

Phrasal verbs



There is a large number of PHRASAL VERBS and

PREPOSITIONAL VERBS in the English language.

They are often, but not always, less formal than a single word with the same meaning.

ex .: We need to sort the problem out. x We need to solve the problem.

PHRASAL VERBS have two parts: a main verb and an adverb particle. They can be separated by an object.

go on - put up - go away - take off - hand out

PREPOSITIONAL VERBS have two parts: a verb and a preposition.

They cannot be separated from each other.

listen to - look after - deal with - depend on

This union specifies the meaning of the verb, or it may change its meaning completely.

The structure of the sentence

There is no doubt that with the **PREPOSITIONAL** verbs the two parts (verb and preposition) cannot be separated.

These verbs ALWAYS HAVE AN OBJECT, which comes IMMEDIATELY AFTER the preposition.

ex .: I won't listen to John anymore. / Look at the sky, it's full of stars tonight!

PHRASAL verbs MAY AND MAY NOT TAKE AN OBJECT.

In most cases, the particle may come AFTER or BEFORE the object.

ex.: Can you take off your shoes, please?/Can you take your shoes off, please?

If the OBJECT is a PERSONAL PRONOUN (me, you, him, us, etc.), we always put the object before the particle:

ex .: Pick it up! NOT: Pick up it! /Don't throw it away. Don't throw away it.

Of course, as always in grammar, there are some exceptions you just have to learn by heart:

I am looking forward to it. NOT: I am looking forward it to.
I get along very well with my boss. I get along very well with him.

I am looking for Jane. NOT: I am looking her for.

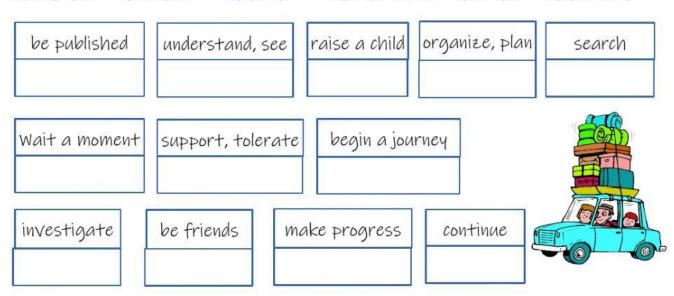
She came across an old friend while she was shopping. NOT: She came her across.

Some phrasal verbs can have more than one meaning:

I **looked up** and watched the stars. If you don't know the correct spelling, **look** the word **up** in a dictionary. (search for it)

1. Match the two corresponding verbs.

SORT OUT COME OUT CARRY ON MAKE OUT BRING UP GET ON HANG ON SET OFF LOOK UP PUT UP WITH GET ON LOOK INTO



- 2. Choose the correct phrasal verb.
- 1/ The teacher told us to with the exercise even during the breaktime.
- 2/ I don't know this company, I better on the internet.
- 3/ I won't your bad manners anymore.
- 4/ I can't the sign from this far away. Can you read it?
- 5/ I don't know what to do, but I will something.
- 6/ The newest Star Wars comics tomorrow, wow!
- 7/ We really with my new colleague, we became quite friends.
- 8/ Are you with your project? Will you finish soon?
- 9/ As a child, I was to always tell the truth.
- 10/ please, I'll be with you in a couple of minutes.
- 11/ We don't know who made the mistake, we have to
- 12/ I advise you to very early to avoid the rush-hour traffic.

