

# 84 Phrasal verbs: meaning

## A Meaning

Sometimes the meaning of a phrasal verb is very similar to the meaning of the base verb, e.g. **sit down, stand up, lie down, wake up, save up (for sth), hurry up, hang sth up**:

*I'm saving up for a new computer.*

*Hang your coat up behind the door.*

More often, the meaning of a phrasal verb is different from the meaning of the base verb:

*We set off for the coast at about 7.30.*

*I picked up a bit of Greek when I was on holiday.*

*Greg turned up late again, so the boss gave him a warning.*

*She told me she was leaving but I couldn't take it in.*

*The boys take after their father: they're all very practical.*

*The neighbour is so noisy. I can't put up with it any longer.*

*They offered me a trip to Paris, but I turned it down.*

*I'm too busy.*

### GLOSSARY

<b>set off</b>	start a journey SYN <b>set out</b>
<b>pick sth up</b>	learn sth without formal lessons
<b>turn up</b>	arrive, appear
<b>take sth in</b>	understand what you hear, see or read
<b>take after sb</b>	look or behave like an older member of your family
<b>put up with sth/sb</b>	suffer sth/sb unpleasant and not complain about it
<b>turn sth/sb down</b>	refuse an offer, etc. or the person who makes it

### SPOTLIGHT different meanings

Some phrasal verbs may have more than one meaning, sometimes with a different grammatical pattern.

- The plane couldn't **take off** because of bad weather. (= leave the ground)
- Jonah's business has really **taken off**. (= suddenly start being successful)
- It was hot so I **took** my jacket **off**. (= remove)

### 1 Change the base verb to a phrasal verb.

- ▶ I asked them to stand. up
- I sat on the bed. \_\_\_\_\_
  - They woke late this morning. \_\_\_\_\_
  - I'm saving for my holiday. \_\_\_\_\_

- He asked me to lie over there. \_\_\_\_\_
- I told them to hurry. \_\_\_\_\_
- Where shall I hang my jacket? \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Circle the correct answer(s). Be careful: both answers may be correct.

- ▶ The plane took up / off an hour late.
- The flat they offered me looked rather dirty so I turned it out / down.
  - I don't know how you put up / out with my brother.
  - We want to set out / off before the traffic gets bad.
  - It was hot, so I took / put off my tie.
  - The lesson was difficult. I couldn't take it all after / in.
  - The children didn't take / turn up until midnight.
  - I didn't actually study French. I just picked / took it up.
  - She decided to lie / lie down on the floor.

### 3 Complete the dialogues.

- ▶ The children's behaviour is terrible.
- ~ I know. I can't put up with it much longer.
- ~ Yes, we \_\_\_\_\_ at about seven.
- ~ Yes, so \_\_\_\_\_!
- ~ I \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ because it was wet.
- ~ Yes, it's really \_\_\_\_\_.
- ~ He was late and finally \_\_\_\_\_ at 11.00.
- ~ She \_\_\_\_\_ her father. He's a maths professor.
- ~ I \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ watching YouTube videos.
- ~ Yes, but he's going to \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_. The salary is terrible.
- Did you start early?
  - Do we have to leave now?
  - Why haven't you kept your coat on?
  - Is his career going well?
  - What time did the builder arrive?
  - Alice is so good at maths.
  - How did you learn to play the guitar?
  - Did they offer Ned the job?



### TEST YOURSELF

## B In the classroom

**TEACHER** How are you **getting on**, Suki?  
**STUDENT** I can't **work out** question seven.  
**TEACHER** OK. **Leave it out** and **go on** to the next one.  
**STUDENT** Fine, thank you.

**TEACHER** OK, I'm afraid we've **run out of** time. Please **tidy up** before you go.

**STUDENT** Shall I **give out** the dictionaries?  
**TEACHER** Yes, but could you **put them back** when you've finished.

**TEACHER** Could you **pick up** those bits of paper and put them in the bin?

**TEACHER** If we **get through** the exercises today, we can **go over** the answers tomorrow.

### GLOSSARY

<b>get on (with sth)</b>	make progress with sth you are doing	<b>tidy up</b>	make sth tidy; put everything in the correct place
<b>work sth out</b>	find an answer to an exercise, a problem, etc.	<b>give sth out</b>	give one of sth to each person in a group <b>SYN hand sth out</b>
<b>leave sth out</b>	not include sth <b>SYN omit formal</b>	<b>put sth back</b>	return sth to its place
<b>go on (to sth)</b>	continue (with sth) <b>SYN move on (to sth)</b>	<b>get through sth</b>	complete a task or activity
<b>pick sth up</b>	take hold of sth and lift it to a higher place <b>OPP put sth down</b>	<b>go over sth</b>	look at, think about or discuss sth carefully from beginning to end <b>SYN go through sth</b>
<b>run out (of sth)</b>	finish your supply of sth: I've <b>run out of</b> coffee.		

#### 4 Make sentences from the words.

- go / can / later / we / it / over  
 1 out / bread / afraid / run / we've / of / I'm  
 2 chairs / before / put / the / go / back / you  
 3 you / out / them / could / hand ?  
 4 work / get / with / I / on / must / my  
 5 it / difficult / out / if / it's / leave  
 6 tried / out / couldn't / it / I / work / but / I

We can go over it later.

#### 5 Replace the underlined words with a phrasal verb with the same meaning.

- We put everything in order before we left.  
 1 Do you want us to omit the next exercise?  
 2 Do you think we'll complete the book by the end of term?  
 3 I couldn't find an answer to the last question.  
 4 Do the exercise for homework and we'll check it on Thursday.  
 5 I asked her about her course yesterday. She's not doing very well.  
 6 Let's finish this first, then we can continue with Exercise 6.

We tidied up before we left.

#### 6 Complete the sentences with a suitable phrasal verb.

- If you don't want to do it, you can leave it out.  
 1 Could you \_\_\_\_\_ the books to the other students, Claude?  
 2 I'd like to \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 5 by Friday, then start Unit 6 on Monday.  
 3 I don't know why the dictionaries aren't on the shelf. I \_\_\_\_\_ them \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.  
 4 You all did the homework last night, didn't you? How did you \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 5 Marcel, you've got stuff everywhere. Make sure you \_\_\_\_\_ before you leave.  
 6 I can't write any more: I've \_\_\_\_\_ of paper.  
 7 We couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ the answer until the teacher gave us some help.  
 8 My bag was very heavy. I had to keep \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ and putting it down.



### TEST YOURSELF