**PHRASAL VERBS**

Phrasal verbs are **idiomatic expressions** combining **a verb + a preposition** or **a verb +an adverb** to form a new verb whose meaning is different from the meaning of the individual verb.

They are widely used both in written and spoken English

Examples: RUN - *CÓRRER*  RUN OUT OF – *ACABAR-SE*

 Phrasal verb

* The boys have ran for half an hour – *Els nois han corregut duran mitja hora*
* Sorry! We‘ve ran out of bread, madam! – *Ho sento! Se’ns ha acabat el pa, senyora!*

PPHRA

* These are the TOP 20 most common English phrasal verbs. Read and study them.

**Bring up** – means to mention something. You can tell your colleague, for example: “They didn’t bring up any of our suggestions in the meeting”.

**Carry on** – this phrasal verb is very similar to “go on”. Just like “go on” it means “to continue” but it’s usually used in phrases like “Let’s carry on” or “You can carry on without me”.

**Chase up** – a very handy way of saying “to find, to seek out”. For instance, you’ve been assigned a particular task, but some necessary files are missing. You can say “I’ll chase up those files” meaning you’ll go and see where those files are. You can also chase up a person – “I’ll chase up Frank because I need his help with homework and no-one else has an idea how to do it!”

**Come across** – to find something by chance or to encounter something unexpectedly. If you found an interesting article online and you’re telling your friend about it, you can say: “You know, I came across this article online where they’ve done research on…”

**Come up with** – this is a very useful phrasal verb if you usually find it hard to describe the fact when someone has told you about a new plan or a good idea. You might be struggling with phrases like – “He created a good plan” or “She produced a brand new solution” or even – “I devised a new idea on how to…” Native English speakers would simply say “She came up with a brand new solution” so you can start using this phrasal verb!

**Fall apart** – describes when something falls into pieces. Let’s say you’re wrapping an awkward package and you’re struggling with it. You can say “The whole thing just keeps falling apart, I can’t wrap it; can you help me?” This is another phrasal verb foreigners don’t normally use and if you start using it on similar occasions you’ll find it much easier to describe the situation!

**Get along** – means to have a good relationship with someone. You can say “Do you get along with Mary from the accounting?” if you want to ask that person if he/she is in good terms with Mary. Another sample sentence - “I don’t get along with Mark, I didn’t like him from the very first day I met him!”

**Get away with** – means to avoid being punished for not having done something or for breaching rules. A typical phrase you can start using right away is “Did you think you can get away with this?” if you’ve caught someone having done something you’re very unhappy about.

**Get over** – if you can’t accept something that’s happened in your life and you can’t stop thinking about it, you can say - “It’s very hard for me to get over it.” And if you want to lift someone’s spirits and say that it’s not such a big deal after all, you can say: “Common, get over it, it’s not as bad as it looks!”

**Give up** – use this phrasal verb when speaking about resolution you’ve stopped pursuing or expectations that are most likely to remain unfulfilled. “I gave up my New Year’s diet; I just couldn’t stick to it.” “I’ve given up hope of getting a better job.”

**Go on!** – This is a typical way of telling someone to begin a particular action or resume doing something. If you can’t wait on someone to start telling an interesting story, you’d exclaim in excitement – “Go on, go on!” You can also use “go on” if you, for instance, are writing down figures your co-worker is calling out for you. Every time you’re ready to put the next figure down you can use the phrasal verb “go on” to let your partner know that he can call out the next figure.

**Hold on!** – Literally “hold on” means to hold on to something. Most common use of this phrasal verb, however, is when you want to tell someone to stop doing something or to wait until you’re ready to proceed with the initial action. Foreigners usually use “Stop!” and “Wait!” instead; “hold on” is more natural in spoken English.

**Look after** – means “to take care of” and is used a lot in communications between supervisors and employees at work. Typically your boss would ask you “Can you look after this order for me?” So if you want to sound more natural and friendly, don’t say things like “I’m responsible for this customer”. “I’m looking after this customer” is the best way of putting it.

**Look up** – to find something in a phone book, on the Internet or any other reference media. This is a very handy phrasal verb to use in sentences like “Can you look up their address on the Net?”

**Make out** – to recognize, to distinguish details of something. “I just couldn’t make out what she was saying!” –you can say a phrase like this if the person in question spoke too fast, or with a distinct accent, or too quiet. Another sample sentence – “I can’t make out these details; can you help me with this, please?”

**Pull over** – if you drive a car, you can use this phrasal verb to describe an action of driving to the side of the road in order to stop. Typical application of this phrasal verb – “Can you pull over at the next petrol station?” Foreigners would most likely say “to stop at…” so if you start using “pull over” you’ll sound more natural when speaking English!

**Put down** – simply means “to write down.” “Hold on, I’ll put it down, let me just find a piece of paper!”

**Put off** – this is an informal way of saying “to postpone”, “to do later”. “I don’t want to clean my house today, I’ll put it off till tomorrow” would be a perfect example of this phrasal verb in use.

**Turn up** – means to arrive. You can inquire about your friend by asking “Has Michael turned up today?” if you haven’t seen him and you’re wondering if he’s come to work or school today at all.

**Watch out!** – you can use this phrasal verb if something endangers someone else’s safety and you want to bring that person’s attention to that object or activity. Foreigners usually use unarticulated sounds instead – like “Ah!” or “Oh!” simply because on occasions when a super-fast reaction is needed they can’t think of a fitting word or phrase to say.

**EXERCISE**

* Fill in the blanks with the correct phrasal verb from the TOP 20.
1. Study hard, Phil! Never \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!
2. If you don’t want to do homework now, you can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Right answer, Martha! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Laura, please.
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Marc! You’re going to fall.
5. Sheila doesn’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with her English teacher. She says she always gets angry.
6. You are going to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if you don’t tell anyone, but I think you must tell.
7. I hurt my mum and now I can’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it!
8. Marc was in great trouble, but he managed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
9. I’m going to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ my teachers’ names in my speech.
10. Let’s complain about this new keyboard: it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all the time!
11. Our teacher always tells us to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our new mates.
12. Dolors gave us some minutes to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our notes on phrasal verbs.
13. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, please! I’m getting sick!
14. If you read the text carefully, you’ll \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the meaning from the context.
15. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their references in the customers’ files, please.
16. When does the boss \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? Tomorrow morning?
17. Do you want to speak to Mrs Dupond? She’s in a meeting now. Please, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
18. I was looking for some pictures of my childhood when I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ my lost certificate!
19. Let’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ daddy, we need him to fix this old bike!
20. It’s been very hard, but finally we’ve \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a very good design for the next commercials.
* Top 10 most common phrasal verbs with TO BE.

**To be away** means to have gone to another place.

* Sandra won't be back until next month, she is away in China at the moment.

**To be down** means to be unhappy or depressed.

* Until I found a new job, I was down for a long time.

**To be down** can also mean the opposite of 'to be up', to have fallen or got smaller.

* The dollar is down one cent against the euro.

**To be in** means to be at home.

* I tried to phone Donna last night but she wasn't in so I couldn't speak to her.

**To be off** means to leave or to start on a journey.

* We're off to Florida on Tuesday. The flight leaves at ten o'clock.

**To be off** can also mean that food is old and has gone bad.

* Don't eat that yoghurt, I think it's off. It's been in the fridge for ages.

**To be on** means that something is taking place

* That documentary is on TV tonight but I don't know which channel it is on.

**To be on** can also mean to be working or switched on.

* I think he must be deaf the TV was on very loud.

**To be out** is the opposite of 'to be in' so means to not be at home or to be absent.

* Marie is out until lunchtime. She's got an appointment at the dentist this morning.

**To be up** means to have risen, got higher.

* Unfortunately our costs are up more than twenty per cent because of the increase in the cost of petrol.

**Exercise**

* Fill in the gaps with the correct phrasal verb. Watch the tenses!
	1. Prices \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more than 10%

 2. Let's go shopping on Saturday. The sales\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the moment.

 3. Smell the milk, I think it ­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

4. When I arrived, the lights \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_but nobody was at home.

5. I'll see you tomorrow morning, I'\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ now. Have a nice evening.

6. Profits \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_this quarter due to bad sales in Europe.

 7. I'm sorry but Martin \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_on holiday this week. Can I help

 you?

 8. Sue \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_since she had an accident.

* 1. I'\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ this afternoon if you'd like to come for tea.

10. I'm sorry but Jack\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Can I take a message?

 