] _____ us _____ on a farm. I was the eldest child, with three brothers. Mum and Dad were always working, so I had to [5] _____ the boys quite a lot. We're still very close, and I can always [6] _____ them to help me if I need it.



Exercise 2

Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1 my parents split/still very young/up when I was
My parents split up when I was still very young.

2 to spending/I'm looking forward/time with you
_____

3 out with/has fallen/his colleagues/my brother
_____

4 mum don't really/my sister and my/get on very well
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS