Phrasal verbs 2

Complete the second sentence in each pair with a phrasal verb from the box so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence. You will need to change the verb form in many of the sentences.

break down	carry out	cut back on	cut off	do away with
do up	end up	fall through	hold up	keep on
let down	let off	pull out of	pull through	show up
sort out	split up	wear off	wear out	work out

1. Peace talks between the two countries collapsed when neither side reached an agreement.

   Peace talks between the two countries ..... when neither side reached an agreement.

2. I'm trying to calculate if we've sold more this year than last year.

   I'm trying to ..... if we've sold more this year than last year.

3. The effects of the drug disappear after a few hours.

   The effects of the drug ..... after a few hours.

4. A lot of people exhaust themselves through overwork.

   A lot of people ..... themselves ..... through overwork.

5. Despite the severity of the disease, many people recover with the help of appropriate drugs.

   Despite the severity of the disease, many people ..... with the help of appropriate drugs.

6. Through careful negotiation, they were able to resolve the problem.

   Through careful negotiation, they were able to ..... the problem.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7. When parents start to live apart, it can be particularly difficult for their children to cope.

   When parents ....., it can be particularly difficult for their children to cope.

8. At the opening night, only a few audience members came.

   At the opening night, only a few audience members ..... .

9. The Australian partners stopped being a part of the deal at the last moment.

   The Australian partners ..... the deal at the last moment.

10. People celebrate the Chinese New Year by exploding fireworks in the street.

    People celebrate the Chinese New Year by ..... fireworks in the street.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Phrasal verbs 2

11. It is pointless relying on people to help you if they don't do as they promised.

    It is pointless relying on people to help you if they ..... you ..... .

12. New government pension plans mean that many people will continue working well into their seventies.

    New government pension plans mean that many people will ..... working well into their seventies.

13. The planned changes were delayed because committee members argued among themselves.

    The planned changes were ..... because committee members argued among themselves.

14. At the last minute, the plans for the proposed motorway didn't take place.

    At the last minute, the plans for the proposed motorway ..... .

15. During the recession, many workers in the primary sector became jobless.

    During the recession, many workers in the primary sector ..... jobless.

16. Doctors did some tests on the patients.

    Doctors ..... some tests on the patients.

17. Minor economies, such as spending less on staff costs, can often prevent a company sliding into bankruptcy.

    Minor economies, such as ..... staff costs, can often prevent a company sliding into bankruptcy.

18. We were accidentally disconnected in the middle of our phone call.

    We were accidentally ..... in the middle of our phone call.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

19. Once the government removed quotas, the market was flooded with cheap foreign imports.

Once the government ..... quotas, the market was flooded with cheap foreign imports.

20. It cost almost £8 million to renovate the stadium, by which time the team was in serious financial difficulties.

It cost almost £8 million to ..... the stadium, by which time the team was in serious financial difficulties.

LIVEWORKSHEETS