Phrasal Verbs I

Exercise 1. Look at the sentences below. Using the context as a clue, match the phrasal verbs to their meaning. Write the correct letter in the space to the left of the sentence.

a. became an adult
b. improving, making progress
c. let somebody stay at your place temporarily
d. meet someone somewhere in order to do something together
e. returned
f. stop attending before you finish
g. stop living somewhere and start living in a new home
h. tolerate, continue to accept a difficult situation
i. wear an item of clothing to see if it fits
j. wear special clothes (to appear formal and attractive)

1. We have this shirt in a smaller size. Would you like to **try** it **on**?
2. Let's **meet up** at the fountain at 8pm and walk to the bar together.
3. If you **drop out** of school, it will be more difficult to get a job.
4. It's a fancy restaurant, so we have to **dress up**.
5. I **got back** late from work yesterday.
6. Tatiana lives in London, but she **grew up** in Russia. Her parents are Russian.
7. Their flat was too small so they decided to **move out** and live in a house.
8. Your English is really **coming along**. I've never heard you speak so well.
9. When I was visiting Paris, I had nowhere to stay so an old friend of mine **put** me **up** for the night.
10. I can't **put up** with the noise of traffic anymore! I must find a new place to live.

Exercise 2. Combine a verb from box 1 with a particle from box 2 to create phrasal verbs that can be used in the following sentences. You need to put the verbs into the correct tense.

Box 1:		
bring	look	take
turn	set	work

Box 2:		
after	down	forward
out	up	

1. I'd like to _____ $2,000 from my savings account, please.
2. So, how many people _____ our offer of free checking?
3. I still can't _____ why my bank has charged me extra on my overdraft.
4. Mr. Robinson is the manager who _____ loan applications.
5. National Express has announced that it will be _____ a new online payment system next year.
6. Can you _____ the bank reference code in the directory, please?
7. The government has decided to _____ the date for submitting tax returns.

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8. The bank has _____ my application for a loan.

9. The exact conditions are _____ in detail in the contract. You should read it before you sign it.

10. You need to provide proof of identity before you can _____ an account.

Now match the phrasal verbs that you created with the more formal words below.

withdraw	**A**		responded to	**F**	
understand	**B**		handles	**G**	
introducing	**C**		check	**H**	
advance	**D**		refused	**I**	
explained	**E**		open	**J**	

5 Favorite Phrasals

According to the *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*, the five most common verbs used to form phrasal verbs are *take*, *get*, *come*, *put*, and *go*. To the left of the exercises are some particles that routinely collocate with these common verbs.

Exercise 3. Choose a combination of the verb and particles to complete the sentences. When there is an object in parentheses at the end of the sentence, put it between the verb and its particle. Make sure to put the verbs into the correct grammatical time.

take
+
apart, back, down, in, off, on, out, over, up

1. After a slow start, sales really _____.
2. Our competitor copied our product by _____. (it)
3. If you're not satisfied with your purchase, _____ **to** the shop. (it)
4. Our company was _____ **by** a large American multinational last year.

come
+
about, across, along, around, back, down, in, off, on, out, over, up

5. I _____ a very interesting article abut your company in yesterday's newspaper.
6. How did that _____?
7. I didn't believe a word that he said, and later it _____ that he was lying.
8. Sarah left the company last year, but she _____ to become marketing director last week.

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put **+** across, away, back, down, forward, in, off, on, out, over, through, up

9. You did well at that meeting. You _____ a couple of very good ideas.
10. You _____ very clearly. (your point)
11. Hang on just a moment please, and I'll _____. (you)
12. I was furious with him. He humiliated _____ in front of everybody in the office. (me)

get **+** along, around, away, back, down, in, off, on, out, through, up

13. I didn't know that you were coming to the office today. When did you _____ **from** your trip?
14. It's much harder to deal with people if you don't _____ **with** them.
15. I'm sorry that I'm late. The boss started talking to me, and I couldn't _____ **from** her.
16. I tried to call you yesterday, but there was a problem with the line, and I couldn't _____ to you.

go **+** about, along, down, in, off, on, out, over, through, up

17. I'm sorry but you can't speak to him. He _____ **for** lunch about ten minutes ago.
18. I think that there must be a power outage; all of the lights _____ about five minutes ago.
19. I thought that no one would like my proposal, but it _____ **without** any problems.
20. I don't know why we have to talk about this again! We _____ it in great detail at the last meeting.

Exercise 4. Find the seven three-part phrasal verbs (prepositional phrasal verbs) in the following text and match them to their definitions on the next page.



When occupational therapist Chris Tyler noticed that many of his company's skilled laborers were taking costly sick leave due to strain-related injuries, he discovered that many workers were not up to the strenuous job requirements. So, Tyler came up with a unique stretch and flex pre-work program. Initially he ran up against some resistance from management and workers alike. However, once he got through to them that pre-work stretching would cut down on injuries, company support flourished. The 20 minutes of on-site productivity lost at the start of every work day is quickly made up for by a 50% to 80% reduction in injury and compensation claims. Now, workers look forward to doing the morning workouts and enjoying more injury-free days.

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Definition	Phrasal Verb	Definition	Phrasal Verb
a. to experience an unexpected difficulty →		**b.** to feel pleased and excited about something that is going to happen →	
c. to replace something that has been lost, or to provide something good in order to make a bad situation better →		**d.** to succeed in making someone understand or believe something →	
e. to be physically or mentally prepared for →		**f.** to suggest or think of an idea or plan →	
g. to reduce the amount take or used →			

Exercise 5. Three-part phrasal verbs with *get*. Using common particles, complete the sentences so that the three-part phrasal verbs are used correctly.

1. They'll never get _____ with robbing the bank. The police will catch them.
2. We could maybe get away _____ sending them an email rather than a letter.
3. Can we get back _____ the topic that we are meant to be discussing here?
4. We seem to have gotten _____ to something totally irrelevant.
5. Dave, don't worry that your girlfriend dumped you, it's time to get _____ with your life. Go out and meet someone new.
6. I really need to get _____ to some serious studying.
7. I don't think I'll be able to get _____ of working late tomorrow night.
8. Getting _____ to him is a very difficult and challenging task. It's like talking to a brick wall.

Exercise 6. Three-part phrasal verbs with *come* and *go*. Using common particles, complete the sentences so that the three-part phrasal verbs are used correctly.

1. So, just to come _____ to what we were talking about earlier, does anyone have any questions.
2. What it comes down _____ is whether we can afford it or not.
3. She came _____ with a cold, nothing serious, and she seems to be better now.
4. We have come _____ against a bit of a dilemma here.
5. We need to come up _____ a solution and fast!

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6. I would go _____ with that idea if I thought that management would approve.
7. We can't afford to go _____ on the promise that we made last week.
8. Pete has gone in _____ that sweepstakes on the radio talk show.
9. I don't go _____ for sushi, myself; I prefer my fish cooked.
10. We will just have to go _____ with our promise; we are committed now.

Exercise 7. Three-part phrasal verbs in a tricky situation. You know the drill!

1. Unfortunately we have run up _____ a bit of a problem.
2. One of our salespeople seems to have been mixed up _____ some shady dealings.
3. They thought that this would make up _____ their poor sales performance.
4. They underhandedly thought that they could walk off _____ the "Salesperson of the Year" award, which as you know comes with a large bonus.
5. We are determined to face up _____ this situation in a resolute manner.
6. Our sales staff must stay away _____ anything that looks even remotely dodgy.
7. They should know that we will be checking up _____ them at regular intervals.
8. We will be watching out _____ anything or anyone that looks suspicious.
9. So, the message to our sales staff is clear – stay out _____ trouble.

*Some notes take from the online Cambridge Dictionary at
https://dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/phrasal-verbs-and-multi-word-verbs

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