

TUTORIAL 8 – HANDOUT 1
PRACTICE - PHRASAL VERBS

English has many two-word verbs, made up of a verb and a small word like **at, in, on, up**. Two-word verbs (phrasal verbs) are very common in an informal style and used by native speakers constantly!

Go ahead - to start to do something

Give way to - to be replaced by something, especially because it is better, cheaper, easier, etc.

Pull down - to destroy a building

Put out - to make something that is burning, such as a fire or cigarette, stop burning

Sort out - to deal satisfactorily or successfully with a problem

Head for - to start a journey or leave a place

Miss out - to intentionally not include something

Lag behind - to not be at the level that someone or something else has already achieved

Go over - to examine or look at something in a careful or detailed way

Come up - to appear

1. **Complete the sentences with one of the suitable phrasal verbs above. Make sure you change the verb form when required:**

Lesson by Amanda Pooley, EC Cape Town English School

- a) As soon as the sun came out, everyone **headed for** the beach.
- b) Promise me that you'll have **sorted out** this mess by the time we get home.
- c) The students seem to be confused about this point. Would it be possible to **go over** the explanation once again?
- d) Despite recent wage increases and greater equality between the sexes, women's salaries still **lag behind** what men earn.
- e) It took firemen several days to **put out** the fire which started as a result of a carelessly discarded cigarette.
- f) In order to build the new highway, a lot of old buildings had to be **pulled down**.
- g) Despite the rain, the outdoor concert is expected to **go ahead** as planned.
- h) When the book was made into a screenplay, we decided to **miss out** some of the comical anecdotes.

- i) One word that **came up** in the text was ‘obligatory’. What does it mean in this context?
- j) Leather pants will eventually **give way to** another crazy fashion!

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2. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of one of the phrasal verbs.

get along give away step down make up ring back find out
cut off carry out take over fall over give up hold up
go off make out sort out

- a) I have all the information that you need but I'm busy. Can I ring you back in half an hour?
- b) The Prime Minister has decided to step down after 10 years in office.
- c) We heard the bomb go off from the hotel where we checked in.
- d) Large companies sometimes take over smaller ones.
- e) My brother and I get along very well most of the time, but occasionally we do have a fight.
- f) I gave up playing football a long time ago because of a knee injury.
- g) Don't worry, we'll try to sort out the problems and find a solution for everyone.
- h) That story cannot be true. You have surely made it up.
- i) After browsing the internet for some time, we finally found out where he lived.
- j) I had no use for the books so I gave them away to the library.
- k) I can't make out if it's a woman or a man, because the person is too far away.
- l) The pavement is very icy so be careful you don't fall over.
- m) There have been a number of robberies, but up to now the police don't know who carried them out.
- n) The traffic on the motorway was held up by construction work.
- o) The energy company cut off our electricity because we didn't pay.