



Phrasal Verbs

**Section B,
Chapter 16**

Phrasal Verbs

- A phrasal verb comprises a verb and a preposition or an adverb and is used to denote an action just like a verb.
- Basically all the phrasal verbs consists of single syllable verb of movement or action and an adverbial particle of direction or location.

E.g. *Break into* – express or utter spontaneously
Nandini broke into a smile

The meaning of a phrasal verb is often different from the meanings of the individual words.

In academic writing, it is suggested that formal verbs be preferred to phrasal verbs.

Expressions such as *consist of*, *believe in*, *agree with*, *benefit from* and *add to* are acceptable in formal writing.

In many cases you will notice that the meaning of a verb changes when it is combined with different prepositions. For example *look for* means search and *look at* means *watch carefully*

Consider the following sentences.

1. *They went off in great haste.*
2. *A bomb went off near the park yesterday.*

Sentence 1 uses *went off* in the literal sense but 2 uses it in the figurative sense of 'exploded.'

3. *Oil will soon run out.*
4. *The boys ran out at the stroke of the bell.*

Sentence 4 uses run out in literal sense and in 3 it means 'to be used up.'

5. *They ran down the road.*

6. *She is always running down her husband.*

‘Ran down’ in sentence 5 is used literal sense whereas ‘run down’ in 6 means criticizing

7. *She took in his partner*

8. *He took in the box.*

In sentence 7 ‘took in’ means ‘cheated’ and in 8 it means ‘brought inside.’

Phrasal verbs can be transitive or intransitive

Transitive

With an object

- *The workers called off the strike (object)*

Intransitive

Without an object

- *The prisoner broke down during the interrogation (no object)*

ENGLISH PHRASAL VERBS

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Pull over | Come to a stop, and turn off the road |
| Pull up | Lift upwards or vertically |
| Put away | Place out of the way, clean up |
| Put down | Insult, belittle, or demean |
| Put down | Write (something) |
| Put forward | Propose for consideration |
| Put towards | Make a financial contribution |
| Run across | Cross by running |
| Run away | Leave home |
| Run out | Use up; to consume all of something |
| Run over | Exceed the allotted time |
| Set back | Delay or obstruct |
| Set off | Leave; to begin a journey or trip |
| Set out | Go out, leave |
| Set up | Arrange for an outcome |
| Stand by | Remain loyal or faithful to |

COMMON PHRASAL VERBS

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| • Check off ➔ Make a mark next to | • Let on ➔ Make clear, evince | • Get around ➔ To travel to different places |
| • Pass out ➔ Become unconscious | • Break into ➔ Interrupt (a conversation) | • Go along ➔ To continue to happen |
| • Carry on ➔ Continue | • Bring back ➔ Fetch something | • Back out ➔ Withdraw from something |
| • Make for ➔ Move towards | • Let down ➔ Lengthen | • Wipe out ➔ To destroy s.thing |
| • Come back ➔ Return | • Do over ➔ Repeat | • Set aside ➔ To reserve |
| • Come across ➔ Discover by accident | • Take up ➔ To begin a new hobby | • Get up ➔ Stop sleeping and leave bed |

Thank You