

UNIT 5  
GRAMMAR

## Phrasal Verbs



## What is a Phrasal Verb?

A phrasal verb is a multi-word verb that is made up of a main verb together with a preposition or adverb, or both. When combined, phrasal verbs often take on a completely different meaning to the verb part.

## Phrasal Verbs can be divided into groups

## Transitive Phrasal Verbs

We have put off the meeting until next week.  
put off = postpone

*Transitive Verbs need a direct object*

You postpone something (an object).

We have put off the meeting until next week.

transitive  
phrasal verb      object

## Intransitive Phrasal Verbs

I hope that he shows up on time  
show up = arrive

*Intransitive Verbs cannot have a direct object*

You cannot arrive something (an object).

I hope that he shows up on time.

intransitive  
phrasal verb

## Separable

*Most transitive phrasal verbs can be separated*

We have put off the meeting until next week.

or

We have put the meeting off until next week.

## Inseparable

*Intransitive phrasal verbs cannot be separated and some transitive phrasal verbs cannot be separated*

I hope that he shows up on time.

not

I hope that he shows on time up.

## Some phrasal verbs can be both transitive and intransitive

I must find out the train times.

find out = to discover a fact or piece of information

I must find out the train times.

I don't know, but I'll find out for you.

find out = to discover a fact or piece of information

I don't know, but I'll find out for you.

## 1. Complete the sentences using the phrasal verbs in the box.

give up   hang up   put on   take off   throw away   turn off   turn on

- a I always take off my shoes before I go into my house.
- b If I want to relax, I turn off all the lights and sit in silence.
- c When I want to look my best, I put on a suit.
- d I could never give up coffee – it's the only thing that keeps me awake.
- e The first thing I do when I get to the office is turn on my computer.
- f I never throw away plastic bags because they're so useful.
- g I never do any ironing. I just hang up my clothes very carefully when they are wet.

## 2. Rewrite these sentences so that they have the same meaning.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a Can you turn off the light, please?<br><i>Can you turn the light off, please?</i> | d Pick all the papers up before you leave! |
| b She threw my letter away.   | e Write down your name, please.            |
| c I'd like to try on this dress, please.  | f I gave back his pen.                     |

- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Put the words in parentheses in the correct order to complete each sentence. Consult your dictionary if necessary.

- a I'm very similar to my mother – I take after her. (after / take / her)
- b I have good relationships with my neighbors –  
I \_\_\_\_\_. (get / well / them / with / along)
- c I keep my neighbors' pet when they go on vacation –  
I \_\_\_\_\_. (take care / it / of)
- d I lived with my grandparents when I was a child –  
they \_\_\_\_\_. (up / brought / me)
- e My children always leave their things on the floor –  
they don't \_\_\_\_\_. (away / them / put)
- f I invent stories for my kids - they love them!  
I \_\_\_\_\_. (make / up / them)
- g I stopped going to the gym –  
I \_\_\_\_\_. (up / it / gave)
- h When I see a new phrasal verb, I consult my dictionary –  
I \_\_\_\_\_. (it / look / up)



## 4. Write the words in the correct order to complete the questions.

- a given has coffee up → Do you know anyone who has given up coffee?
- b clothes hang up your → Do you always \_\_\_\_\_ in the evening?
- c deal problems with → Do you always \_\_\_\_\_ immediately?
- d words up look → How often do you \_\_\_\_\_ in the dictionary?
- e a care of baby taken → Have you ever \_\_\_\_\_?
- f a filled form in → When was the last time that you \_\_\_\_\_?
- g away love letters old throw → Do you ever \_\_\_\_\_?
- h an excuse make up → Do you ever \_\_\_\_\_ when you're late?
- i get along people the with → How do you \_\_\_\_\_ in your class?

5. Rewrite the sentences by replacing the words in italics with the pronoun in parentheses.

a Don't forget to turn off *the light*. (it)

*Don't forget to turn it off.*

b I take after *my father*. (him)

c My grandparents brought up *my sister*. (her)

d He decided to give up *swimming*. (it)

e Please put away *your books*. (them)

f The children cleared up *the mess*. (it)

g We had to call off *the party*. (it)

6. Cross out the word that is not possible.

a He decided to give up **coffee** / ~~his neighbors~~ / **sugar**.

b Where can I hang up my **coat** / **clothes** / **shoes**?

c He put on a **car** / **suit** / **tie** to go to work.

d She got home and turned on a **novel** / **the computer** / **the TV**.

e She took off her **hat** / **keys** / **shoes** when she entered the house.

f I never throw away **old newspapers** / **plastic bags** / **the office**.

7. Complete the definitions with the phrasal verbs in the box.

bring up

fill in

run after

clear up

get along with

take after

deal with

look up



- a If you run after someone or something, you follow it very quickly.
- b When you \_\_\_\_\_ something \_\_\_\_\_, you make it neat by organizing things.
- c If you \_\_\_\_\_ a problem, you do something to find a solution.
- d When you \_\_\_\_\_ a form, you write information in the empty spaces.
- e If you \_\_\_\_\_ someone, you look like someone in your family (mother, father, or grandparents).
- f If you \_\_\_\_\_ someone, you have a good relationship with them.
- g When you \_\_\_\_\_ a child, you take care of them until they are an adult.
- h If you \_\_\_\_\_ something \_\_\_\_\_, you try to find information about it in a book.

**8. What could you say in these situations? Choose an expression from the box.**

Be careful!	Be patient.	Come back!
<del>Don't be mean!</del>	Don't worry.	Try again.

- a You show your new dress to a friend. Your friend laughs and says that you look like a waitress.  
You say: Don't be mean!
- b A friend tells you that they have an important exam next week. They say that it is very difficult.  
You say: \_\_\_\_\_
- c You are in a subway station and a train arrives. Your friend goes to get on the train, but you suddenly realize that you have left your bag at the ticket office.  
You say: \_\_\_\_\_
- d You are with a friend and waiting for another friend to arrive. Your friend is getting angry because the other one is ten minutes late.  
You say: \_\_\_\_\_
- e You are with a friend. Your friend calls a restaurant to reserve a table, but the line is busy.  
You say: \_\_\_\_\_
- f You are in a car with your friend who is driving. Your friend is driving a little fast.  
You say: \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Complete the text with does, goes, or plays.**

Tyler is very serious about sports. In the morning, he usually (1) \_\_\_\_\_ cycling, but he sometimes (2) \_\_\_\_\_ swimming at the pool. At work, he (3) \_\_\_\_\_ exercises during his coffee breaks and he occasionally (4) \_\_\_\_\_ golf in his office! At lunchtime, he (5) \_\_\_\_\_ tennis or squash. Then, in the evenings, he (6) \_\_\_\_\_ judo for an hour or two at the gym. On the weekend, he also (7) \_\_\_\_\_ as many sports as possible. He (8) \_\_\_\_\_ baseball on Saturdays and soccer on Sundays. For vacations, he (9) \_\_\_\_\_ skiing in the winter and windsurfing in the summer.