

CAMBRIDGE
INTERNATIONAL
DICTIONARY
of
PHRASAL VERBS

Photocopiable Worksheets

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About these worksheets

These exercises and activities have been designed for use with the *Cambridge International Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs* and the *Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms*. They can be used with students from intermediate to advanced level.

Their aim is to give students practice in a variety of language areas connected with phrasal verbs and idioms, including vocabulary building, grammar, collocation and using different varieties of English and different registers. They are also designed to give students greater confidence and skill in using a monolingual dictionary.

The worksheets can be photocopied freely for classroom use or for self-study.

We hope you and your students enjoy using them.

For further information about these and other dictionaries, please contact ELT Marketing, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK.

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Cambridge International Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs	PB	0 521 56558 8
	HB	0 521 56299 6

Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms	PB	0 521 62567 X
	HB	0 521 62364 2

Cambridge International Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs

Grammar

Phrasal verbs consist of a verb and a particle e.g. *get down*, or a verb and two particles *get down to*.

Sometimes the phrasal verb is intransitive, which means it does not need an object after it e.g. *drift off*. *She closed her eyes and **drifted off**.*

Sometimes the phrasal verb is transitive, which means it needs an object to make sense. In some cases the object can be placed between the two parts of the phrasal verb or after the phrasal verb, e.g. *drink sth up* or *drink up sth*: **Drink up** your coffee. *We've got to go.* or **Drink** your coffee **up**. *We've got to go.*

In other cases the object can only come after the phrasal verb, e.g. *border on sth*: **border on** South Africa and Mozambique.

The dictionary has a clear system to show how the grammar of phrasal verbs works using abbreviations like sth (something), sb (somebody), sw (somewhere).

1 Look up the following phrasal verbs in the dictionary to find out whether they take an object. If they do take an object, show with a tick (✓) whether the object comes between the verb and particle, after the particle, or in both places.

1. drop ___ by ___
2. abide ___ by ___
3. ask ___ out ___
4. bear ___ up ___
5. breeze ___ through ___
6. consist ___ of ___
7. fasten ___ up ___
8. pore ___ over ___
9. live ___ through ___
10. take ___ against ___

2 Put these words into the correct order to make sentences with some of the phrasal verbs from exercise 1.

1. evening might by said she she drop later this
2. freezing coat it's fasten your up there out
3. wars grandparents two lived world through my
4. him drink she for ask phoned a to out him
5. through he exam difficulty breezed no with the
6. to discover map over they pored trying the they where were

3 Correct the mistakes in these sentences. The dictionary gives you extra information to help you.

1. This wine is coming from the south-west region of the country.
2. He's nearly 90 and he still fends for him.
3. She holds with a firm attitude to discipline in schools.
4. The next topic for discussion was passed on to very quickly.
5. The house was led to by a long winding path.
6. I was really set against to do this course before I started.
7. They must sit on quite a bit of money.
8. It makes me feel pretty happy when I think back what happened.

Vocabulary building

4 Choose the best meaning of the phrasal verb from the words in the box.

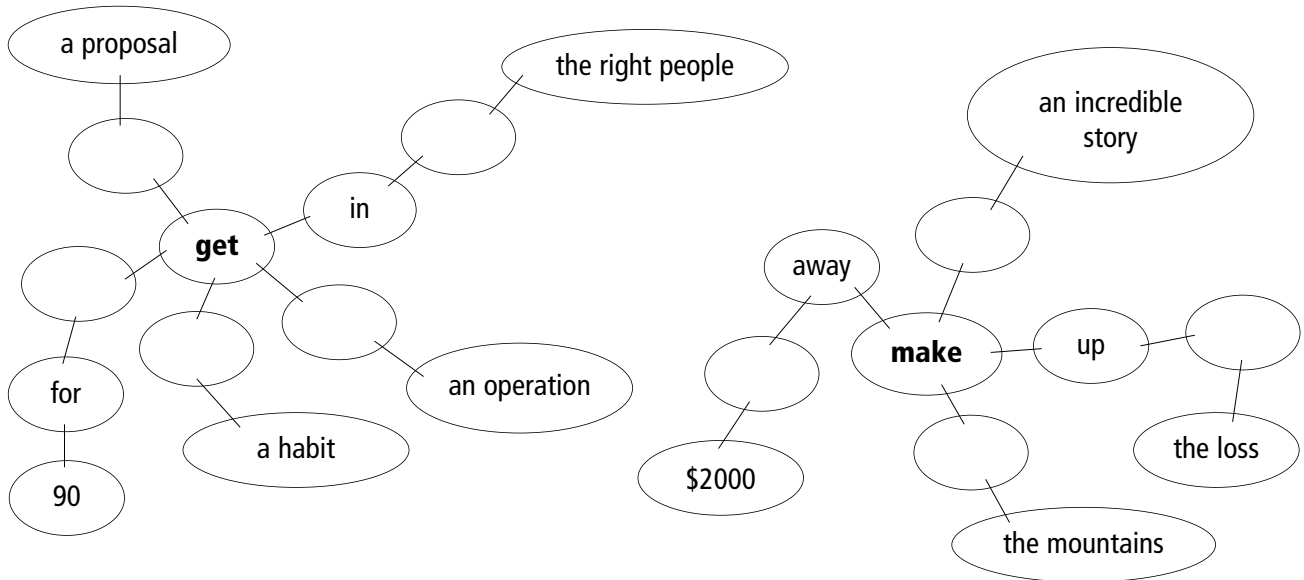
- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. pick on | (a) collect (b) recognize (c) criticize (d) take |
| 2. put away | (a) forget (b) send to prison (c) substitute (d) criticize |
| 3. cut back | (a) stop (b) remove (c) reconnect (d) reduce spending |
| 4. loosen up | (a) relax (b) untie (c) prepare (d) allow |
| 5. pour down | (a) be honest (b) rain (c) appear (d) leave |
| 6. pop off | (a) appear (b) explode (c) leave (d) forget |

5 Use the phrasal verbs in Exercise 4 to fill the gaps in the sentences below. Use the correct form of the verb.

1. It for most of the summer this year.
2. They for two years for their part in the crime.
3. I've got to now. I've got a dentist appointment at 3.
4. They always her because she's the smallest.
5. He was quite nervous at first but soon
6. We're going to have to next year with only one salary.

Collocation

6 **A lot of phrasal verbs are formed using the same verb but with different prepositions. Look at these diagrams for *get* and *make*. Fill in the correct prepositions. Use the words in the box below if you need to.**



for through on with into over with up for

7 **Now write sentences using these phrasal verbs in context, e. g. *She still rides a bike and she must be getting on for 90.***

Fixed expressions

8 **Some common fixed expressions are highlighted in bold in the dictionary. Which words do you think can be used with the phrasal verbs below to make fixed expressions?**

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1 meet with | a with both feet |
| 2 jump in | b the sun |
| 3 pile on | c to the nines |
| 4 go up | d your approval |
| 5 go against | e with flying colours |
| 6 dress up | f the grain |
| 7 come through | g the agony |
| 8 soak up | h in flames |

Now look in the dictionary to check your answers and to see these expressions given in an example sentence.

Same form, different meaning

9 Some phrasal verbs have the same form but more than one meaning. Look at the sentences below. Match each of them with the more likely meaning a or b.

1. New hotels and apartments are going up all along the coast.
 - a The buildings along the coast are exploding.
 - b New buildings are being built along the coast.
2. They fell out over a stupid argument.
 - a They aren't friendly with each other any more because they had an argument.
 - b They fell out of the house when they had an argument.
3. It was so hot in the stadium that I thought I was going to pass out.
 - a I felt faint because of the heat in the stadium.
 - b It was too hot in the stadium so I decided to leave.
4. Her father set her up with her own flat when she left college.
 - a Her father tricked her into buying a flat.
 - b Her father gave her the money to buy a flat.

Theme panels

10 Fill in the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate phrasal verb. All the sentences are connected with 'money'. Look at the 'Money' theme panel in the back of the dictionary to help you.

1. I went to an art gallery and on a painting by a local artist.
2. She a lot of debts when she was in college.
3. You can your loan in instalments.
4. My father gave me some money to help me for a few months.
5. We're going to have to some more of our savings to pay for the holiday.
6. We can hardly on so little money.

If you are working in class, look at another theme panel. Write your own gapfill exercise using another theme and pass it on to a partner.

Common phrasal verbs

11 The questions below each contain a common phrasal verb. (Common phrasal verbs are highlighted in the dictionary, for example look at *carry on* on p. 37.) Match the remarks on the left with the responses on the right and fill in the gap with the correct particle.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. I'm fed up of living with my parents. | a I just have to finish this letter. |
| 2. Why's there so much water on the floor | b It's OK – I can hang a minute. |
| 3. Are you ready to go yet? | c OK but it didn't really live to my expectations. |
| 4. How was your holiday? | d Alright, I give |
| 5. We're busy at the moment. | e The washing machine's broken |
| 6. You'll never guess the answer. | f Why don't you move? |

Different phrasal verbs for different situations

12 Where would you expect to hear the following? In American, Australian or British English?

1. They **fell about** laughing when they saw him.
2. They've **dealt** him **out** of the plans and he's not happy.
3. Try to **hang in** a little longer.
4. We **happened by** your house last night but you weren't there.
5. If you tell John he'll try and **knuckle in on** it.
6. Why don't we **crack on** and try and get finished early.

13 Some phrasal verbs are only used in certain contexts. Tick the correct column for these verbs.

	<i>informal</i>	<i>formal</i>	<i>literary</i>	<i>humorous</i>	<i>old-fashioned</i>
depart from					
consign to					
conk out					
be crying out for					
creep over					
do for					
kick about					
dine out on					

Nouns and adjectives

14 A number of nouns and adjectives are formed from phrasal verbs. For example, see *grow up* on p. 134. Use the phrasal verbs in the box to form nouns or adjectives to fill the gaps in these sentences.

hand out cast off come up go ahead back up leave over take in set up

1. Don't forget to take a of your files.
2. I always had to wear my sister's when I was a child.
3. It's a great film. There's a new actress in the lead role.
4. Just give me the and I'll get on with it.
5. I can't get to the lecture so could you get me a copy of the
6. You'll have a much healthier diet if you increase your of fruit and vegetables.
7. They are very organised. They've got a good
8. We had so much food after the party that I was eating for days.

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