

2 The meaning of phrasal verbs

EXERCISES

2.1 Complete these sentences using verbs from the list in A opposite.

- 🟢 The car b_____ down on the way to the airport.
- 🟢 It took him a long time to g_____ over his illness.
- 🟢 It isn't easy to learn German but you must k_____ on trying.
- 🟢 If you'd like a lift to the station tomorrow, I can p_____ you up at 9 a.m.
- 🟢 Please t_____ off your phones. The performance is about to begin.
- 🟢 The heavy snow blocked the roads and c_____ the farm off completely.

2.2 In which of the sentences in exercise 2.1 above could you put the particle in a different position?

2.3 Decide whether the phrasal verbs in these sentences are concrete or abstract in by writing C for concrete or A for abstract in the brackets.

EXAMPLE He looked up (C) and saw a hot-air balloon in the sky.

- 🌟 I would never go against () my parents' wishes.
- 🌟 Shall I cut out () this recipe from the food magazine? It looks good and is quick and easy to make.
- 🌟 About five miles into our journey the engine cut out () and we broke down () completely. It was over an hour before the rescue service turned up ().
- 🌟 Do we need to dress up () tonight or is it informal?
- 🌟 I shall never really appreciate what people went through () during the war.

2.4 Replace the underlined verbs in these sentences with phrasal verbs made using the verbs and particles from the boxes below. If necessary, use the Mini dictionary at the end of this book.

Make chase brush leave fall

Up for out aside out

- 🟡 They just ignored my complaints; it made me very angry.
- 🟡 I believed his story about having lost all his money. How stupid I was!



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- 📍 I couldn't understand what he was saying with all the noise.
- 📍 Could you pursue Emily's report? She promised it last week but I haven't seen it yet.
- 📍 If you are phoning from outside the country, omit the first zero in the city code.

Use more formal equivalents from the box instead of the phrasal verbs in these sentences. Write the formal verbs in the correct form.

decline issue organize cancel escape

- 📍 The government have put out a statement condemning the recent protests.
- 📍 The union accepted the new pay deal and called off the strike.
- 📍 The number of people not owning a smartphone nowadays has gone down dramatically.
- 📍 There was a disturbance in Blackmoor Prison yesterday and three prisoners got away.
- 📍 Could you see to lunch for our visitors? There will be four of them.

