

Basic English Grammar



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Phrasal Verbs

Week 10 – Lecture 10

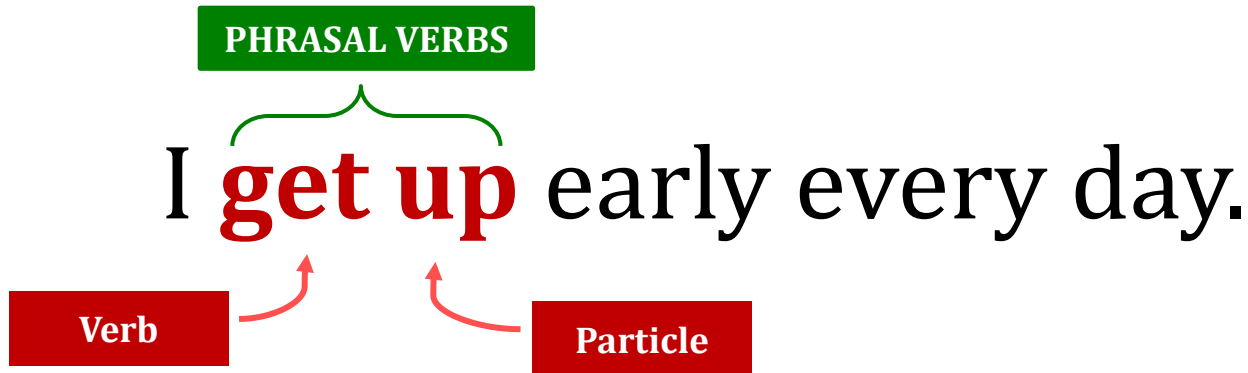
Phrasal Verbs

Some verbs in English have two or more words in them, and usually have a new meaning when they are used together. these are called phrasal verbs.

PHRASAL VERBS

Phrasal verbs have a verb plus one or more particles (prepositions or adverbs.)

The particle often changes the usual meaning of the verb.



HOW TO FORM

The particle always comes after the verb. The verb changes form to match the subject as usual. The particle never changes form.

The verb takes the third person "-s."
He gets up. ✓

He get ups. ✗


This is wrong. The particle should never change.

He up gets. ✗

This is wrong. The particle should come after the verb.

Further examples


1. You **work out** at the gym.
2. My cat sometimes **runs away**.
3. They don't **eat out** very often.
4. Do you always **turn up** late?



Questions are formed
in the usual way.

Further examples

Negatives are formed
in the usual way.



5. He doesn't **go out** when he's tired.
6. She **chills out** in the evening.
7. We can **check into** the hotel now.
8. Do they **meet up** most weekends?

PHRASAL VERBS IN DIFFERENT TENSES

PRESENT SIMPLE

I work **out** every week.

PAST SIMPLE

I worked **out** yesterday.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

I am working **out** right now.

FUTURE WITH "WILL"

I will work **out** tomorrow.

The particle
never changes.



Further examples

- I **cleaned up** the kitchen last night.
- I think we're lost! We should have **looked up** the route.
- You should **go over** your answers again.
- Their car is always **breaking down**.
- She doesn't **dress up** very often.
- When will they **grow up**?

SEPARABLE PHRASAL VERBS

The object
can go after
the particle.

He is picking up litter.

He is picking litter up.

The object can also
go between the verb
and the particle.

Further examples

1. I **turned on** the light.

I **turned** the light **on**.

2. Can you **pick up** that box?

Can you **pick** that box **up**?

3. You should **throw away** those old shoes.

You should **throw** those old shoes **away**.

4. I was annoyed because he **woke up** the baby.

I was annoyed because he **woke** the baby **up**.

5. I always **fill up** the water jug when it's empty.

I always **fill it up** when it's empty.

Note!

If the direct object of a separable phrasal verb is a pronoun, it must go between the verb and the particle.

Pronoun



He **picked it up**. 

The pronoun cannot go at
the end of the sentence.



He **picked up it**. 

INSEPARABLE PHRASAL VERBS

The verb and the particle
must stay together.

We had to run to **get on** the train. 

We had to run to get the train on. 

This is wrong. The object can't sit
between the verb and the particle.

Further examples

- I need to **go over** my notes.
- Susan really **takes after** her father, they're very similar.
- I've **come across** a new recipe.
- I **ran into** her at the supermarket.
- **Drop by** the house any time you like.
- He **sleeps in** most Saturday.
- It's great to **hear from** you!
- I am **looking into** visiting somewhere warm.

THREE-WORD PHRASAL VERBS

Three-word phrasal verbs have a verb, a particle, and a preposition. The particle and preposition often change the usual meaning of the verb.

VERB + PARTICLE + PREPOSITION

He **looks up to** his brother.

The verb
changes with
the subject.

The particle and
preposition never
change form.

INTONATION

In spoken English, the stress is on the middle word of a three-word phrasal verb.

look up to **get along with**

look forward to

Further examples

- We have run out of coffee, so I'll get some more.
- You're walking too fast, I can't keep up with you.
- I must have dropped my keys when I was getting out of the car.



NOTE!

Most, but not all, three-word phrasal verbs are inseparable.

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

1. Budi came _____ home after traveling a lot to different countries.
 - A. on
 - B. out
 - C. back
 - D. to

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

1. Budi came _____ home after traveling a lot to different countries.
- A. on
 - B. out
 - C. back**
 - D. to

Answer: **came back**

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

2. My grandmother was sick and my mother asked me to look _____ her.

A. for

B. after

C. out

D. at

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

2. My grandmother was sick and my mother asked me to look _____ her.

A. for

B. after

C. out

D. at

Answer: **look after**

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

3. My father always wakes _____ about 6 o'clock in the morning.
- A. on
 - B. off
 - C. down
 - D. up

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

3. My father always wakes _____ about 6 o'clock in the morning.
- A. on
 - B. off
 - C. down
 - D. up**

Answer: **wakes up**

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

4. My brother asked me to turn _____ the television so he can watch movies.

A. on

B. off

C. over

D. out

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

4. My brother asked me to turn _____ the television so he can watch movies.

A. on

B. off

C. over

D. out

Answer: **turn on**

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

5. My friend shows _____ his ability to play many musical instruments.
- A. over
 - B. off
 - C. away
 - D. in

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

5. My friend shows _____ his ability to play many musical instruments.
- A. over
 - B. off**
 - C. away
 - D. in

Answer: **shows off**

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

6. I was sitting _____ on the floor because there were no chairs at my friend's house.

A. in

B. off

C. down

D. out

Choose the correct word to fill the blank!

6. I was sitting _____ on the floor because there were no chairs at my friend's house.

A. in

B. off

C. down

D. out

Answer: **sitting down**

Separable and Inseparable Phrasal Verbs.

Choose the CORRECT one.

1. A. The thieves broke in at midnight.
B. The thieves broke at midnight in.
C. Both are correct
2. A. Jae's grandfather passed last week away.
B. Jae's grandfather passed away last week.
C. Both are correct

Separable and Inseparable Phrasal Verbs.

Choose the **CORRECT** one.

- 1. A. The thieves broke in at midnight.**

B. The thieves broke at midnight in.

C. Both are correct
2. A. Jae's grandfather passed last week away.

B. Jae's grandfather passed away last week.

C. Both are correct

Separable and Inseparable Phrasal Verbs.

Choose the **CORRECT** one.

3. A. I was trying to speak, but he cut off me.
B. I was trying to speak, but she cut me off.
C. Both are correct

4. A. I made that story up.
B. I made up that story.
C. Both are correct

Separable and Inseparable Phrasal Verbs.

Choose the **CORRECT** one.

3. A. I was trying to speak, but he cut off me.
B. **I was trying to speak, but she cut me off.**
C. Both are correct
4. A. I made that story up.
B. I made up that story.
C. **Both are correct**

Thank you!

REFERENCES

Murphy, Raymond & Smalzer, William. *Grammar in use, Intermediate*. Cambridge U. Press, 2019.

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