Gymnasium №1

**The Russian training conference**

**“Lomonosov readings”**

**«Phrasal verbs in English songs,**

**or “cultural shock”»**

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**Introduction**

Phrasal verbs is an essential part of English. According to statistics, native speaker speech consists of 40% with phrasal verbs. For example, everybody knows the verb “take”. If we use the preposition “after” with it, it turns out into “to be like someone”; the preposition “off”, we get “take off” – to remove, to depart, and to raise, these verbs don’t have any similar meaning.

Phrasal verbs are used in English songs as well. I am fond of music. You can take any song in English and you meet phrasal verbs. My favourite band is «Imagine Dragons». Once I tried to translate its songs into Russian, with my dictionary, so I was a little bit confused. There were phrasal verbs, which had different meanings. I was interested in the fact and I decided to do the research work.

Phrasal verbs quickly and unexpectedly change their meanings. As a result, when we translate them, we are getting into the cultural shock.

A “cultural shock” is an experience a person may have when one moves to a cultural environment which is different from one’s own; it is also the personal disorientation a person may feel when experiencing an unfamiliar way of life due to immigration or a visit to a new country, a move between social environments, or simply transition to another type of life.

**The hypothesis** of our research: having studied common prepositions we have a chance to guess the meaning the majority phrasal verbs without a dictionary.

**The goal** of the research is to analyse all the phrases verbs from 10 songs of «Imagine Dragons».

**The tasks** are:

1. To find out what phrasal verbs mean.
2. To analyze the texts of the songs with phrasal verbs.
3. To identify the most used postposition with verbs.
4. To open up the «ideas» of the postpositions.
5. To do a survey with students of 7th class.

**The object** of the research is songs.

**The subject** of the study is phrasal verbs in songs.

We used the following **methods**:

* Searching the information
* Classification
* Analysis
* Comparison
* Survey

The issue was studied by Ilchenko V., Golitsyna N. They offer to learn phrasal verbs in their own ways. Both ones are useful.

Our work can be used at English lessons to demonsrate the phenomenon.

**What phrasal verbs are and their origin**

A phrasal verb in English is a combination of two or three words: a verb with adverb, a verb with a preposition, or a verb with an adverb and a preposition. In fact the meaning of the verb varies depending on the prepositions.

Their history started in XI century, because of the Norman Conquest. English was not official those times. Plain folks didn’t know French or Latin and created own ones with old English verbs and prepositions. In 1925, Logan Smith the first time used term phrasal verb in his book «Words and idioms».

Phrasal verbs in old English had literally senses. They were formed with verbs of action and a preposition, denoting spatial orientation: look up, walk out. Later these meanings had been expanded, and phrasal verbs has got new unobvious meanings. Many of them appeared during the France and the Latin influence on English.

We don’t aim to give a morphological classification of phrasal verbs in this work.

**Analysis of 10 song texts of the «Imagine Dragons»**

**«Believer» Imagine Dragons**

To fire up - вспылить

To break down – упасть духом

To build up – восстановиться (психологически)

To spirit up – придаваться решительности, подбадривать

To break up – сломаться (психологически)

**«Natural» Imagine Dragons**

To give up – сдаваться, отказываться

To give in – уступать

To step in – вмешиваться

To cast away – избавляться

To face up – встретить что-то смело

**«Rise Up! » Imagine Dragons**

To fade away - угасать

To call out – вызывать

To walk away – уходить

To open up – открывать

To look up – улучшаться

To rise up – вставать, подниматься.

To be up – бодрствововать

To walk down – спускаться

To flip through – быстро пролистать, просмотреть (книгу,статью)

To blow away – быть удивлённым

**«On Top of the World» Imagine Dragons**

To run away – убегать

To look down – смотреть свысока

To keep on - продолжать

To give up – сдаваться

To fall down – терпеть неудачу

To get up – подниматься (после неудачи)

**«Friction» Imagine Dragons**

To get down – спускаться

To get out – вырываться

To get into – подчиниться

To take over – поглощать

To ease off – сбавлять обороты (=расслабляться)

To stuck in – застрять в

**«Demons» Imagine Dragons**

To look into - исследовать

To fade out – постепенно ослабевать

To call out – вызывать

To let down – опускать

To take down – брать с собой,

**«Polaroid» Imagine Dragons**

To come on – появляться

To start over – начать сначала

To let down – опускать

To shut up – заставить замолчать

To sit down – садиться

To touch out – прикоснуться (ко всему)

To burn out – сгорать

**«Bleeding out» Imagine Dragons**

To bleed out – пролить кровь

To bring down - погубить

To take in – принять

To lost around – потерять

To hold on – не сдаваться

**«I bet my life» Imagine Dragons**

To let down – опускать,

To wait up – дожидаться

To break down – довести до слёз

To set out – излагать

**«Ready aim fire» Imagine Dragons**

To fire away – начинать

To bottle up – сдерживать

To shake up – взбудоражить

To look through - смотреть в

To get up – подниматься (после неудачи)

**The most used postpositions with verbs**

Having analyzed the songs of «Imagine Dragons», I made the following conclusion - the most used postpositions are:

* Up
* Down
* Out

There are 44 prepositions (adverbs) in English, which can be called postpositions in the context of phrasal verbs.

In songs, I have found 12 postpositions, but only 3 ones are the most used.

**2.4 «Ideas» of postpositions (in the context of the songs)**

Движение и расположение

Отклонение, отказ, уступка

Прикреплени и ограничение

Выполнение и завершение

Подготовка и начало

Отделение

Up

Поломка и разрушение

Собирание

Рост, увеличение и улучшение, пример to be up, to fire up, to wait up

Приближение

Появление и создание

Выйти пример: to get out, to set out

Out

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Появление

Увеличение, расширение пример: to bleed out, to touch out, to fade out

Полнота, завершённость

Воспроизведение, издавание, испускание

Нахождение вне дома

Перемещение, исключение, предотвращение

Продолжительность и противодействие

Поддержка и помощь

Окончание, исчезновение

Поиск, обнаружение, получение

Организация, выбор, разделение и распределение

Нападение, критика, протест

In our opinion, knowing all the meanings a postposition, we can sense and understand the meaning of phrasal verbs.

**The practical part**

We did a survey with the students of the 7th grade.

1. Are there phrasal verbs in Russian?

2. How many phrasal verbs are there in English?

3. Are there phrasal verbs in English songs or their take a part in a casual speech?

4. Would you like to know more about phrasal verbs?



**Conclusion**

There are some makings-up of our mind:

1. A phrasal verb in English is a combination of two or three words: a verb with an adverb, a verb with a preposition, or a verb with an adverb and a preposition. In fact the meaning of the verb varies depending on the prepositions.
2. The history of phrasal verbs began hundreds centuries ago.
3. We can learn them by heart or guess their «ideas» in context of a text, a song, a situation if we know all the meanings of a preposition. For example, the preposition «up» has 11 «ideas» ( only couple ones belong to the phrasal verbs of the songs).
4. There are 44 different prepositions in English. Only 6-10 ones are highly used in speech. From the songs of my favourite band I have analyzed 3 postpositions (up, down,out).
5. Studing phrasal verbs our vocabulary has a chance to be enriched and enjoy speaking English.

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