

TOEFL Appendix B - Phrasal Verbs

Find the meaning of the phrasal verb that is in bold in each sentence. Choose the meaning from the box above each section that matches the phrasal verb.

Section 1

1. **Decrease it** - He's been smoking too much. He really needs to **cut down**.
2. **Stop the supply of** - The company had to **cut off** the electricity because the bill was unpaid.
3. **Stop it** - He kept teasing me, so I finally told him to **cut it out**.
4. **Advance** - Brandon is working hard because he is focused on **getting ahead** in his career.
5. **Be friendly** - Vera is such a nice person that she is able to easily **get along** with everyone.
6. **Imply** - Could you explain more clearly? I don't understand what you are trying to **get at**.
7. **Get revenge against** - When he stole some money from her, she wanted to do something to **get back** at him.
8. **Manage** - We have enough money to get by for a few months; we won't have a lot of extras, but we will **get by**.
9. **Recover from** - Katie was sick for several weeks, but now she has started to **get over** it.
10. **Throw away** - There are too many clothes in my closet. I need to **get rid of** some of them.

Section 2

1. **Not let it have an effect** - He read the untrue stories about himself in the newspaper, but he tried not to react. He just tried to **brush it off**.
2. **Review, relearn** - I haven't played Scrabble in quite a while. I'll have to **brush up on** the rules before we play.
3. **Unexpectedly find** - While we were walking in the mountains, we were lucky enough to **come across** a waterfall. It was a surprise to find such a beautiful thing.
4. **Get sick with** - She is not feeling well; she thinks she is about to **come down with** the flu.
5. **Take care of** - While I'm on my trip, do you think you could **look after** my cats?
6. **Investigate** - The police detective was not sure how the crime was committed. She decided to **look into it** further.
7. **Look at it briefly** - Here is my application. Could you **look it over** for me?
8. **Bother** - The brother always used to **pick on** his younger sister. His favorite tricks were pulling her hair, teasing her, or scaring her.

9. **Choose** - You have tried on three dresses, but you can't afford all of them. You'll have to **pick out** just one.
10. **Come and get** - Could you **pick** me **up** after school today? I'll wait for you out front.

Section 3

1. **Visit** - We have some new neighbors; we should **call on** them this afternoon.
2. **Cancel** - The principal had to **call off** the class on Tuesday because there was a death in Ms. Pugh's family.
3. **Request, suggest** - The politician should **call for** a referendum on federal and state taxes.
4. **Telephone** - **Call** me **up** around 9:00, I'll be waiting by the phone
5. **Donate** - I think I'll just **give** my bicycle **away**. It's not worth too much money, I've had it for almost 15 years.
6. **Return** - Here's the book I borrowed from you, and now I think I should **give** it **back**.
7. **Surrender** - I've done all I can. I think I just have to **give up** trying.
8. **Delay** - The teacher had to **put off** the exam until next week because school was canceled due to the snow storm.
9. **Dress in** - Children should **put on** their coats before going outside to play in the snow
10. **Tolerate** - Henry is such a mean man that it's difficult to **put up with** him.

Section 4

1. **Unlawfully enter** - Last night someone tried to **break into** my house. My family and I were frightened.
2. **End** - They have been dating for three year, but now they have decided to **break off** their relationship.
3. **Succeed** - I'm excited to be selected as the master of ceremonies. It's my first time, for I hope I can **carry it off**.
4. **Continue** - After her husband was killed in an accident, she tried hard to **carry on** with her life.
5. **Postpone** - I'm going to **hold off** taking my vacation. I was scheduled to take my vacation next week, but I'll go next month instead.
6. **Continue** - My boss told me that my work had been very **good** recently and that she wanted me to **keep it up**. Continue doing something good
Keep up - maintain something
7. **Fire** - Many of the employees of the company are worried; they've heard a rumor that the company's going to **lay off** a number of employees.
8. **Unexpectedly meet** - While I was at the market, I was surprised to **run into** a friend I hadn't seen in months.

9. **Completely use the supply off of** - If I didn't buy milk at the store, we would **run out of** it at breakfast in the morning.
10. **Tire** - That boy has been playing baseball all day. I know he's going to get **worn out** soon.

Section 5

1. **Increase the significance of** - The newspapers tend to **play up** sensational stories if they want to improve their circulation.
2. **Succeed** - He knew that it would be difficult to win the tournament, but he worked hard to **pull it off**.
3. **Try to attract attention** - She tends to **show off** a lot. She's very beautiful, and she wants everyone to notice her.
4. **Arrive** - He was supposed to come at 9:00, but he didn't **show up** until 10:00.
5. **Happen** - Do you know when the wedding will **take place**? I heard that it would be next June?
6. **Alternate** - Neither my roommate nor I like to do the dishes, so we **take turns**.
7. **Begin a hobby** - I don't know how to play golf, but it's a sport that I would like to **take up**.
8. **Refuse** - He applied for the job, but the manager decided to **turn down** his application because he was not really qualified.
9. **Submit** - The students must **turn in** their papers on Thursday. The teacher has said that the papers can't be even one day late.
10. **Become** - Because I swim so many hours every day, I sometimes feel that I'm going to **turn into** a fish.