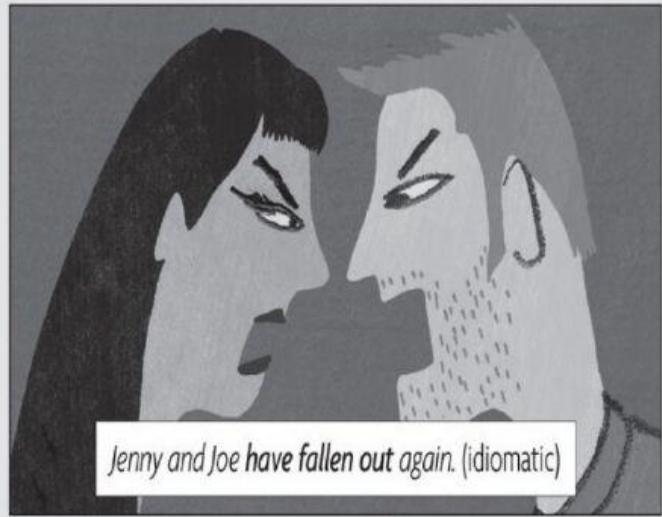


10 Literal and idiomatic meanings

Phrasal verbs sometimes have a literal meaning, and sometimes an idiomatic meaning:



Look Mum! My tooth's fallen out. (literal)



Jenny and Joe have fallen out again. (idiomatic)

Literal

1 Complete the sentences with a particle from the box. Some are used more than once.

away on off back out down in

- 1 The dentist said my tooth was bad. He had to pull it _____.
- 2 Don't run _____! Come here! I want to talk to you.
- 3 My aunt fell _____ the stairs and broke her leg.
- 4 I fell _____ my horse!
- 5 When the sun went _____, it was really cold.

- 6 A button has come _____ my shirt. Could you sew it back _____ for me?
- 7 I don't feel like cooking tonight. Shall we eat _____ instead?
- 8 I'm going to the library to take _____ the books I've finished.
- 9 I've just hung the washing out, and it's starting to rain. Can you help me to bring it _____?
- 10 Don't throw the box _____. I'm sure I can use it for something.

Literal or idiomatic?

2 Complete the pairs of sentences with the same phrasal verb from the box in the correct form.

take off pick up sort out put up stand up hold on

- 1 I'm coming to London for an interview next week – can you me for the night?
 your hand if you know the answer.
- 2 I all my clothes drawers today, so now I know where everything is.
 We've got a problem here, but if we try hard, I'm sure we can it .
- 3 When I was at school, we had to when the teacher came in the room.

You shouldn't let your sister tell you what to do all the time.
You should _____ for yourself more, and say what you think.

4 It's too warm to be wearing a jumper. Why don't you _____ it _____?

After a slow start, my business finally started to _____.

5 I was never taught how to cook. I just _____ it _____ from my mother.

Can you please _____ the chocolate wrapper you have just dropped!

6 A Can I speak to Kate, please?
B _____ . I'll just get her.

When you're riding on the back of a motorbike, you have to _____ tight.