

## Phrasal Verbs: A

**act up** (no object): misbehave (for people); not work properly (for machines).

"The babysitter had a difficult time. The children **acted up** all evening."

"I guess I'd better take my car to the garage. It's been **acting up** lately."



**act like** (inseparable): behave in a way that's like \_\_\_\_ .

"What's wrong with Bob? He's **acting like** an idiot."

**Note:** This phrasal verb is very informal.



**add up** (1. no object): logically fit together.

"His theory is hard to believe, but his research **adds up**."

**Note:** This phrasal verb is often negative.

"His theory seems, at first, to be plausible, but the facts in his research **don't add up**."



**add up** (2. separable): find the total.

"What's the total of those bills? Could you **add them up** and see?"



**add up to** (inseparable): to total.

"The bills **add up to** \$734.96. That's more than I expected!"



**ask out** (separable): ask for a date.

"Nancy has a new boy friend. Joe **asked** her **out** last night."

## Phrasal Verbs: B

**back down** (no object): not follow a threat.

"Tom was going to call the police when I told him I'd wrecked his car, but he **backed down** when I said I'd pay for the damages."



**back off** (no object): not follow a threat.

"Tom was ready to call the police when I told him I'd wrecked his car, but he **backed off** when I said I'd pay for the damages."



**back up** (1. no object): move backward; move in reverse.

"You missed the lines in the parking space. You'll have to **back up** and try again."

"The people waiting in line are too close to the door. We won't be able to open it unless they **back up**."



**back up** (2. separable): drive a vehicle backwards (in reverse).

"You're too close! **Back** your car **up** so I can open the garage door."



**back up** (3. separable): confirm a story, facts, or information.

"If you don't believe me, talk to Dave. He'll **back me up**."



**back up** (4. separable): make a "protection" copy to use if there are problems with the original.

"When my computer crashed, I lost many of my files. It's a good thing I **backed** them **up**."



**beg off** (no object): decline an invitation; ask to be excused from doing something.

"At first Lily said she would be at the party. Later she **begged off**."



**blow up** (1. separable): inflate.

"We need lots of balloons for the party. Will you **blow** them **up**?"

**blow up** (2. separable): explode; destroy by exploding.

A: "That old building really came down quickly!"

B: "That's because the construction company used dynamite to **blow it up**."



**blow up** (3. no object): suddenly become very angry.

"When I told Jerry that I'd had an accident with his car, he **blew up**."



**bone up on** (inseparable): review / study thoroughly for a short time.

"If you're going to travel to Peru, you'd better **bone up on** your Spanish."



**break down** (1. separable): separate something into component parts.

"We spent a lot of money at the supermarket. When we **broke** the total cost **down**, we spent more on cleaning supplies than food."



**break down** (2. no object): stop working / functioning.

"Sharon will be late for work today. Her car **broke down** on the freeway."



**break in** (1. often no object; with an object, **break into**--inseparable): enter by using force (and breaking a lock, window, etc.)

"Jane's apartment was burglarized last night. Someone **broke in** while Jane was at the movies." /  
"Somebody **broke into** Jane's apartment while she was at the movies."



**break in** (2. separable): wear something new until it's / they're comfortable.

"These are nice shoes, but they're too stiff. I hope it doesn't take too long to **break** them **in**."



**break in** (3. separable): train; get someone / something accustomed to a new routine.

"I hope I can learn my new job quickly. The manager hasn't scheduled much time for **breaking me in**."



**break up** (1. no object): disperse; scatter.

"What time did the party **break up** last night?"



**break up** (2. usually no object; with an object, **break up with** [inseparable]): end a personal relationship.

"Tim and Julie aren't going steady any more. They got really angry with each other and **broke up**."

"Have you heard the news? Julie **broke up with** Tim!"

"I'm sorry to hear that their marriage **broke up**. I'm sure the divorce will be difficult for the children."



**bring / take back** (separable): return something.

"Yes, you can borrow my pen, don't forget to **bring it back** to me when you're finished."

"This book is due tomorrow. I guess I should **take it back** to the library."



**bring off** (separable): accomplish something difficult; accomplish something people had considered impossible or unlikely.

"No one thought Chuck could get an A in that course, but he **brought it off**."



**bring up** (1. separable): mention (as a topic of discussion).

"We planned to discuss overtime pay in the meeting. Why didn't someone **bring that topic up**?"



**bring up** (2. separable): raise; rear.

"Lucy's parents died when she was a baby. Her grandparents **brought her up**."



**brush up on** (inseparable): review / study thoroughly for a short time.

"If you're going to travel to Peru, you'd better **brush up on** your Spanish."



**burn down** (no object): become destroyed / consumed by fire.

**Note:** For upright things--trees, buildings, etc.--only.

"Lightning struck Mr. Kennedy's barn last night. It **burned down** before the fire fighters arrived."



**burn up** (1. no object): become destroyed / consumed by fire.

**Note:** For people and non-upright things only.

"All of Mr. Kennedy's hay **burned up** when his barn burned down."

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**burn up** (2. separable): cause someone to become very angry.

"Did you hear how rudely Fred talked to me? That really **burned me up!**"

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**butt in** (no object): impolitely interrupt (a conversation, an action).

"Hey, you! Don't **butt in!** Wait for your turn!"

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**butter up** (separable): praise someone excessively with the hope of getting some benefit.

"I guess Marty really wants to be promoted. He's been **buttering** his boss **up** all week."

## Phrasal Verbs: C

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**call off** (separable): cancel something that has been scheduled.

"We don't have school today. The mayor **called** classes **off** because of the snow."

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**call on** (inseparable): ask someone for an answer in class.

"I don't know why the teacher never **calls on** you. You always know the answer."

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**calm down** (with or without an object; with an object, separable): become calm / less agitated or upset; help someone become calm / less agitated or upset.

"Why are you so upset? Suzie didn't intend to spill orange juice on you. **Calm down!**"

"I know Ralph is upset, but can you **calm him down?** He's making so much noise that he's irritating everyone in the office."

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**(not) care for** (1. inseparable): like; want.

**Note:** This phrasal verb is usually negative, though it may be used affirmatively in questions.

A: "Would you **care for** something to drink? We have coffee, tea, or orange juice."

B: "Could I have water, please? I don't **care for** coffee, tea, or juice."

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**care for** (2. inseparable): take care of; supply care to; attend / watch..

"Amy's father got out of the hospital last week. The family is **caring for** him at home."

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**catch on** (no object): develop understanding or knowledge of something.

"Bill had never used a computer until he took this class, but he **caught on** very quickly and is now one of the best students."

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**catch up (with)** (often without an object; with an object, inseparable): stop being behind.

"Terry stopped to rest for a few minutes. He'll **catch up** / **catch up with** us later."

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**check in(to)** (inseparable): register for / at a hotel, conference, etc.; let someone know officially that you have arrived.

"My plane will arrive around 5:00 PM. I should be able to **check into** the hotel by 6:00 or 6:30."

"When you arrive at the convention, be sure to **check in** at the registration desk."

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**check off** (separable): make a mark to indicate that something on a list has been completed.

"Here are the things you need to do. Please **check** each one **off** when you've finished it."

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**check out (of)** (1. inseparable): follow procedures for leaving (a hotel, etc.)

"Don't forget to take your room key to the front desk when you **check out** (when you **check out of** the hotel)."

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**check out** (2. separable): follow procedures for borrowing something (usually for a limited period of time).

"I'm sorry, but you can't take that encyclopedia home. The library won't allow you to **check** reference books **out**."



**cheer up** (separable): help someone feel less worried / depressed / sad.

"Suzie's brother was depressed about not getting a promotion, so she sent him a funny card to **cheer** him **up**."



**chew out** (separable): scold someone severely; berate.

"Tom's father was really angry when Tom didn't come home until 3:00 AM. He **chewed** Tom **out** and then said Tom had to stay at home for two weeks."



**chicken out** (no object): lose the courage or confidence to do something--often at the last minute.

"Sam said he was going to ask Lulu for a date, but he **chickened out**."



**chip in** (inseparable): contribute / donate (often money) to something done by a group.

"We're going to buy a birthday cake for our boss and I'm collecting donations. Do you want to **chip in**?"



**clam up** (inseparable): suddenly become quiet / refuse to talk about something.

"Lila wouldn't talk about the accident. When I asked her what happened, she **clammed up**."



**come across** (inseparable): find (unexpectedly).

"I've lost my extra car keys. If you **come across** them while you're cleaning the room, please put them in a safe place."



**come down with** \_\_\_\_\_ (inseparable): become ill with \_\_\_\_\_ .

"George won't be at the office today. He **came down with** the flu over the weekend."



**come to** (1. inseparable): total.

"Your charges **come to** \$124.38. Will you pay by check, in cash, or with a credit card?"



**come to** (2. no object): regain consciousness.

"When I told Gina that she'd won a million dollars, she fainted. When she **came to**, I told her it was a joke and she almost hit me!"



**count on** (inseparable): depend on; trust that something will happen or that someone will do as expected.

"I'm **counting on** you to wake me up tomorrow. I know I won't hear the alarm."



**cross out** (separable): show that something written is wrong or unnecessary by making an X across it.

"We can't afford to buy everything on your shopping list, so I've **crossed out** all the unnecessary things."



**cut back (on)** (often without an object; with an object, **cut back on** [inseparable]): use less of something.

"You drink too much coffee. You should **cut back**."

"You should **cut back on** the amount of coffee that you drink."

## Phrasal Verbs: D

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**do in** (1. separable): cause to become very tired.

"Those three games of tennis yesterday afternoon really **did me in**. I slept for ten hours after I got home."



**do in** (2. separable): to kill; to murder.

"The said that the murdered man was **done in** between 10 and 11 o'clock last night."





**do over** (separable): do something again.

"Oh, no! I forgot to save my report before I turned the computer off! Now I'll have to **do it over!**"



**drag on** (no object): last much longer than expected or is necessary.

"I thought the meeting would be a short one, but it **dragged on** for more than three hours."



**draw up** (separable): create a formal document.

"The Ajax and Tip-Top Banks have decided to merge. Their lawyers will **draw** all the official documents **up** sometime this month."



**drop off** (separable): deliver something; deliver someone (by giving him/her a ride).

"Yes, I can take those letters to the post office. I'll **drop** them **off** as I go home from work."

"You don't have to take a taxi. You live fairly close to me, so I'll be happy to **drop** you **off**."



**drop in (on)** (inseparable): visit informally (and usually without scheduling a specific time).

"If you're in town next month, we'd love to see you. Please try to **drop in**. (Please try to **drop in on** us.)"



**drop by** (inseparable): visit informally (and usually without scheduling a specific time).

"If you're in town next month, we'd love to see you. Please try to **drop by** the house."



**drop out (of)** (inseparable): stop attending / leave school or an organization.

"No, Paul isn't at the university. He **dropped out**. / He **dropped out of** school."



**draw out** (separable): prolong something (usually far beyond the normal limits).

"I thought that speech would never end. The speaker could have said everything important in about five minutes, but he **drew** the speech **out** for over an hour!"

## Phrasal Verbs: E

**eat out** (no object): have a meal in a restaurant.

"I'm too tired to cook tonight. Why don't we **eat out**?"



**egg on** (separable): urge / encourage greatly toward doing something (usually something negative).

"At first Bob and Chuck were just having a mild argument, but Bob's friends **egged** them **on** until they started fighting."



**end up** (1. no object): finally arrive at; arrive at an unexpected place.

"We got lost last night and **ended up** in the next town."



**end up** (2. no object): arrive somewhere as a result or consequence.

"You're working too hard. If you don't take it easy, you'll **end up** in the hospital!"

## Phrasal Verbs: F

**face up to** (inseparable): admit to; take responsibility for.

"You can't pretend that you're doing OK in this course, Joe. Sooner or later, you'll have to **face up to** the fact that you're failing it."



**fall through** (no object): not happen. (**Note:** describes something that was planned but didn't happen.)

"We had originally intended to go to Mexico for our vacation, but our trip **fell through** when I got sick."



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**feel up to** (inseparable): feel strong enough or comfortable enough to do something.

"I know the accident was a terrible shock. Do you **feel up to** talking about it?"



**figure out** (1. separable): logically find the answer to a problem; solve a problem by thinking about it carefully.

"For a long time I couldn't understand the last problem, but I finally **figured it out**."



**figure out** (2. separable): understand why someone behaves the way she/he does.

"I can't **figure Margie out**. Sometimes she's very warm and friendly and sometimes she acts as if she doesn't know me."



**fill in** (1. separable): add information to a form.

"The office needs to know your home address and phone number. Could you **fill them in** on this form?"



**fill in (on)** (2. separable): supply information that someone doesn't know.

"I wasn't able to attend the meeting yesterday, but I understand that it was important. Could you **fill me in**? / Could you **fill me in on** what was discussed?"

**fill in for** (inseparable): temporarily do someone else's work; temporarily substitute for another person.

"Professor Newton is in the hospital and won't be able to teach for the rest of the term. Do you know who's going to **fill in for** her?"



**fill out** (1. separable): complete a form by adding required information.

"Of course I completed my application! I **filled it out** and mailed it over three weeks ago!"

**fill out** (2. no object): become less thin; gain weight.

"Jerry used to be really skinny, but in the last year he's begun to **fill out**."

**find out (about)** (inseparable): learn / get information (about).

"I'm sorry that you didn't know the meeting had been canceled. I didn't **find out (find out about it)** myself until just a few minutes ago."

## Phrasal Verbs: G

**get across** (separable): make something understood; communicate something understandably.

"Alan is really intelligent but sometimes he has problems **getting** his ideas **across**."

**get along (with)** (inseparable): have a friendly relationship (with); be friendly (toward).

"Why can't you and your sister **get along**? Everyone else **gets along with** her just fine!"

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**get around** (1. inseparable): avoid having to do something.

"Teresa **got around** the required math classes by doing well on a math proficiency test."

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**get around** (2. no object): move from place to place.

"She doesn't have a car. She **gets around** by bicycle, bus, or taxi."

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**get around to** (inseparable): do something eventually.

"I really should wash the dishes, but I don't feel like it. Maybe I'll **get around to** them tomorrow morning."

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**get by** (no object): survive, financially, in a difficult situation.

"It's going to be hard to pay the rent now that you've lost your job, but somehow we'll **get by**."

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**get in** (1. inseparable): enter a small, closed vehicle.

"I don't know where Carole was going. She just **got in** her car and drove away."

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**get in** (2. no object): arrive.

"Do you know what time Fred's plane **gets in**?"

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**get on** (inseparable): enter a large, closed vehicle.

"I'm sorry, but you're too late to say goodbye to Angela. She **got on** the plane about 20 minutes ago."



**get off** (1. inseparable): leave a large, closed vehicle.

"When you **get off** the bus, cross the street, turn right on Oak Street, and keep going until you're at the corner of Oak and Lincoln Boulevard."

**get off** (2. separable): be excused (for a period of time) from work, class, or other regularly scheduled activities.

"Some schools **got** President's Day **off** but ours didn't. We had classes as usual."



**get off** (3. separable): make it possible for someone to avoid punishment.

"Everyone knew he was guilty, but his lawyer was clever and **got him off**."



**get out of** (1. inseparable): leave a small, closed vehicle.

"There's something wrong with the garage door opener. You'll have to get out of the car and open it by hand."



**get out of** (2. inseparable): escape having to do something.

"Lisa said she had a terrible headache and **got out of** giving her speech today."



**get over** (1. no object): finish. (**Note:** for individual activities, not ones that happen again and again.)

"What time do your classes **get over**?"



**get over** (2. inseparable): recover from an illness or painful experience.

"Katy was really upset when she failed the test. She thought she would never **get over** feeling so stupid."



**get rid of** (1. inseparable): dispose of; give away or throw away.

"That shirt is really ugly. Why don't you **get rid of** it?"

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**get rid of** (2. inseparable): dismiss someone; fire someone from a job; cause someone to leave.

"The treasurer of the XYZ company was spending too much money so the company president **got rid of** him."

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**get up** (usually no object; with an object, separable): leave bed after sleeping and begin your daily activities.

"You'll have to **get up** much earlier than usual tomorrow. We have to leave by no later than 6:00 AM."

"I know I won't hear the alarm tomorrow morning. Can you **get me up** at 6:00 AM?"

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**give up** (1. separable): stop doing something (usually a habit).

"He knows smoking isn't good for his health, but he can't **give it up**."

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**give up** (2. no object): decide not to try (unsuccessfully) to solve a problem.

A: "What's black and white and red all over?"

B: "I **give up**. What?"

A: "An embarrassed zebra!"

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**go out with** (inseparable): have a date with.

"You **went out with** Sharon last night, didn't you?"

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**go with** (1. no object): look pleasing together. (**Note:** for clothes, furniture, etc.)

"You should buy that shirt. It will **go well with** your dark brown suit."

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**go with** (2. no object): date regularly and steadily.

"Is Gina **going with** Jim? I see them together all the time."

**goof off** (no object): be lazy; do nothing in particular.

A: "Do you have any special plans for your vacation?"

B: "No. I'm just going to stay home and **goof off**."

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**grow up** (1. no object): spend the years between being a child and being an adult.

"Did you know that Frank **grew up** in Malaysia?"

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**grow up** (2. no object): behave responsibly; behave as an adult, not a child.

A: "Lee really irritates me sometimes. He's really silly and childish."

B: "I agree. I wish he would **grow up**."

## Phrasal Verbs: H

**hand in** (separable): submit homework, an assignment, etc.

"You'd better get started on your report. You know that you have to **hand it in** at 8:30 tomorrow morning!"

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**hand out** (separable): distribute.

"Why don't you have a course description and list of assignments? The teacher **handed** them out on the first day of class."

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**hang up** (no object): end a phone conversation by replacing the receiver.

"I'd like to talk longer, but I'd better **hang up**. My sister needs to make a call."

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**have to do with** (inseparable): be about.

"This class **has to do with** the behavior of people in groups."

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**hold up** (1. separable): raise; lift to a higher-than-normal position.

"The winner of the race proudly **held** his trophy **up** for all to see."

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**hold up** (2. separable): delay.

"I'm sorry I'm late. There was an accident on the freeway and traffic **held me up**."



**hold up** (3. separable): rob; threaten someone with harm unless he/she gives her/his money or other valuable things.

"Sarah is very upset. When she was walking home last night, two men **held her up** and took her purse and jewelry."

## Phrasal Verbs: I

**iron out** (separable): mutually reach an agreement; mutually resolve difficulties

"Yes, I know we disagree on lots of things, Susan, but we can **iron them out**."

## Phrasal Verbs: J

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**jack up** (1. separable): raise / lift by using a jack.

"We'll have to **jack the back of the car up** before we can change the tire."



**jack up** (2. separable): raise (used for prices).

"The car dealer bought my old Ford for \$750 and **jacked the price up** to \$1,500 when they sold it."



**jump all over** (inseparable): severely scold someone; berate someone.

"Arthur is really upset. His boss **jumped all over** him because he's been late for work three times this week."

## Phrasal Verbs: K

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**keep on** (1. inseparable--followed by an -ing verb): continue

"I'm not ready to stop yet. I think I'll **keep on** working for a while."



**keep on** (someone) (2. inseparable): continue to remind someone to do something until he/she does it (even if this irritates her/him).



"Bill's very forgetful. You'll have to **keep on** him or he'll never do all the things you want him to do."

**kick out** (separable): expel; force someone to leave because of his/her poor performance or unacceptable behavior.

"Jim's club **kicked** him **out** because he didn't pay his dues or come to meetings."



**knock out** (separable): make unconscious.

"The boxing match ended when one boxer **knocked** the other one **out**."

"That medicine really **knocked** me **out**. I slept for 14 hours straight!"



**knock oneself out** (separable): work much harder than normal or than what is expected.

"We completed the project on time because of Chuck. He **knocked** himself **out** to be sure we didn't miss the deadline."

## Phrasal Verbs: L

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**lay off** (separable): dismiss someone from a job because of lack of work or money (not because of poor performance)

"I feel really sorry Sally's family. Her father was **laid off** yesterday."



**leave out** (separable): forget; omit.

"Oh, no! When I made the list of those who attended the meeting, I **left** your name **out**!"



**let down** (separable): disappoint.

"I know I **let** you **down** when I didn't do what I promised. I'm really sorry."



**let up** (no object): become less intense or slower.

"It's been raining hard for a long time. Will it ever **let up**?"



**look back on** (inseparable): remember; reflect on / consider something in the past.

"When they **looked back on** their many years together, they realized that their marriage had been a very happy one."

**look down on** (inseparable): hold in contempt; regard as inferior.

"It's not surprising that Fred has few friends. He seems to **look down on** anyone who doesn't like the same things that he does."



**look forward to** (inseparable): anticipate pleasantly; think about a pleasant thing before it happens

"I'm really **looking forward to** vacation. I can't wait for it to begin!"



**look in on** (inseparable): visit in order to check something's / someone's condition.

"My father just came home from the hospital. I plan to **look in on** him today after I finish work."



**look into** (inseparable): investigate / get more details about something.

"Someone said there was a meeting at 9:30 but I haven't heard anything about it. Shall I **look into** it?"



**look like** (inseparable): resemble (in appearance).

"Does he **look like** his father or his mother?"



**look over** (separable): check; review.

"I think I may have some typos in this report. Could you **look it over**?"



**look up** (1. separable): find something in a reference work.

"I'm sorry, but I don't know what that word means. I'll have to **look it up**."



**look up** (2. separable): find where someone lives or works and visit him/her.

"Thanks for giving me your brother's address. When I'm in Chicago next month, I'll be sure to **look him up**."

**look up to** (inseparable): respect.

"Everyone **looks up to** Joyce because she always makes time to help others."

**luck out** (no object): be unexpectedly lucky.

"Gloria was worried because she wasn't prepared to give a report at the meeting, but she **lucked out** because the meeting was postponed."

**make fun of** (inseparable): make jokes about (usually unkindly).

"I agree that Bob looks ridiculous since he shaved his head, but don't **make fun of** him. You'll hurt his feelings."

**make up** (1. separable): invent / create (imaginary) information.

"Judy's story is hard to believe. I'm sure she **made it up**."

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**make up** (2. separable): compensate for something missed or not done by doing extra or equivalent work.

"I'm sorry I missed the test. May I **make it up**?"

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**make up (with)** (3. inseparable): re-establish a friendly relationship by admitting guilt.

"Jack and his girlfriend were very angry with each other, but last night they finally **made up**."

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**make out** (separable): see / hear something well enough to understand what it means. (**Note:** often negative.)

"Ruth's writing is very small. I almost need a magnify glass to **make it out**."

"What were the last two examples that he gave? I couldn't **make them out**."

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**make for** (1. inseparable): go to or toward.

"Her teen-aged children are always hungry. As soon as they arrive home from school, they **make for** the refrigerator."



**make for** (2. inseparable): result in; cause.

"Many hands **make for** light work. (If many people work together, there's less work for everyone.)"



**mark up** (separable): increase the price (for resale).

"Mrs. White's import shop is profitable because she buys things inexpensively and then **marks** them **up**."

**mark down** (separable): reduce the price (as an incentive to buy).

"These shoes were really a bargain! The store **marked** them **down** by 40%!"



**mix up** (separable): cause to become confused.

"I didn't complete the assignment because I didn't know how. The directions **mixed** me **up**."

## Phrasal Verbs: N

**nod off** (no object): fall sleep (usually unintentionally).

"The speech was so boring that several people in the audience **nodded off** before it was finished."

## Phrasal Verbs: P

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**pan out** (no object): succeed; happen as expected (for plans). (**Note:** almost always negative when in statements.)

"I'll be here next week after all. My trip to Chicago didn't **pan out**."



**pass away** (no object): die.

"I was very sorry to hear that your grandfather **passed away**."



**pass out** (1. no object): faint; lose consciousness.

"When Ella heard that she'd won a million dollars, she was so shocked that she **passed out**."



**pass out** (2. separable): distribute.

"Everyone in the room needs one of these information sheets. Who will help me **pass them out**?"



**pick out** (separable): choose; select.

"Billy's grandmother especially liked her birthday card because Billy had **picked it out** himself."



**pick up** (1. separable): lift; take up.

"Those books don't belong on the floor. Will you help me **pick them up**?"



**pick up** (2. separable): arrange to meet someone and give her/him a ride.

"Of course we can go there together. What time should I **pick you up**?"



**pick up** (3. separable): get; buy.

"The children just drank the last of the milk. Could you **pick some more up** on your way home this evening?"



**pick up** (4. separable): refresh; revitalize.

"He was feeling a little tired, so he drank a glass of orange juice. It **picked him up** enough to finish his work."



**pick on** (inseparable): bully; intentionally try to make someone upset.

"You should be ashamed of teasing your little brother, Bob! **Pick on** someone your own size!"



**pitch in** (no object): help; join together to accomplish something.

"We'll be finished soon if everyone **pitches in**."



**pull over** (no object): drive a vehicle to the side of the road.

"When the policeman indicated that I should **pull over**, I knew he was going to give me a ticket."

**put away** (separable): return something to the proper place.

"I just took these clothes out of the dryer. Will you help me **put them away**?"



**put off** (1. separable): postpone; delay; avoid

"I can't **put** this work **off** any longer. If I don't do it soon, it'll be impossible to finish it in time."

"When will Mr. Smith agree to a meeting? I keep asking for an appointment, but he keeps **putting me off**."

**put on** (1. separable): begin to wear; don.

"It's a little bit chilly outside. You'd better **put** a sweater **on**."



**put on** (2. separable): try to make someone believe something that is ridiculous or untrue.

"Don't believe a word of what Jim was saying. He was just **putting us on**."



**put** (someone) **out** (separable): inconvenience someone.

"I hate to **put you out**, but I need a ride to the train station and hope you can take me."



**put up** (1. separable): return something to the proper place.

"Your toys are all over the floor, Timmy. Please **put them up**."



**put up** (2. separable): provide someone with a place to sleep.

"There's no need for you to check into a hotel. I'll be happy to **put you up**."



**put up with** (inseparable): tolerate.

"It's really important to come to work on time. The boss won't **put up with** tardiness."

**put back** (separable): return something to the proper place.

"I've finished with these books. Do you want me to **put** them **back** on the shelves?"

## Phrasal Verbs: R

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**rip off** (separable): cheat; take advantage of; charge too much.

"Don't even think about buying a car there. They'll **rip** you **off**."



**round off** (separable): change from a fraction to the nearest whole number.

"**Round** all prices **off** to the closest whole-dollar amounts. For example, **round** \$33.73 **off** to \$34.00."



**run into** (inseparable): meet by chance.

"Yesterday at the supermarket, Jan **ran into** her former roommate. Before yesterday, they hadn't seen each other for nearly five years."



**run out of** (inseparable): use the last of.

"On the way home from work, Art **ran out of** gas."

## Phrasal Verbs:

**set up** (separable): make arrangements for something.

"You'll see Mr. Thomas tomorrow. I've **set** a meeting **up** for 9:30 AM."



**set back** (1. separable): cause a delay in scheduling.

"We've had some problems with the project that have **set** us **back** at least two days . We'll give you a progress report tomorrow."



**set back** (2. separable): cost.

"I wonder how much Bill's new car **set** him **back**?"



**slip up** (no object): make a mistake.

"You **slipped up** here. The amount should be \$135.28, not \$132.58."



**stand out** (no object): be noticeably better than other similar people or things.

"Good job, Ann! Your work really **stands out**!"



**stand up** (1. no object): rise to a standing position.

"When the Chairperson entered the room, everyone **stood up**."



**stand up** (2. separable): make a date but not keep it.

"Angela was supposed to go to the dance with Fred, but she **stood him up** and went with Chuck instead."

**show up** (1. no object): arrive; appear.

"The boss was very upset when you didn't **show up** for the meeting. What happened?"



**show up** (2. separable): do a noticeably better job (often unexpectedly) than someone else.

"Everyone thought Marsha would win, but Jean did. Actually, Jean really **showed Marsha up**."



**stand for** (1. no object): represent.

"These letters seem to be an abbreviation. Do you know what they **stand for**?"



**stand for** (2. inseparable): tolerate; permit (usually negative).

"I'm not surprised that Mrs. Johnson rejected your report. She won't **stand for** shoddy work."

## Phrasal Verbs: T

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**take after** (inseparable): resemble; favor (in appearance).

**Note:** used for people.

"Both my sister and I **take after** our father."

**take / bring back** (separable): return.

"This book is due tomorrow. I guess I should **take** it **back** to the library."

"Yes, you can borrow my pen, but don't forget to **bring** it **back** to me when you're finished."

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**take care of** (1. inseparable): provide care for; watch one's health.

"Lois has been **taking care of** her father since he returned home from the hospital."

"You've been working too hard lately. You'd better **take care of** yourself!"

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**take care of** (2. inseparable): make arrangements (for something to happen); take responsibility for.

"Will you **take care of** making reservations for our flight to Boston?"

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**take off** (1. separable): remove (something you're wearing).

"Please **take** your hat **off** when you go inside a building."

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**take off** (2. no object): leave; depart (often suddenly or quickly).

"Was something wrong with Jill? She **took off** without saying goodbye."

"When does your plane **take off**?"

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**take off** (3. separable): make arrangements to be absent from work.

"Susan isn't here today. She's **taking** today and tomorrow **off**."

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**take up** (separable): begin (a hobby or leisure-time activity).

A: "Do you like to ski?"

B: "I've never been skiing, but I think I'd like to **take it up**."



**tell** (someone) **off** (separable): speak to someone bluntly and negatively, saying exactly what she/he did wrong.

"Julie was really angry at Bob; she **told** him **off** in front of all of us."



**tick off** (1. separable): irritate someone; make someone upset or angry.

"It really **ticks** her **off** when someone is late for an appointment."



**tick off** (2. separable): show that something has been completed by putting a tick (check) beside it.

"Here are the things you need to do. **Tick** each one **off** when you finish it."



**throw away** (separable): discard; put in the garbage.

"You shouldn't **throw** those newspapers **away**; they're recyclable."

**throw out** (1. separable): discard; put in the garbage.

"This food smells bad. You'd better **throw it out**."



**throw out** (2. separable): forcibly make someone leave (usually because of bad behavior).

"Those people are drunk and making everyone uncomfortable. The manager should **throw** them **out**."



**throw up** (usually no object; with an object, separable): vomit.

"Paul was so nervous about his job interview that he **threw up** just before he left for it."



**try on** (separable): wear something briefly to check its fit, how it looks, etc.

"I'm not sure that jacket is large enough. May I **try it on**?"



**try out** (separable): use a machine briefly to determine how well it works.

"I really like the way this car looks. May I **try it out**?"

**try out (for)** (inseparable): try to win a place on a team or other organization.

"I know you want to be on the football team. Are you going to **try out**?"

"If you like to sing, you should **try out for** the choir.



**turn around** (1. usually no object): move so that you are facing the opposite direction.

"Everyone **turned around** and stared when I entered the meeting late."



**turn around** (2. separable): move so that someone / something is facing the opposite direction.

"I don't want this chair facing the window. Will you help me **turn it around**?"



**turn around** (3. separable): make changes so that something that was unprofitable is profitable.

"The company was doing poorly until it hired a new president. He **turned it around** in about six months and now it's doing quite well."



**turn down** (1. separable): decrease the volume.

"Your music is giving me a headache! Please **turn it down** or use your headphones!"



**turn down** (2. separable): refuse.

"I thought I could borrow some money from Joe, but when I asked, he **turned me down**."



**turn in** (1. separable): give / deliver / submit to someone.

"I've written my report, but I haven't **turned it in**."



**turn in** (2. no object): go to bed.

"I'm pretty tired. I guess I'll **turn in**."

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**turn in** (3. separable): report or deliver wrongdoers to the authorities.

"Two days after the robbery, the thieves **turned** themselves **in**."

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**turn off** (1. separable): stop by turning a handle or switch.

"I'm cold. Do you mind if I **turn** the air conditioner **off**?"

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**turn off** (2. separable): bore; repel (very informal).

"That music **turns** me **off**. Please play something else!"

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**turn on** (1. separable): start by turning a handle or switch.

"It's cold in here. I'm going to **turn** the heater **on**"

**turn on** (2. separable): interest very much; excite (very informal).

"What kind of music **turns** you **on**?"

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**turn up** (1. separable): increase the volume.

"I can barely hear the TV. Can you **turn** it **up** a little?"

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**turn up** (2. no object): appear unexpectedly.

"We were all surprised when Pam **turned up** at the party. We didn't even know she was in town."

