

Phrasal verbs (part I)

EXERCISES

1. Read the sentences below. Try to work out the meaning of the phrasal verbs in bold. Then complete the table below, using one of the meanings in the box.

- 1 We thought it would be a difficult problem to solve, but in the end we **got (a)round** it.
- 2 We don't keep things on the top shelf because we can't **get at** them without standing on the table.
- 3 After Peter had made several unsuccessful attempts to **get through**, he asked the operator to connect him.
- 4 I managed to **get away from** the office just before the rush hour started.
- 5 I was really ill with flu last month, but I've **got over** it now.
- 6 This grey, wet weather really **gets me down**.
- 7 Tamsin is a good speaker who always **gets her message across**.
- 8 Nobody saw who smashed the window, so the boys **got away with** it.
- 9 I've been meaning to tidy the garage for some time, but I'm busy and I never seem to **get (a)round to** it.
- 10 If I can think of a reason to **get out of** the meeting tonight I will.

avoid	contact by phone	depress
escape unpunished	overcome	explain clearly
reach	leave	have time for
recover from		

	particle	use	meaning
GET	across	<i>get a message across</i>	
	(a)round	<i>get (a)round a problem</i>	
	at	<i>get at something</i>	
	away from	<i>get away from a place</i>	
	away with	<i>get away with a crime</i>	
	down	<i>bad weather gets me down</i>	
	out of	<i>get out of a commitment</i>	
	over	<i>get over an illness</i>	
	(a)round to	<i>get round to doing something</i>	

	through	<i>get through to someone on the phone</i>	
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2. Complete these sentences with words from the box below to make phrasal verbs with *get*.

away with	down	into	on with
out of	over	round to	through

- 1 Simon always manages to get _____ doing the washing-up because he says he has a lot of homework.
- 2 My grandfather got _____ the flu very quickly because he's such a fit man.
- 3 Maria lives in an area where the phone signal is bad so it's hard to get _____ when I try to ring her.
- 4 I tried to take a message but I didn't get _____ everything Paula said.
- 5 I can't talk to you now because I must get _____ my essay.
- 6 I finally got _____ watching a film I recorded two months ago.
- 7 I'm so happy! I've just heard that I've got _____ the university I want to go.
- 8 I can never get _____ telling a lie because my face always goes bright red.