Phrasal Verbs

*Test Your Phrasal Verbs* is part of the popular *Test Your* series devised by Peter Watcyn-Jones. It features 60 tests providing motivating practice in using phrasal verbs in English. This fully revised and updated edition is more user-friendly than ever with new tips and information boxes, clear explanations and a full answer key.

- 60 tests to practise key phrasal verbs at intermediate to advanced level
- Wide variety of tests, including gap-fills, multiple choice, matching exercises, cartoons and much more
- NEW – Tips to guide you on which phrasal verbs to use
- Full answer key
- Ideal for self-study and classroom use

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Beginner

Adults
16+
12–15
Primary

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# To the student

Phrasal verbs are compound verbs consisting of a verb, like come or take, and a particle (i.e. an adverb or a preposition), like off or up. They are a common and important part of English, especially in speaking and informal writing. Often they have an equivalent formal word, for example, make up (informal phrasal verb), and invent (formal equivalent). New phrasal verbs are being created all the time, particularly by young people.

Phrasal verbs ("phrasals") are not difficult to learn and use, but you cannot always guess the meaning of a phrasal from its verb and particle. In addition, you need to be aware that the same phrasal verb can have more than one meaning. The verb take off, for example, has several different meanings: you can take off (remove) your coat, you can take off (imitate) a person, and an aeroplane can take off (leave the ground). This book will help you test and increase your knowledge of phrasal verbs, starting with combinations of the most common verbs and particles.

There are 9 sections in this book. They will help you to use and understand:

- phrasal verbs with more than one meaning;
- formal and informal equivalents;
- idioms using phrasal verbs;
- three-part phrasal verbs (when a phrasal verb is followed by a preposition, e.g. put up with);
- adjectives and nouns formed from phrasal verbs, e.g. pick-up truck (adjective) and outcome (noun).

Each section begins with a short explanation of the points being tested, and most tests also have tips (advice) on how to do the test and what to look out for. Do read these explanations and tips: they are there to help you. There is also an Answers section at the back of the book so that you can check your answers.

There is no magic formula for learning phrasal verbs, but you should always consider the various meanings of the particle as well as the meaning of the verb. For example, the particle down has different meanings in the following phrases: cut down a tree, turn down an offer and write down your address.

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When you come across a phrasal verb which is new to you, it is a good idea to learn it in a context. So, for example, don't simply learn 'make up means invent'; learn 'make up a story' or 'It isn't true: I just made it up'.

Look out not just for phrasal verbs, but also for adjectives and nouns formed from them: they are a rich part of the English language. Above all, phrasal verbs are fun. Enjoy them.

Jake Allsop

Section 1: Common verbs used in phrasal verbs

A phrasal verb consists of a VERB like come, get, give combined with a PARTICLE like up, on, away, to give phrasal verbs like come up, get on, give away.

Sometimes the phrasal verb has a literal (everyday) meaning, e.g. to come up the hill, to get on a bus, to give all your money away.

More often, the phrasal verb has a non-literal (transferred) meaning, e.g. to come up to someone (approach them), to get on well (to make progress), to give away a secret (to tell it to someone else).

The verbs used in phrasal verbs are usually very common like come, go, get, take – as in this section – but sometimes phrasal verbs are made from more uncommon verbs, e.g. pop in (visit someone without warning), crop up (arise), butt in (interrupt).

'We had a strange bird in the garden the other day.'
'What was it like?'
Phrasal verbs with be, come, get, go or take

Complete these sentences by adding the correct verb from the box. In some cases, you will need to change the tense or form of the verb.

be about be for be-like come back come from
come off get back get in get up go away
go on go with take back take down take off

1. ‘There was a strange bird in the garden the other day.’
   ‘What ______ it ______?’
   ‘It was grey with long legs and a long beak.’

2. ‘Do you like my new green-and-purple T-shirt?’
   ‘Well, it’s very nice, but it doesn’t really ______ ______ your pink-and-orange trousers.’

3. I lost the keys to my apartment, so I had to ______ ______ through a window.

4. I bought a mobile phone, but it didn’t work, so I ______ ______ to the shop and they gave me another one.

5. I asked my father where babies ______ ______, and he said ‘the Maternity Hospital’.

6. ‘Leave my house at once, and never ______ ______!’

7. As I was walking down the stair*, I met a man who wasn’t there. He wasn’t there again today: Oh, how I wish he’d ______ ______!

8. ‘Right now, I am reading a book called Fermat’s Last Theorem.’
   ‘How interesting. What ______ it ______?’
   ‘I have no idea!’

9. If I invest in the Flat Earth Company, I’ll be lucky to ______ my money ______, let alone make a profit.

10. We put up a poster to advertise our concert, but so many people complained about it that we had to ______ ______.

11. There is a key on computer keyboards labelled ‘Alt Gr’, but nobody knows what it ______ ______!

12. They say a plane ______ ______ from O’Hare Airport in Chicago every four seconds. It must be a very busy airport!

13. ‘I’d really like to ask Michael for a date, but I am afraid he will say no.’
   ‘______ ______, ask him. I know for a fact that he really likes you!’

14. I hit a stone while I was cycling, the wheel ______ ______ and I went head over heels into the hedge!

15. I like to sleep late on Sundays because I have to ______ ______ so early during the week.

* Stair (singular) meaning a flight of steps is poetic; in modern English we always refer to stairs (plural).

** Come suggests from another place to here.
Go suggests from here to another place.
Get literally means either obtain or become.
Take literally means carry from here to another place.
Be is a joining verb as in she is an engineer.
**Phrasal verbs with be**

Complete these sentences by adding the correct particle from the box.

- about  
- after  
- around  
- away  
- back  
- for  
- from  
- into  
- like  
- off  
- on  
- over  
- through  
- up  
- with

### 1
‘Is your boss in?’
‘No, I’m afraid she’s **away** on leave at the moment.’

### 2
‘When will she be **_____**?’
‘Not until next Wednesday.’

### 3
‘What a complicated instrument panel! What’s this red button **_____**?’
‘It’s the ejector seat. Please don’t press...’

### 4
‘Shall we watch some television?’
‘If you like. What’s **_____**?’

### 5
‘Where are you **_____**?’
‘Birmingham.’

### 6
‘What is Birmingham **_____**?’
‘I don’t know. I left there when I was three months old, and I’ve never been back since.’

### 7
‘I’m reading a novel called *Moby Dick*.’
‘What’s it **_____**?’
‘Whales.’
‘*Moby Dick* doesn’t sound like a Welsh name to me!’

### 8
The traffic was so bad that by the time we got to the theatre, the concert was almost **_____**.

### 9
‘Haven’t you finished yet?’
‘Don’t worry, I’m nearly **_____**.’

### 10
‘Please hurry up!’
‘OK, I’ll be **_____** you in just a second.’

### 11
‘What’s **_____**? You look as if you had seen a ghost!’
‘Who said that?’

### 12
It’s getting late. I’d better be **_____** before my father sends out a search party.

### 13
[people chatting to each other online:]
‘I’m busy chatting to someone at the moment, but I’d love to have a chat with you too. Will you be **_____** for a while yet?’
‘I won’t log off for at least half an hour, I promise.’

### 14
Rob is forever changing hobbies. Last year it was bird-watching. Now, he’s really **_____** stamp collecting.

### 15
‘That’s the third time this week that my sister has phoned me. I wonder what she’s **_____**.’
‘Maybe she isn’t **_____** anything. Maybe she just wants to talk to you.’

---

### Note

| Be literally tells us that something exists, as in *There is food in the refrigerator.*

| Be is often a joining verb, as in *She is an engineer.*

---
3 Phrasal verbs with come

Complete these sentences by adding the correct particle from the box.

about across along back before forward from
in into off on out round to up

1. A boomerang is a hunting weapon. It is shaped so that it will come **back** to the person who throws it.
2. ‘Where do you come **from**?’
   ‘Thailand.’
3. Please come **in**! Make yourself at home.
4. F comes **before** G in the alphabet.
5. Why don’t you come **up** to our house for dinner on Saturday?
6. The sergeant asked for volunteers, but only three came **forward**.
7. Just look at these old photographs. I came **across** them when I was clearing out an old cupboard.
8. ‘What magazine is that?’
   ‘It’s a literary magazine called The Bookworm.’
   ‘How often does it come **before**?’
   ‘Monthly.’
9. Oh dear! Pollution, global warming, the hole in the ozone layer:
   I don’t know what the world is coming **back** to!
10. ‘Come **into**. Philip. Everyone else has finished except you!’

11. We’re all going out for a pizza. Would you like to come **back**?
12. I hear that Michelle has come **into** a lot of money. Her rich aunt died and left her half a million.
13. Every time the subject of holidays comes **up**, Ruth and her husband have an argument.
14. Pauline is working on a plan to convert her farmhouse into a bed and breakfast place. She reckons she’ll make a fortune if it comes **off**.
15. There has been another big crash on the freeway just south of LA. How did it come **about**?

A boomerang is shaped so that it will come back to the person who throws it.
4 Phrasal verbs with get

In this story some of the particles are wrong. Write the correct particles in the column on the right. Choose from the words in the box.

-across- away back behind down into on over round to

The river was flooded and Carole and I weren't sure how we would be able to get into.

'Let's take that boat we saw upstream,' I suggested.

'No way!' Carole replied. 'That's stealing, and anyway, we'd never get behind with it!'

We decided to make a raft out of some logs. Carole tore her shirt into strips to tie them together, and then the two of us got round to the raft.

Just at that moment, a huge log came floating downstream and Carole shouted to me to get to.

We managed to leap back on to the bank just as the log hit our raft and smashed it to pieces.

'We'll never get down the other side now!' I said in despair.

'Don't worry, every problem has a solution. We'll think of something. We'll get across it somehow,' Carole said cheerfully. She went to the water's edge and stepped in. It wasn't very deep but the current was really swift.

'Come on, silly!' she said, 'I got you on this mess and I'll get you out of it!'

She turned and smiled at me.

'Get over me and hold me round the waist,' she said, 'until I can find out how deep it is.'

With the water up to her knees, she signalled to me to climb on her shoulders. She went slowly, pausing with each step to make sure she had a firm foothold. Suddenly, I felt her slip. I screamed, but fortunately she regained her balance. When we were in shallow water, she told me it was safe for me to get away.

I think we both realised how close we had come to drowning in the swirling waters, and it took us a long time to get back the experience.

-get literally describes a change from one state to another, as in get angry, i.e. become angry.
-get sometimes means receive or obtain, as in get a rise in salary.
5 Phrasal verbs with go

A phrasal verb is wrong in each of the following sentences. Write the correct words.

1. One by one, the street lights went on, leaving us in total darkness.
   *the street lights went off*

2. The letter was returned to the sender with the words ‘Gone over, no longer at this address’ written on it.

3. ‘I thought you liked Country and Western music.’
   ‘Well, I used to, but I’ve really gone for it lately.’

4. There’s an awful flu virus going up. I hope you don’t catch it.

5. What a fascinating story. Do go away!

6. Mark was sure that he had picked up his key, but when he went outside his pockets, he couldn’t find it anywhere.

7. I don’t think that red blouse really goes for your orange miniskirt, Sophie.

8. ‘Did you know that camels can go under water for thirty days?’
   ‘They must get very thirsty!’

9. What a lot of people! Do you think there will be enough food to go without?

10. This is a very complex computer program. You might need to go by the instructions again before you get the hang of it.

“I thought you liked Country and Western music.”
“Well, I used to…’

Go suggests from here to another place, i.e. the opposite of come.
Go also describes a change from one state to another, as in Don’t let the fire go out.
6 Phrasal verbs with take

Replace each word in CAPITALS with a phrasal verb containing the verb take. Choose from the particles in the box. In some cases, you will need to change the tense or form of the verb.

after back down in off on out over up

1. ‘Why have you REMOVED all the pictures in the sitting-room?’
   ‘Because I’m going to decorate it.’
   taken down

2. ‘This radio I bought only picks up Radio Ulan Bator.’
   ‘Why don’t you RETURN it to the shop where you bought it, then?’

3. Is The Economist a very good magazine?
   Because, if it is, I might START a subscription.

4. I’m not very fit, so I’ve decided to ADOPT an active hobby such as squash or jogging.

5. The Worldwide Chemicals Company was recently BOUGHT by its biggest rival.

6. ‘What did you think of Tanga airport?’
   ‘Very nice, but our plane couldn’t LEAVE until all the goats had been chased off the runway.’

7. ‘Does John RESEMBLE his mother or his father?’
   ‘Well, he looks just like his father, but he has his mother’s ears.’

8. One day, I painted little red spots all over my face, and told my father that I had caught measles. For a moment he was completely FOOLED, but then he realised that it was a joke.

9. ‘Dad, is it all right if I leave school and get married?’
   ‘I can’t advise you on that. You’d better DISCUSS it with your mother.’

10. Because nobody else wanted to do it, Ms Van Winkle agreed to ASSUME the role of Director of Public Relations in the Ministry of Industry.

The airport was very nice but...

Take literally means carry from one place to another place.
Take is used in many idiomatic expressions such as take up a hobby.
Find the caption 1

Match the correct caption with each cartoon.

a. 'OK, I give up. How did you get them across?'

b. 'You can see she takes after her father.'

c. 'I don't think he is really up to it.'

d. 'Do you think this cheese has gone off?'

e. 'She comes across as a very bossy person.'
Section 2: Common particles used in phrasal verbs

The meaning of a phrasal verb is often in the PARTICLE rather than in the VERB.

Sometimes, the particle has its literal (normal) meaning, e.g. run up (the stairs), where up means from a lower to a higher place.

Sometimes, the particle has a slightly transferred (non-literal) meaning, e.g. turn up (the volume on the radio), where up indicates an increase of some kind.

Sometimes, the particle has a completely transferred meaning, e.g. drink up, where up means fully and completely.

In an identity parade a witness is asked to pick out the suspect from the others.

8 Phrasal verbs with off

Circle the following statements True or False.

1. CALL OFF
   To postpone an event is to call it off.  
   True  False

2. CUT OFF
   A town surrounded by floodwater is completely cut off.  
   True  False

3. COME OFF
   A plan that fails to work is one that comes off.  
   True  False

4. FIGHT OFF
   You would be very miserable if you fought off a cold.  
   True  False

5. GET OFF
   To leave a bus or a train is to get off.  
   True  False

6. GO OFF
   You would try to avoid drinking milk that had gone off.  
   True  False

7. PUT OFF
   If you postpone a meeting, you put it off.  
   True  False

8. RING OFF
   To ring off is to change your mind about getting married.  
   True  False

9. TIP OFF
   The police use informers who tip them off if a crime is about to be committed.  
   True  False

10. HOLD OFF
    If the rain holds off, we can continue playing tennis.  
    True  False

What does off mean?
   a) move from one place to another, as in fall off your bike
   b) disconnect, as in switch off the light
   c) disappear, as in the effect of a drug wears off
Phrasal verbs with down, in, off, out or away

Complete these sentences by adding the correct verb from the box. In some cases, you will need to change the tense or form of the verb.

break call chop come cut drop get go
lie put see stay take take throw

1. Never ______ off a bus while it is still moving!
2. ‘Waiter, there’s a fly in my soup. Please ______ it away.’
   ‘I am sorry, sir, but I don’t know how to catch flies!’
3. ‘Do you know where my newspaper is, dear?’
   ‘Oh, I thought you had finished with it, so I ______ it away.
   Sorry!’
4. I picked up the book, but when I found that it was about
   Quantum Mechanics, I quickly ______ it down again.
5. The tree next to my house had become so dangerous that I had to
   ______ it down.
6. ‘Where’s grandma?’
   ‘She said she felt tired, so she’s gone to ______ down on her
   bed.’
7. In March, it’s often warm enough to sit in the garden when the
   sun is out, but once the sun ______ in, everybody rushes back
   into the house!
8. We haven’t seen you for ages! Why don’t you ______ in for a
   cup of coffee the next time you are passing the house?
9. When we got back from our holiday, we found that thieves had
   ______ in and stolen all our furniture.
10. Both my children caught bad colds and had to ______ away
    from school for a week.
11. My sister was at the airport to ______ me off, and she was
    there to meet me when I got back.
12. ‘How do you get into the watch to repair it?’
    ‘Easy! Look, the back ______ off.’
13. Will you please ______ the dog out for a walk? I’d do it
    myself, but I haven’t got time.
14. Rachel loves animals, so whenever she sees pictures of animals in
    a magazine, she ______ them out and puts them up on the
    wall of her bedroom.
15. When I opened the book, a piece of paper ______ out. When I
    picked it up, I realised it was a secret message.
10 Phrasal verbs with in

Complete these sentences by adding the correct verb from the box. In some cases, you will need to change the tense or form of the verb.

- break - bring - buy - call - deal - dig - draw - get
- give - go - hand - keep - show - stay - trade

1. How on earth did the robbers manage to ___break___ in without anyone seeing them?

2. 'Are you going out tonight?'
   'No, I've got to ___break___ in and wash my hair.'

3. He twisted my arm to make me tell what I knew, but I refused to ___break___ in.

4. If you feel like crying, cry. Express your feelings: don't ___break___ them in.

5. 'It's Ms Smith to see you, sir.'
   '___break___ her in!'

6. You ___break___ the food in and I'll buy the drinks, and we'll have a bit of a party.

7. 'Has Fred been round to see you lately?'
   'Well, as a matter of fact, he said that he would be ___break___ in today on his way home from work.'

8. 'Have you done your essay?'
   'Of course! I ___break___ it in last week.'

9. I've decided to ___break___ in my old car for a new one.

10. We ___break___ in enough food to last us through the winter.

11. The days are really ___break___ in now: it's already dark by five o'clock at this time of year.

12. It's quite cold now that the sun's ___break___ in. Do you really want to go for a swim in the river now?

13. Help yourself! ___break___ in! There's enough food and drink for everybody!

14. Nowadays, most multinationals ___break___ in more than one range of products. For example, an oil company might also ___break___ in cosmetics, plastics and food.

15. I see this crazy government has just ___break___ in a new law making it illegal for shops to sell water pistols to children under sixteen.

What does in mean?

a) be inside a place or move into a place as in stay in (not go out);
b) out of sight, as in the sun has gone in.
11 Phrasal verbs with down

Column A contains definitions of phrasal verbs with DOWN. Column B contains simple phrases or sentences in which you might use the phrasal verb. Complete each phrase in Column B using a phrasal verb with DOWN.

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<td>It's not easy to get down off a camel.</td>
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<td><strong>2</strong> remove</td>
<td>t_________ the curtains in order to wash them</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong> refuse</td>
<td>t_________ an offer, such as a marriage proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong> stop functioning</td>
<td>Machines b_________ when they are neglected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong> reduce</td>
<td>c_________ on the amount of coffee you drink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong> fall (of prices)</td>
<td>Prices only c_________ during sales.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong> despise</td>
<td>Don't l_________ on people just because they are poor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong> let go of</td>
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<td><strong>10</strong> suppress</td>
<td>Governments always try to p_________ demonstrations and riots.</td>
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11 make a note of Did you w_________ my details in your address book?

12 locate t_________ a phone number in the phone book

13 erode In time, water will always w_________ the hardest rock.

14 resign s_________ as President and go into retirement

15 disappoint l_________ someone by failing to keep your promise

It's not easy to get down off a camel.

What does down mean?

a) from a higher to a lower place, as in run down the hill
b) destroy, as in cut down a tree
c) no longer in working order, as in break down
d) refuse, deny, as in turn down an application
e) record something, as in write down an answer
Phrasal verbs with out

Complete these sentences by inserting the correct verb from the box. In some cases, you will need to change the tense or form of the verb.

- cut
- drop
- dry
- fall
- help
- pass
- pick
- rub
- show
- slip
- stand
- take
- throw
- wipe
- work

1. Charlie hung his wet socks on the clothesline and they soon __________ out in the hot sun.
2. To celebrate my examination success, my parents __________ me out for dinner.
3. Pauline is a great Manchester United fan. She __________ out all the newspaper articles about the team and pastes them in a scrapbook.
4. ‘Do you really want all these old magazines or can I __________ them out?’
   ‘No, don’t do that. I might want to look at them again one day.’
5. Don always uses a pencil when he is writing a report, so that, if he decides to remove something from it, he can just __________ it out.
6. The idea of an identity parade is quite simple. You stand a number of people in a line, including the suspected person. Then a witness is asked to __________ out the suspect from the others.
7. It looks as if Sophie and her husband have __________ out again: they’re not speaking to each other.
8. Mr Kafka could never have found his way out of the building by himself, so it was a good thing that the boss’s secretary offered to __________ him out.
9. ‘I hear that you and Vivienne have split up. What happened?’
   ‘Well, we tried to make a go of it, but things just didn’t __________ out as we had hoped.’
10. Justine is doing voluntary work in her spare time: she is __________ out at the old people’s home in Winton.
11. After the first year, very few students __________ out: most go on to complete their studies.
12. ‘Where’s Jonathan?’
   ‘He won’t be long. He’s just __________ out to Video Rentals to get a couple of videos.’
13. ‘Do you like my new pink suit with the large blue spots on it?’
   ‘Well, it certainly makes you __________ out from the crowd.’
14. If I could win the lottery, I could __________ out all my debts in one go.
15. Some people are so nervous they __________ out at the sight of blood.

What does out mean?

a) be outside a place or move out of a place, as in run out of the room;
b) (cause to) fade or completely disappear, as in put the light out;
c) become or be clearer or louder, as in work out an answer;
d) distribute or give to each one, as in hand out leaflets.
**13 Phrasal verbs with away**

Choose the word which best fits in these sentences.

1. Several children had to ___stay___ away from school because of the bus strike.
   a) play        b) stay        c) go

2. Did you ever play that silly game of knocking on someone’s door and then ________ away?
   a) banging     b) turning     c) running

3. ‘I’d like a pizza marinara, please.’
   ‘To eat here or to ________ away?’
   a) take        b) put         c) throw

4. If you don’t like injections, it’s a good idea to ________ away when the doctor sticks the needle in.
   a) pass        b) turn        c) look

5. We decided to ________ away from the main party and form a new party called the Lunatic Party.
   a) stand       b) break       c) slide

6. He says the house is haunted, but I think that it’s a story designed to ________ children away.
   a) beat        b) explain     c) frighten

7. I didn’t want to disturb anyone, so I just ________ away quietly without saying goodbye.
   a) slipped     b) shot       c) ripped

8. If you park illegally in London, the police will either clamp your car or ________ it away.
   a) blow        b) tow         c) row

9. ‘Old soldiers never die, They simply ________ away’ (song)
   a) fade        b) fire        c) fall

10. The old tramp asked for something to eat, but the farmer ________ him away empty-handed.
    a) pushed      b) took        c) sent

---

What does away mean?

a) from here to another place, as in go away, throw away
b) slowly getting less or weakening, disappearing, as in die away (of a sound)
c) continuously or without stopping, as in work away (at a task)
Find the caption 2

Add the missing particles to the captions and then match the correct caption to each cartoon.

a  'You should have seen the fish that got ___________!'
b  'He has slowed ___________ a lot since his operation.'
c  'How nice of you to drop ___________!'
d  'Attendance has been dropping ___________ lately.'
e  'I'll soon work it ___________.'
Section 3: Phrasal verbs with more than one meaning

A phrasal verb may have several meanings. It may have a literal meaning, e.g. when one car bumps into another car (one car hits another). Or it may have a slightly transferred non-literal meaning, e.g. when you bump into an old friend (meet a friend by chance).

But often the meaning can only be guessed from the context, e.g. I wanted to buy a new computer, but I was put off by the price (it cost more than I wanted to pay).

'It's really cold tonight, please don't let the fire go out.'

15 Match the objects

Match the sentences in Group A with the pairs of objects listed in Group B.

Group A

1 Two things that you can blow up
2 Two things that you can break off
3 Two things that you can bump into
4 Two things that you can cover up
5 Two things that you can give away
6 Two things that you can look up
7 Two things that you can make up
8 Two things that you run across
9 Two things that you can see through
10 Two things that you can take back

Group B

a a stain on the carpet and facts that you don’t want other people to know
b your face and a story
c a tree in the dark and a friend you haven’t seen for a while
d what someone owes you and something unkind that you said
e all your money and a secret
f a field and something you didn’t expect to find
g a balloon and a photograph
h a piece of bread and an engagement to be married
i a chimney and a word in the dictionary
j a lace curtain and a crazy scheme
Two meanings 1

Each sentence in Group 1 uses the same phrasal verb as a sentence in Group 2, but with a change of meaning. Insert the following verbs into the sentences and then find the pairs and complete the table below. You may need to change the form of the verb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cut down</th>
<th>fall out</th>
<th>fall through</th>
<th>go off</th>
<th>go out</th>
<th>hang up</th>
<th>look into</th>
<th>make up</th>
<th>put off</th>
<th>stand for</th>
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Group 1

1. I like the taste of Gorgonzola cheese, but the smell __puts__ me __off__.
2. Put the milk in the refrigerator or it will __fall__ __out__.
3. Richard is a typical untidy boy: he never __make__ his clothes __up__.
4. Jill opened her purse, turned it upside down and all her money __fell__ __out__.
5. There used to be a lovely wood here, but the farmer __cort__ all the trees __down__.
6. What do the letters Ctrl __click__ on a computer keyboard?
7. My little brother __fall__ a hole in the ice and nearly drowned.
8. Is it true that your mother is an astronaut, or did you just __hang__ that __up__?
9. __Put__ my eyes and tell me what you see there!
10. I never __stand__ after dark; I prefer to stay in and surf the internet.

Group 2

a. The film Titanic has encouraged several groups to __cut__ __down__ ways of raising the sunken ship.
b. If someone phones you trying to sell you something, don’t waste your time: just __hang__ __up__!
c. ‘I thought you were going to move to a new house.’
   ‘We were, but the buyers of our old house changed their minds, and the sale __fall__ __out__.

d. There’ll be a riot if they ban the wearing of baseball caps back to front: students won’t __put__ __off__ it.
e. The group’s drummer is ill, so they have had to __hang__ __up__ their rehearsal until next Friday.
f. ‘Don’t let the sun set on your anger,’ they say. So let’s kiss and __look__ __into__!

10. I used to like horror movies, but I’ve __hang__ __up__ them lately.

h. It’s really cold tonight; please don’t let the fire __fall__ __out__.

i. Jane and Ann are really good friends, but they have __hang__ __out__ and are not speaking to each other.

j. If you really want to lose weight, you should __cut__ __down__ on carbohydrates and fatty foods.

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Think of the meaning of the verb, and think of the meaning of the particle. For example, cut and down are used literally in cut down a tree, but non-literally in cut down on (reduce) the amount of fat you eat.
Two meanings 2

Each sentence in Group 1 uses the same phrasal verb as a sentence in Group 2, but with a change of meaning. Insert the following verbs into the sentences and then find the pairs and complete the table below. You may need to change the form of the verb.

break off  cut out  drop in  give away  hang up
look into  tear off  turn in  turn round  tuck in

Group 1

1. Whenever there was an article in the sports section of the newspaper about the New York Yankees, Sue would always ______ it ______ and send it to her sister in San Diego.
2. I don’t need these old clothes. I think I’ll just ______ them ______.
3. Please ______ ______ and see us any time you are in Tucson.
4. It’s getting late: I think I’ll ______ ______.
5. My children are too lazy to open the milk carton with scissors: they just ______ the top ______.
6. Every time I ______ ______ the mirror, I find more spots on my chin.
7. Japan and China could not agree on an agenda, so they decided to ______ ______ negotiations.
8. Every night, Dad goes upstairs to tell the kids a story, ______ them ______ and kisses them goodnight.
9. The company was losing money last year, but this year we have managed to ______ it ______.
10. (On the telephone) ‘Please don’t ______ ______ until I have had a chance to tell you how sorry I am.’

Group 2

a. The food looked so delicious that we all started to ______ ______ without being asked.
b. All the newspapers are full of the story about the 75-year-old woman who ______ ______ her clothes and dived into the river to save a child from drowning.
c. Don’t laugh or you’ll ______ the game ______.
d. If you are overweight, it is a good idea to reduce the amount of sugar you eat, and in fact it is better if you can ______ it ______ completely.
e. Children! Don’t throw your coats on the chair. ______ them ______ properly in the wardrobe.
f. If your friend offered you stolen goods, would you ______ ______ him to the authorities?
g. ‘Liz, there’s a problem with the CD drive. It won’t open.’
‘I’m busy right now, Bob. I’ll ______ ______ it later.’
h. What a lovely dress! Please ______ ______ so that I can see what it is like at the back.
i. Open the box and ______ your money ______.
j. Please ______ ______ some pieces of chocolate and give them to the children.

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Two meanings 3

Complete the cartoon captions using the phrasal verbs from the box. Each phrasal verb is used twice but with different meanings. You may need to change the tense or form of the verb.

come off  take off  switch off

1. ‘The artist has tried to give the idea of “Young Love” but I don’t think it quite **comes off**!’

2. ‘It’s not likely to **take** off today, is it?’

3. ‘Don’t forget to **switch off** the light before you go to bed.’

4. ‘Are they supposed to **come off** like that?’

5. ‘He never **take** off his hat **in** public.’

6. ‘When he is bored, he simply **switch** off.’
Two meanings 4

Each sentence in Group 1 uses the same phrasal verb as a sentence in Group 2, but with a change of meaning. Insert the following verbs into the sentences and then find the pairs and complete the table below. You may need to change the form of the verb.

- catch on
- dry up
- fall off
- fall through
- look up
- make up
- put off
- run across
- see through
- take back

**Group 1**

1. There's a hole in the floor. Mind you don't ___ fall ___ through ___ it.
2. Whenever there is a period without rain, all the lakes ___ ____________.
3. The President is very popular, but not with me: her false smile really ___ ______ me _______.
4. They quarrel every morning, but they always ___ _______ afterwards.
5. I've had some bad luck lately, but things are beginning to ___ _______; I'm glad to say.
6. Once you have started something, you ought to ___ _______ it _______ to the end.
7. Hold the handlebars with both hands or you might ___ _______.
8. This coat I bought is too small for me. Do you think I should ___ _______ it _______ to the shop?
9. Have you seen Ethan lately? Yes, I happened to ___ _______ him in Ankara a couple of months ago.
10. Janet's children are very intelligent. When you explain something to them, they seem to ___ _______ very quickly.

**Group 2**

- a. If you don't know the meaning of a word, you can always ___ _______ it _______ in the dictionary.
- b. Is that a true story, or did you just ___ _______ it _______?
- c. Sword swallowing is very popular in Albania, they tell me. Do you think it will ever ___ _______ here?
- d. Actors hate it when they forget their words, and simply ___ _______.
- e. It is dangerous to let children ___ _______ busy roads.
- f. He tried to deceive her with his talk about marriage, but she was able to ___ _______ him very easily.
- g. We've made all the arrangements. Let's hope our plans don't ___ fall ___ through ___ at the last moment.
- h. I said that Jim was a lazy good-for-nothing, but I was wrong: I ___ _______ everything I said about him.
- i. We used to get a lot of people at our meetings, but attendance has started to ___ _______ lately.
- j. The launch of the Pluto satellite, which was scheduled for today, has been ___ _______ until next week for technical reasons.

---

Think of the meaning of the verb, and think of the meaning of the particle. For example, see and through may be used literally, as in see through the window or they may be used non-literally as in see through (not to be fooled by) a dishonest scheme.
20 Two meanings 5

Complete the cartoon captions using the phrasal verbs from the box. Each phrasal verb is used twice but with different meanings. You may need to change the tense or form of the verb.

- go out
- put back
- blow up

1. He **goes out** at the same time every night.

2. ‘Please **put back** all the bones **blow up** in their proper place.’

3. ‘That’s the end of the summer. Time to **Put back** the clocks **blow up**.’

4. ‘But WHY do you want to **go out** the Houses of Parliament?’

5. ‘Come on, **go out** the balloon and let’s get started’

6. ‘Now, don’t let the fire **blow up**!’
Two meanings 6

Each sentence in Group 1 uses the same phrasal verb as a sentence in Group 2, but with a change of meaning. Insert the following verbs into the sentences and then find the pairs and complete the table below. You may need to change the form of the verb.

bump into  clear up  cover up  cut down  leak out
-let off-  look over  play at  set off  stand by

Group 1

1. He should have gone to prison but the judge __let__ __him __off__ with a caution.
2. I __refuse__ __what I said: I refuse to take back a word of it.
3. There is a wonderful view from our back window, because we __cover__ __the golf course.
4. It's raining quite heavily at the moment, but I hope it will __let__ __later in time for the barbecue.
5. There was a lovely old oak tree in the garden, but it became so big that we had to __cut__ __it__.
6. In many countries, women tourists are advised to wear long dresses with long sleeves in order to __play at__ their arms and legs.
7. I happened to __bump into__ Kate the other day; I hadn't seen her for ages.
8. The Los Angeles rush hour can be awful, so it's a good idea to __set off__ early to avoid the traffic.
9. What do you think you're __let__ __? Stop that at once!
10. No matter how hard you try to keep a secret, it always __let__ __sooner or later.

Group 2

a. The bright colours of the roses were __let__ __by the soft yellow brick of the garden wall.
b. There was a hole in the bottom of the flask, and all the liquid __let__ __.
c. Although it seemed just the house we wanted, we decided to __stand by__ it very carefully before making up our minds to buy it.
d. It is very dangerous to __let off__ fireworks when holding them in your hand.
e. 'After a party, do you __let__ __the mess right away, or do you leave it until the next morning?'
   'I leave it, and hope my partner will do it for me!'
f. The children were in the garden __let__ __cowboys and Indians.
g. A large man __let__ __me the other day, and practically knocked me over.
h. You really ought to stop smoking, but if you can't, then you should at least try to __let__ __to no more than three or four a day.
i. A woman is attacked in the street. Instead of going to help her, other people just __stand by__ and watch. Isn't that terrible?
j. It is the instinct of politicians to __let__ __the truth about their mistakes, and the duty of journalists to expose them.

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Section 4: Nouns and adjectives formed from phrasal verbs

Nouns and adjectives formed from phrasal verbs may have a literal or a transferred (non-literal) meaning. There are two patterns for these nouns and adjectives formed from phrasal verbs. The first type (literal) is much more common.

**VERB + PARTICLE**
- breakdown
  - have a breakdown while driving your car
  - have a nervous breakdown

- throwaway
  - a throwaway razor
  - a throwaway remark

**PARTICLE + VERB**
- intake
  - the air intake on a car
  - a new intake of students

- outstanding
  - an outstanding performance (excellent)
  - an outstanding invoice (unpaid)

Nouns can be made from phrasal verbs, e.g. overspill from to spill over.

Complete the following sentences with a noun beginning with *out* plus one of the verbs from the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>break</th>
<th>burst</th>
<th>cast</th>
<th>come</th>
<th>cry</th>
<th>fit</th>
<th>lay</th>
<th>let</th>
<th>look</th>
<th>set</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. I decided to treat myself to a new out **fit** __________, including new shoes, to go on holiday.
2. ‘And now the weather forecast. Today, there will be rain everywhere. The out ________ for the weekend: more rain.’
3. An out ________ of typhoid has been reported.
4. A shop is a retail out ________ for manufactured goods.
5. Apart from the initial out ________ on equipment, it cost us very little to set up our business.
6. Suddenly, Tom lost his temper and started screaming and swearing. Everyone was shocked by his out ________.
7. There has been a huge public out ________ against the proposal to demolish the village church.
8. A man rejected by his own people is an out ________.
9. We are still waiting to hear the out ________ of the government enquiry into the rail disaster.
10. Everyone knew from the out ________ that the plan would not work.

Nouns having the pattern PARTICLE + VERB are written as one word, as in *outburst*. 
23 Complete the caption

Complete the caption beside each picture using nouns made from the following verbs and particles.

VERBS: break check hold lay tail take-
PARTICLES: away back by out through up

1. If you don’t feel like cooking, go and get something from the Mexican **takeaway**.

2. The joys of modern travel: a five-mile **_on the freeway!**

3. A non-stick frying pan! The scientific **we’ve all been waiting for!**

4. It takes minutes to fill your basket, and hours to get through the supermarket.

5. A bank **__._**

6. If the traffic gets too bad, pull into a _______ and have a rest.

Nouns having the pattern VERB + PARTICLE may be written with a hyphen, e.g. sat-up, but it is now much more usual to write them as one word, e.g. setup, especially with very common terms, and when the verb has only one syllable.
24 Match the definitions

All these words are nouns or adjectives formed from phrasal verbs. Each one has two meanings. Match each word with the correct pair of definitions. Then try to use each one in a sentence of your own.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>breakdown</th>
<th>fallout</th>
<th>handout</th>
<th>holdup</th>
<th>make-up</th>
<th>mixed-up</th>
<th>outfit</th>
<th>outlook</th>
<th>standby</th>
<th>take-off</th>
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</thead>
</table>

1. **handout**
   - something given as an act of charity, e.g. money to a beggar
   - a document containing information, often given by teachers to their students

2. ___________
   - mentally confused
   - all grouped together, not in separate categories

3. ___________
   - a delay caused by traffic during a very busy time
   - a robbery from a bank

4. ___________
   - the view you have from your house
   - what you think the future might bring

5. ___________
   - lipstick, powder, mascara, etc., to beautify the face
   - a person's nature or temperament

6. ___________
   - an analysis of figures by an accountant
   - the situation where a car or other machine has stopped working

7. ___________
   - the results or consequences of an action
   - specifically, the radioactive cloud after an atomic explosion

8. ___________
   - an organisation or company
   - a set of matching clothes

9. ___________
   - the moment when a plane leaves the ground
   - an amusing imitation of how someone behaves

10. ___________
    - waiting to see if there are any spare seats on an aeroplane
    - something you keep handy to use in an emergency

Always think first of the phrasal verb from which the noun or adjective has been formed, e.g. break out leads to outbreak. This will often give you a clue as to the meaning of the noun or adjective.
25 Find the definition

Choose the correct definition a, b, c or d for each of the following nouns.

1. Grown-ups are
   a) clothes which used to belong to your older brother or sister
   b) mature trees which should be cut down before they fall down
   c) adult people, such as parents
   d) lumps which grow on the backs of people's necks

2. A flyover is
   a) a road bridge built over another road to make the traffic move faster
   b) a lot of mosquitoes or other biting insects
   c) a stage curtain in a theatre
   d) a non-stop journey

3. If you are on standby, it means that you
   a) are waiting in a long queue to go to the toilet
   b) are watching other people doing something, such as fighting or playing football, without joining in yourself
   c) have been abandoned by your lover, and are hoping to find another
   d) haven't reserved a place on an aeroplane flight, but are waiting in case there is a spare seat

4. The word leftovers could describe
   a) arm movements in swimming
   b) the remains of a meal
   c) socialists with extremist opinions
   d) girls that nobody wants to dance with

5. A dropout is
   a) a person who abandons education or career to lead a different life
   b) a lump of bread or other food which you find on the floor after a messy eater has finished a meal
   c) a piece of litter, such as an empty polystyrene cup or a sweet wrapper, thrown from a moving car
   d) the ugly fold of flesh that hangs over a fat man's belt

6. The word stopover is used to describe
   a) someone who stays too long at a party
   b) a place you stay at to break a long journey
   c) the highest note you can play on a musical instrument
   d) a common stomach problem that people get when they go on holiday

7. A drawback is
   a) a drawing of someone done on the back of an envelope
   b) a refund of money to someone who has paid too much tax
   c) the act of reversing a car round a corner
   d) a disadvantage in a plan

8. A tip-off is
   a) something that has fallen off the back of a truck
   b) information about a crime given to the police
   c) a word to describe the problems of a very short person
   d) the act of raising your hat to a lady

9. A setback is
   a) something which happens, such as a delay, to spoil your plans
   b) a house which is a long way from the main road
   c) in chess, returning a piece to the square it came from
   d) a pain caused by standing for a long time in one position

10. A toss-up is
    a) the way a bed looks in the morning when you have slept very badly
    b) a way of wishing someone a happy birthday by throwing him or her up into the air
    c) a choice between two equally attractive alternatives
    d) the mark left on the ceiling when someone has tried to turn over an omelette in a pan
Using combinations of the following words, complete the caption beneath each picture with the correct adjective.

**VERBS:** cast drive get knock lean lock pick pop roll slip
**PARTICLES:** away down in off on to up

1. You can stay in your car: this is a __drive-in__ movie.
2. These shoes have no laces: they are _______ shoes.
3. This is not an aerosol deodorant: it is a _______ deodorant.
4. The crooks used this as a _______ vehicle.
5. This is a _______ book.
6. This is a _______ truck.
7. This is _______ clothing.
8. There is a sale on: everything at _______ prices.
9. The shop owner does not live here: it is a _______ shop.
10. This shed is not freestanding: it is a _______ shed.

Adjectives having the pattern VERB + PARTICLE may be written as one word, e.g. takeaway, or hyphenated, e.g. take-away. Usually, the shorter and the commoner the adjective, the more likely it is to be written as one word.

Tip: If you are not sure, use a hyphen!
27 Adjectives from phrasal verbs

Choose the adjective which best completes each sentence. As a follow-up exercise, see if you can use the others in sentences of your own.

1. Outside the town, the speed limit is 70 mph. In _______ areas, the speed limit is reduced to 30 mph.
   a) made-up  b) packed-up  c) built-up  d) filled-in
2. An industrial society which makes goods that are not designed to last is known as a __________ society.
   a) fallout  b) takeaway  c) set-aside  d) throwaway
3. A neglected part of a city is called a __________ area.
   a) washed-out  b) leftover  c) cast-off  d) run-down
4. Someone who is mentally confused can be described as a __________ person.
   a) cast-off  b) mixed-up  c) patched-up  d) broken-down
5. A very old carpet could be described as a __________ carpet.
   a) throwaway  b) worn-out  c) written-off  d) used-up
6. If you think and behave as if you are better than everyone else, people may describe you as a __________ person.
   a) wound-up  b) dressed-up  c) pop-up  d) stuck-up
7. After a lesson or a course, the teacher may give you additional tasks to do. These are known as __________ activities.
   a) follow-up  b) stick-on  c) workout  d) standby
8. A blouse that is transparent is called a __________ blouse.
   a) look-in  b) peepshow  c) offbeat  d) see-through
9. When one company tries to gain control of another by offering a high price for its shares, it is making a __________ bid.
   a) breakthrough  b) showdown  c) makeup  d) takeover
10. A person who is rather reserved or cold in behaviour can be described as a __________ person.
    a) stand-offish  b) stuck-up  c) overdrawn  d) outcast

28 Words and pictures

Write each word or expression from the box under the correct picture.

- a handout
- a hangover
- a lean-to
- a lie in
- make-up
- a pick-up
- a pin-up
- a showdown

1. a lean-to  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8. 
Section 5: Three-part phrasal verbs

The pattern VERB + PREPOSITION is quite common, e.g. look for. In some cases the verb itself might be in two parts, i.e. it might be a phrasal verb consisting of VERB + ADVERB (e.g. look up). When a preposition (e.g. fo) is added, this gives a so-called three-part phrasal verb (look up to). Three-part phrasal verbs always have the pattern VERB + ADVERB + PREPOSITION.

The commonest adverb particles used in these three-part phrasals are up, out, in and down. The commonest prepositions used are with, on, to and for.

Of course, the object always follows the preposition, e.g. I like to look back on my childhood.

It's rude to drop in on other people's conversation. It's called 'eavesdropping'.

29 Mix and match 1

Join each phrasal verb in Column A with a word or phrase from Column B to give a common expression. Then match the verbs in Column A with the correct definitions in Column C.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>c</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>d</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>e</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>f</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>g</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>h</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>j</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is a good idea to learn three-part phrasal verbs as part of a complete expression. So, for example, don't just learn come up against; learn come up against a difficulty.

Note: The commonest combinations with in are in on and in for.
30 Complete the caption 3

Complete the cartoon captions using the words in the box (adverb + preposition).

- back to - behind with up for out against out of out on

1. ‘OK, everybody. Tea break over. Time to get **back** **to** work!’

2. ‘We speak **against** **injustice** wherever we find it.’

3. ‘The problem is that we’ve run **out of** **matches**.’

4. ‘My wife has walked **out on** me. I can’t think why.’

5. ‘Please don’t wait **up for** me.’

6. ‘This is what happens when you fall **over** **the rent**.’
Complete the cartoon captions using the words in the box (adverb + preposition).

- away from  away with  down to  forward to  on about  out of

1. ‘SEND ______ away ______ for ______ YOUR COPY TODAY! ONLY TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS!’

2. ‘What it really boils ______ ______ then, is that you don’t love me any more. Is that it?’

3. ‘You’ll never get ______ ______ ______ it!’


5. ‘Don’t worry, he’s just a puppy. He’ll soon grow ______ ______ it.’

6. ‘It’s no good going ______ ______ ______ it – you lost, and that’s all there is to it.’
**33 Mix and match 2**

Join each phrasal verb in Column A with a word or phrase from Column B to give a common expression. Then match the verbs in Column A with the correct definitions in Column C.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>come down with...</td>
<td>i. . .people who are beneath you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cut down on...</td>
<td>a. . .your specialist subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>look down on...</td>
<td>b. . .a difficulty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>get down to...</td>
<td>c. . .expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>be down to...</td>
<td>d. . .your beliefs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>be up on...</td>
<td>e. . .prison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>check up on...</td>
<td>f. . .your last penny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>end up in...</td>
<td>g. . .someone's movements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stand up for...</td>
<td>h. . .flu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>come up against...</td>
<td>i. . .some hard work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column C</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>iv.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Column C**

- i. investigate
- ii. apply yourself to
- iii. despise
- iv. defend
- v. know a lot about
- vi. meet
- vii. catch
- viii. have nothing else left
- ix. reduce
- x. finally go to

**34 Mix and match 3**

Join each phrasal verb in Column A with a word or phrase from Column B to give a common expression. Then match the verbs in Column A with the correct definitions in Column C.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>come up to...</td>
<td>c. . .business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>face up to...</td>
<td>a. . .your crimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>look up to...</td>
<td>b. . .expectations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>own up to...</td>
<td>c. . .your girl/boyfriend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stand up to...</td>
<td>d. . .noisy neighbours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>come up with...</td>
<td>e. . .your responsibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>put up with...</td>
<td>f. . .a good idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>catch up with...</td>
<td>g. . .the car in front</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>get down to...</td>
<td>h. . .a bully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>split up with...</td>
<td>i. . .someone you respect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column C</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Column C**

- i. admit to
- ii. reach
- iii. accept
- iv. leave
- v. start
- vi. fulfil
- vii. produce
- viii. defy
- ix. tolerate
- x. admire

**Note:** The commonest combinations with up are up to and up with.
35 Word search

Find the phrasal verbs in the word search and match them with the definitions in the list. The words may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal, and they may be written backwards or forwards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Hint: Think of...</th>
<th>Phrasal verb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>explode/inflate</td>
<td>a bomb, a balloon</td>
<td>blow up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>improve</td>
<td>your knowledge of English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>demand</td>
<td>a reform</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>resume (work)</td>
<td>the work you were doing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enter</td>
<td>a room</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arise</td>
<td>a matter, a question</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forgo</td>
<td>a pleasure, such as candies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>complete</td>
<td>your income tax return</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adapt</td>
<td>mixing well with other people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not stop</td>
<td>someone who talks too much</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>admit, reveal</td>
<td>a secret</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>invent</td>
<td>a lie, something that isn't true</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>admit</td>
<td>a fault, a mistake you made</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>withdraw</td>
<td>someone leaving a team or a group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>postpone</td>
<td>a tennis match when it starts to rain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheat, swindle</td>
<td>being charged too much for something</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relax</td>
<td>a class going quiet when the teacher enters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 arrive</td>
<td>your long-lost cousin from Patagonia!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 exhaust</td>
<td>a really old car engine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 deduce, solve</td>
<td>the answer to a crossword clue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 6: Phrasal equivalents of more formal verbs

There is a difference between informal and formal language. Informal language is used every day in ordinary conversations. Sometimes people want to be more formal. There are several reasons why people use formal language:

- to impress other people
- to make a speech
- to write something serious

For example, instead of the informal try, you might say endeavour. Phrasal verbs are part of the everyday language, and many have formal equivalents, e.g.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INFORMAL</th>
<th>FORMAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fill in a form</td>
<td>complete a form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>put up with a noise</td>
<td>tolerate a noise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

'Don’t take any notice of Ruth. She always likes to show off in front of visitors.'

36 Formal and informal 1

Replace the underlined word(s) with the phrasal verbs in the box.

- brush up
- clear up
- come into
- come round
- go on
- look into
- make up
- pull out
- stand for
- think over

1. Shall I continue painting this wall, or would you like me to do something else? **go on**

2. If I won a lot of money, I would need to consider carefully how I would spend it.

3. If someone faints, put their head between their knees and they will soon regain consciousness.

4. I believe that my next-door neighbour has recently inherited a lot of money.

5. Nobody knows yet where ‘Odmedod’, the latest computer virus, came from. Experts from Virus Busters have been brought in to investigate the incident.

6. I’m glad that we have been able to resolve our little misunderstanding.

7. I don’t think the people will tolerate another increase in taxes.

8. Switzerland had intended to enter a team for the International Tiddlywinks Contest, but had to withdraw at the last moment when they realised that nobody in Switzerland knew how to play the game.

9. I need to improve my French. I learned it at school but I haven’t spoken it for years.

10. If you haven’t got a genuine reason for being late, you’ll simply have to invent an excuse.

Often the meaning of a phrasal verb is easy to work out from the two parts, the VERB and the PARTICLE. Sometimes, though, the phrasal is an idiomatic expression, which you simply have to learn, as in take someone off, which means impersonate someone.
37 Formal and informal 2

Combine these verbs and particles to make phrasal verbs which can replace the definitions underlined in the sentences.

VERBS: break carry clear draw fill give make put step turn

PARTICLES: away down forward in off out up

1. I hate people who reveal the end of a film that I haven't seen yet. ________ give away

2. With the introduction of computers, we have been able to increase production by 25 per cent. ________

3. A soldier is expected to obey a superior officer’s orders without question. ________

4. Harry says he intends to terminate his engagement to Naomi because she always opens her boiled eggs at the wrong end. ________

5. It’s important in a relationship to resolve little misunderstandings before they turn into big problems. ________

6. Before we do anything else, we ought to prepare a plan of action. ________

7. Was that a true story about you hacking into the Pentagon computer? No, I invented it! ________

8. Our society has become so bureaucratic that you even have to complete a form before you are allowed to die. ________

9. As nobody seems to know what to do next, may I propose a solution? ________

10. Alan is very upset. The Team Manager intends to reject his application to play in goal on the grounds that his legs are too thin. ________

When the phrasal verb consists of a verb and an adverb, where does the object go? If the object is a personal pronoun, it must come between, as in pick it up. If it consists of a very short phrase, it may come between, as in pick the best ones out (in a crowd); or after the particle, as in pick out the best ones. If the object consists of a long phrase, put it after the particle, as in pick up all the books you’ve left lying on the floor. When in doubt, put the object after the particle!

38 Definitions 1

Use these phrasal verbs to complete the sentences.

come round fall off fall out run down show up split up think over throw away tip off touch on

1. To make someone look foolish or embarrass them in front of other people is to ________ them up.

2. The Buddha said ‘If you can’t say anything good about a person, say nothing.’ That is why I never criticise people or ________ them ________.

3. When two lovers quarrel, we say that they ________ ________.

4. If the two lovers separate, we say that they ________ ________.

5. If someone makes a suggestion to you, and you decide to consider it very carefully before agreeing, we say that you are going to ________ it ________.

6. If you happen to mention a subject briefly, we say that you ________ ________ it.

7. When you know that something bad is going to happen, and you warn people about it, we say that you ________ them ________.

8. If a boxer is knocked out, when he eventually regains consciousness, we say that he has finally ________ ________.

9. When the number of students attending a class decreases, we say that attendance has started to ________ ________.

10. When you discard something because you no longer need it, you ________ ________ it ________.

When the particle is a PREPOSITION, as in look after, the object always comes after the particle, e.g. Will you look after me when I am old and grey? The particles away, back, forward and out are always adverbs. All other particles, e.g. in, off, over and up, may be either prepositions or adverbs.
39  Formal and informal 3

Use these verbs and particles to make phrasal verbs which can replace the formal versions underlined in the sentences.

VERBS: brush come do explain go let pick settle stand strip
PARTICLES: away down for into off on out round up without

1. Please be quiet and pay attention, everybody! settle down

2. Distance-learning programmes can help you to study for a degree, or to improve your knowledge of a foreign language.

3. Get undressed and wait for the doctor.

4. Do you think there is enough food to feed everybody?

5. I don’t think the people will tolerate another increase in taxes.

6. A tall person is always easy to distinguish in a crowd.

7. If we cannot get any bread, we’ll just have to manage.

8. All my brother’s knives and forks have got ‘Hotel Excelsior, Cairo’ stamped on them. I don’t know how he is going to convince people that there is nothing wrong with this situation.

9. Please don’t mention anything to the children about the party: I want it to be a surprise.

10. When Aunt Jane died, I expected to inherit a fortune, but all I got was a pair of binoculars and a stuffed owl.

40  Definitions 2

Using the verbs and particles given, make up phrasal verbs which complete the definitions of the words in italics.

VERBS: blow call carry cut fit set shake slip wear work
PARTICLES: down for in off on out up

1. If you decide to reduce the amount of food you eat, we say that you have decided to ___cut___ down___.

2. To embark on a journey is to ______on________.

3. To destroy a bridge using explosive is to _______it________.

4. When people demand something, for example, a change in the law, we say that they _______demand________ a change.

5. After a long time and lot of use, a machine may no longer function properly. We say that it has started to ___no longer function properly___.

6. To commit an error is to ________ _________.

7. To deduce the answer to a problem is to ___deduce________ the answer.

8. To continue doing something is to ___continue________ doing it.

9. If you recover easily and quickly from a cold, we say that you were able to ___easily and quickly recover__ your cold.

10. If new people join an established group and they quickly become accepted, we say that they were able to ___quickly become accepted___ very well.
Formal and informal 4

Using the following verbs and particles, make phrasal verbs which mean the same as the formal word or expression in capital letters. In some cases, you will need to change the tense or form of the verb.

VERBS: deep get give look play pull put turn
PARTICLES: away down in off out of through up

1 ARRIEVE UNANNOUNCED
I just dropped in to wish you a Merry Christmas!

2 ARRIEVE CASUALLY
John is not very punctual. He usually _________ _________ ten minutes after the lesson has started.

3 MINIMISE THE IMPORTANCE
After the accident at the nuclear power station, the authorities tried to _________ _________ the danger to the public from radioactivity.

4 WITHDRAW FROM
A number of people had to _________ _________ the New York Marathon because they were just not fit enough to complete the distance.

5 POSTPONE
Because of the heavy rains during the week, the match, which was to take place on Saturday, has been _________ _________ until next Wednesday.

6 ABANDON
Robert Brent has _________ _________ his attempt to beat the record for eating hard-boiled eggs, because he is afraid of getting salmonella.

7 SCRUTINISE/REVIEW
Several people _________ _________ the draft report, but there were still a number of spelling mistakes in the final version.

8 ESCAPE
The police chased the thieves for several miles but the thieves managed to _________ _________ because their car was faster.

9 LEAVE
If we can manage to _________ _________ from the office early enough, we intend to go to the theatre.
Section 7: Phrasal verbs in context

This section is about deducing (working out) the meaning of a phrasal verb even when you don’t know the verb. Each sentence gives you a context, that is, each sentence describes a situation which gives you a clue as to the meaning of the phrasal verb. This is, indeed, how we learn new words and expressions in our own language. For example, suppose you hear the sentence: ‘Please speak clearly. When you grurple, I can’t understand a word you are saying.’ You haven’t heard the word grurple before (there is no such word!), but you can deduce that it means something like mumble or speak indistinctly.

Remember, too, that the particle in a phrasal verb also carries part of the meaning.

Mrs Milton has forty-three cats. I don’t know how she copes with them all.
43 Phrasal verbs in context 1

Choose the phrasal verb which best completes the sentence.

1. Dad, I'm sorry to ___ bring ___ up ___ the matter again, but I really need to have a computer of my own now that I'm preparing for my final exams.
   a) set forth  
   b) call out  
   c) bring up  
   d) hint at

2. Chico is a strange man: I cannot ___ make out ___ him ___.
   a) make out  
   b) string along  
   c) root out  
   d) spur on

3. It's no use ___ running into ___ the children when they are naughty. It only makes them worse!
   a) blowing up  
   b) shouting at  
   c) running into  
   d) putting off

4. I'm sorry, but I don't think you and I have met before. Are you sure you're not ___ pairing off ___ me ___ with somebody else?
   a) pairing off  
   b) putting together  
   c) fitting in  
   d) mixing up

5. I couldn't remember where I had left my car, when it suddenly ___ went through ___ me ___ that I didn't have a car!
   a) dawned on  
   b) ran into  
   c) went through  
   d) tumbled to

6. That's the third time you've asked me where I got the money to buy my car. I'm not sure what you're ___ working on ___ but I didn't steal the money, if that's what you mean!
   a) coming to  
   b) working on  
   c) making up  
   d) getting at

7. The subject of human rights seems to ___ crop up ___ in every discussion lesson in my school.
   a) burst out  
   b) zero in  
   c) crop up  
   d) harp on

8. Whole villages have been ___ run down ___ by the floods.
   a) wiped out  
   b) mopped up  
   c) called off  
   d) run down

9. The business had been allowed to ___ fade away ___ to such an extent that it was sold for only a quarter of its true market value.
   a) tail off  
   b) fade away  
   c) play out  
   d) run down

10. Ruth wanted to go to Cyprus or Rhodes, her husband Peter wanted to go to Scotland or Ireland. In the end they ___ plunged into ___ Cyprus.
    a) hit on  
    b) jumped at  
    c) plumped for  
    d) plunged into

Note: Sometimes all the options (a, b, c and d) will fit in some way, but only one really makes sense in the context. For example, in 3, it is possible to blow up the children, run into them or put them off! But the only option that makes sense is shouting at.
Phrasal verbs in context 2

Choose the phrasal verb which best completes the sentence.

1. Simon never takes anything seriously. He just likes _______ _______ _______.
   a) splashing out  
   b) acting up  
   c) fooling around  
   d) playing along

2. ‘Is it raining?’
   ‘Raining? It's absolutely _______ _______!’
   a) pouring down  
   b) streaming away  
   c) spurting out  
   d) flooding in

3. It is a serious operation for a woman as old as my grandmother. She's very frail. I hope she _______ _______.
   a) gets away  
   b) comes round  
   c) pulls through  
   d) stands up

4. This message is in very bad handwriting. I can't _______ _______.
   a) make out  
   b) put in  
   c) bring off  
   d) carry on

5. Charlie had such bad stomach ache that he was _______ _______.
   a) bent down  
   b) folded over  
   c) doubled up  
   d) snapped off

6. ‘The name Cindy keeps _______ _______ in conversation. Who on earth is Cindy?’
   ‘Isn’t that your wife's name, sir?’
   a) bursting out  
   b) slipping by  
   c) cropping up  
   d) harping on

7. The crowd was so angry that it took their leaders ages to get them to _______ _______.
   a) peter out  
   b) sober up  
   c) simmer down  
   d) whittle away

8. The factory is now fully automated, which means that we have been able to _______ _______ production.
   a) run on  
   b) step up  
   c) turn over  
   d) double up

9. Why don’t you try praising your students occasionally instead of _______ _______ them all the time?
   a) crying to  
   b) shouting at  
   c) rushing into  
   d) falling over

10. When I got into trouble, all my friends deserted me. My best friend was the only person who _______ _______ me.
    a) stuck by  
    b) stood for  
    c) held to  
    d) leant on

Look up new words in a dictionary, but don’t be surprised if the verb does not have its literal meaning as it is used in the phrasal verb. For example, a crop is something that grows or comes up out of the ground, from which we get the phrasal verb to crop up in the sense of something that is mentioned (comes up) in conversation.
Choose the verb

In each sentence, choose the verb that best fits.

1. ‘Are you ill? You look terrible!’
   ‘Well, I am a bit _______ down. The doctor says I must rest.’
   a) run  b) turned  c) knocked

2. Some people can just _______ off a cold, but mine last for ages.
   a) shrug  b) wash  c) slide

3. Isn’t this terrible weather for April! _______ on summer!’
   a) Roll  b) Call  c) Drag

4. I just want to _______ myself up a bit before we go out to dinner.
   a) freshen  b) liven  c) touch

5. You must be _______ me up with someone else. I am NOT an actor!
   a) mixing  b) matching  c) pairing

6. Poor Malcolm was completely taken in for a while. He’ll never be able to _______ it down.
   a) live  b) hold  c) keep

7. If you never put oil in your engine, one day it will _______ up completely.
   a) seize  b) shut  c) crash

8. When he ran off with the company funds, the Board tried to _______ up the whole affair.
   a) hush  b) close  c) tuck

9. I was at a party, and people kept staring at me. Then it _______ on me: I was at the wrong party!
   a) dawned  b) hit  c) shone

10. I have a busy day tomorrow, so I think I’ll _______ in now. Good night!
    a) turn  b) lie  c) lay
46 Phrasal verbs in context 3

Choose the phrasal verb which best completes the sentence.

1. Teachers tend to skate over certain subjects that they find difficult to talk about.
   a) boil down       b) string along
   c) skate over      d) track down

2. The new office block ________ ________ well with its surroundings.
   a) blends in       b) stands out
   c) shaped up       d) sets off

3. Whole villages have been ________ ________ by the floods.
   a) wiped out       b) mopped up
   c) called off      d) run down

4. You may not like what has happened but you cannot simply ________ ________.
   It really happened, and you must face up to that fact.
   a) dream up       b) wish away
   c) run away       d) tone down

5. It's a good idea to ________ ________ people before taking them into your confidence.
   a) tumble to       b) root out
   c) bank on        d) size up

6. Mrs Milton has forty-three cats. I don't know how she ________ ________ them all.
   a) looks for       b) stands by
   c) keeps to       d) copes with

7. ‘Have you any plans for the summer vacation?’
   I'm glad you ________ ________ the subject. I was thinking of getting a job as a windsurfing instructor.
   a) set forth       b) called out
   c) brought up     d) hinted at

8. When the dentist has finished drilling the bad parts from your tooth, she will offer you a glass of peculiar pink liquid and tell you to ________ your mouth ________.
   a) brush off       b) wash up
   c) rinse out       d) scrub down

9. Unfortunately, somebody spoke to a reporter, and the whole thing ________ ________.
   a) poured forth    b) spilled over
   c) leaked out      d) splashed down

10. I don't know whether Sabrina and her husband would be interested in joining our Conservation Society. I'll ________ them ________ about it.
    a) chat up        b) sound out
    c) tell off       d) spur on
Which one doesn’t fit?

In each of the sentences 1 to 5, underline the three verbs that are correct. Then complete sentences a to e on page 87 with the verbs you didn’t use. In some cases, you will need to change the tense or form of the verb.

1. My father doesn’t approve of the people I a) go around with.
   b) hang
   c) play
   d) knock

2. When people panic, they usually a) lash out at the nearest person.
   b) strike
   c) hit
   d) rush

3. I’ve had to a) hold out for four new tyres for my car.
   b) fork
   c) shell
   d) pay

4. If you’re not careful, you’ll a) stock up with a face like mine.
   b) end
   c) land
   d) finish

5. ‘Why don’t you come round to our place for a drink one night?’
   ‘Tell you what, I’ll a) butt in on you on the way home.’
   b) drop
   c) look
   d) call

a. ____________________ out for the result you want.

b. I didn’t mean to ___________ in on your conversation, but I couldn’t help overhearing my name mentioned.

c. When the pop star left the theatre, all his fans __________ out at him.

d. I was just __________ around with this digital camera when I dropped it. Luckily it wasn’t damaged.

e. Are you expecting bad weather? Do you always __________ up with enough food to last you six months?

'Remember: Three of the choices are correct; one is not. For example, two people are having a conversation about the crime rate. They are speaking about it, talking about it, chatting about it or minding about it. The first three (speak, talk, chat) fit, but the fourth one (mind) doesn’t.'
48 Phrasal verbs in context 4

Choose the phrasal verb which best completes the sentence.

1. The interrogation seemed to _____ drag _____ on for ages, but in fact it only lasted twenty minutes.
   a) fritter away  b) drag on  c) spin off  d) play out

2. It's none of your business: please don't _____ bump into _____ meddle with things that don't concern you.
   a) bump into  b) meddle with  c) tot up  d) come across

3. 'He's only a mailman, but he has just bought a brand new Cadillac. I wonder how he can afford it.'
   'I can see what you're _____ coming to _____ making up. You think he might be a crook, right?'
   a) coming to  b) working on  c) making up  d) getting at

4. 'That was a very dirty trick you played on your colleagues.'
   'I know. I feel badly enough about it as it is. You don't need to _____ clamp down _____ it.'
   a) turn on  b) clamp down  c) stick up  d) rub in

5. The man in the market was selling leather coats very cheaply: they were such bargains that they were soon _____ cleared of _____ bought out.
   a) cleared of  b) done for  c) bought out  d) snapped up

6. I was so tired that I just _____ fell over _____ in the armchair.
   a) flaked out  b) broke up  c) dropped out  d) fell over

7. I always wanted to be an actor, so when they offered me a part as the back end of a pantomime horse, I _____ jumped at _____ the chance!
   a) burst into  b) seized on  c) ran after  d) jumped at

8. It's really hard work trying to find the right Smith in the London telephone directory; you may have to _____ peer at _____ about thirty pages of Smiths.
   a) wade through  b) rip out  c) tramp across  d) peer at

9. I watched a very old professor giving a lecture the other day. He _____ circled round _____ for ages before getting to the point.
   a) rambled on  b) ran forward  c) went ahead  d) circled round

10. When we won some money on the lottery, I wanted to buy a new car but my partner wanted to spend it on a holiday. After a lot of discussion, we _____ jumped on _____ the holiday.
    a) came to  b) plumped for  c) agreed with  d) jumped on
Section 8: Phrasal verbs in idiomatic expressions

Phrasal verbs occur in many idiomatic expressions. Sometimes you can guess the meaning from the verb and/or the particle, e.g. dry means there is no water, and up can mean completely. Literally, a lake might dry up. When someone is making a speech but then cannot think of what to say next, we can say that that person has dried up – there are no more words, just as there is no more water in the lake.

Sometimes, though, you need to guess the meaning from the context. For example, in the sentence It’s raining now but it should clear up later on, the word but tells you that the rain will stop soon. So, clear up must mean something like stop raining.

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50 Phrasal verbs in idiomatic expressions 1

Choose the alternative which best matches the meaning of the phrasal verb in capitals.

1 In London this morning, three people wearing masks HELD UP a van carrying gold bullion.
   a) robbed                      b) lifted
   c) delayed                     d) stole

2 The nurse is on a case right now, but he can probably FIT you IN later on.
   a) examine                    b) try to cure
   c) find time to see           d) look after

3 She had such a bad cold that I was not surprised she DOZED OFF in the middle of the afternoon.
   a) forgot to take her medicine b) fell asleep
   c) felt very ill               d) went home early

4 It was so hot in the theatre that I almost DROPPED OFF.
   a) decided to leave           b) fell from the balcony
   c) fainted                    d) fell asleep

5 Don’t buy the first thing you see: SHOP AROUND a bit.
   a) visit many shops to compare prices
   b) find the cheapest one
   c) look at everything in the shop
   d) decide exactly what you want

6 It was getting late so I decided to TURN IN.
   a) give up                     b) go to bed
   c) switch off the light        d) go home
7 What terrible weather! Do you think the rain will EASE OFF soon?
a) get worse  b) turn to snow  c) lessen  d) stay the same

8 The London-to-Sydney flight TOUCHED DOWN IN Bombay.
a) made a stop at  b) crashed in  c) flew low over  d) was forced to land in

9 I wonder who first HIT UPON the idea of using invisible ink to send secret messages.
a) finally rejected  b) carefully developed  c) openly criticised  d) suddenly thought of

10 My speech started well, but I DRIED UP after a few minutes.
a) got bored  b) couldn't continue  c) decided to cut it short  d) began to feel thirsty

In London this morning, three people wearing masks HELD UP a van carrying gold bullion.

Phrasal verbs in idiomatic expressions 2

Choose the alternative which best matches the meaning of the phrasal verb in capitals.

1 Janet is very upset. I'd like you to try and SMOOTH things OVER if you can.
a) tidy the place up for her  b) calm her down  c) tell her not to be silly  d) hide the truth from her

2 Jamie needs a place to stay? I can PUT him UP here.
a) give him some money  b) send him away  c) let him stay here  d) recommend a good hostel

3 They had a quarrel one evening, but they PATCHED things UP next morning.
a) hid their feelings  b) repaired the furniture  c) continued to quarrel  d) settled their differences

4 I knew exactly what she wanted me to do: she didn't need to SPELL it OUT for me.
a) tell me how to write it down  b) help me to do it  c) explain it any further  d) plan my life for me

5 Bill had to DIP INTO his savings account to pay for his holiday.
a) increase  b) close  c) take money from  d) put money into

6 It was so hot in the examination room that several students NODDED OFF.
a) left the room  b) started arguing  c) fell asleep  d) fainted

You need always to distinguish between the literal and the non-literal (idiomatic) use of phrasal verbs. For example, the cartoon shows the two possible meanings of the sentence They held up a van carrying gold bullion.
I think we should WIND UP the discussion now: it's getting late and we have to be up early in the morning.

a) postpone    b) end
  c) cancel      d) restrict

My father TOLD me OFF because I used his electric razor.

a) reprimanded me    b) was proud of me
  c) laughed at me    d) congratulated me

Andy wanted to go to the ball, so poor Anne had to COUGH UP fifty pounds for the tickets.

a) reluctantly pay out    b) easily save up
  c) confidently ask for    d) unwillingly borrow

I need twenty pounds to TIDE me OVER until the end of the month.

a) cover my expenses    b) pay off my debts
  c) spend                d) borrow

The police officer SHOT OFF before anyone could stop her.

a) left in a hurry    b) told everyone the truth
  c) fired her gun     d) closed all the doors

The teacher told her students to stop MESSING ABOUT, especially now that their examinations were only two weeks away.

a) bringing food to the class    b) coming late all the time
  c) being absent from class      d) wasting time

The doctor is busy right now, but she could probably FIT you IN later on.

a) examine you    b) try to cure you
  c) find time to see you    d) send you away

Have you managed to TRACK DOWN that book I asked you about?

a) sell    b) read through
  c) find    d) get back

He had no business there, so I told him to CLEAR OFF.

a) do the dishes    b) leave at once
  c) put everything in its place    d) find something useful to do
I'm sorry to BUTT IN, but I couldn't help overhearing what you said.

6 a) interrupt you  
b) contradict you  
c) speak so rudely to you  
d) refuse you

7 As it was getting late, I decided to PRESS ON.

7 a) find a place to sleep  
b) phone for help  
c) finish the ironing  
d) keep going

8 I knew that nobody would help me, so I decided to SOLDIER ON.

8 a) let someone else do the work  
b) continue by myself  
c) abandon the job  
d) join the army

9 I get up very early in the morning, so I am ready to TURN IN by about 8 pm!

9 a) give up  
b) go to bed  
c) switch off the light  
d) go home

10 I didn’t want to do it, but the other boys EGGED me ON.

10 a) threw eggs at me  
b) called me names  
c) encouraged me  
d) lifted me off the ground

53 Phrasal verbs in idiomatic expressions 4

Choose the alternative which best matches the meaning of the phrasal verb in capitals.

1 If you got up earlier, you wouldn’t need to BOLT your breakfast DOWN.

1 a) miss your breakfast  
b) eat your breakfast very quickly  
c) go without breakfast  
d) make your own breakfast

2 The war in Hernia seems to be DRAGGING ON.

2 a) coming to an end  
b) involving more and more people  
c) getting worse  
d) continuing indefinitely

3 If you spend half the night on the internet, it's not surprising if you DOZE OFF in class!

3 a) forget where you are  
b) fall asleep  
c) feel very ill  
d) forget to take your medicine

4 She looked really WASHED OUT after her operation.

4 a) very clean  
b) soaking wet  
c) very tired and pale  
d) very untidy

5 It is snowing heavily at the moment, but it is expected to EASE OFF later.

5 a) stay the same  
b) freeze  
c) move away  
d) lessen

6 Joanna managed to SCRAPE THROUGH her final examinations.

6 a) arrive late for  
b) barely pass  
c) stay awake during  
d) just fail
7. I know Sam said he would lend you some money, but I wouldn’t bank on it if I were you.
   a) borrow from him  
   b) spend the money all at once  
   c) save the money  
   d) depend on him to do it

8. Mail is piling up at all the main sorting offices because of the postal strike.
   a) not being posted  
   b) getting lost  
   c) accumulating  
   d) being put into large boxes

9. You must try not to dwell on your brother's problems.
   a) think too much about  
   b) forget  
   c) benefit from  
   d) remember

10. We started up the house in order to be able to sell it quickly.
    a) offered it at a low price  
    b) advertised it widely  
    c) decorated it cheaply and quickly  
    d) refurbished it

Choose the alternative which best matches the meaning of the phrasal verb in capitals.

1. 'Susan said I was the nicest man she had ever met. Do you think she's in love with me?'
   'I wouldn't read too much into her words if I were you. She says that to everyone she meets!'
   a) interpret her  
   b) try to understand her  
   c) make sense of her  
   d) take her too seriously

2. 'My teacher says if you hold a guinea pig by its tail, its eyes will fall out.'
   'She's having you on! Guinea pigs don't have tails!'
   a) being friendly with you  
   b) teasing you  
   c) making you angry  
   d) trying to please you

3. Traffic on the main Interstate out of El Paso was held up for three hours because of a serious accident.
   a) delayed  
   b) diverted  
   c) returned  
   d) expected

4. 'I answered an advertisement which said: Send me ten pounds and I will tell you how to get rich.'
   'Oh, how could you fall for that old trick!'
   a) take advantage of  
   b) get into trouble with  
   c) let yourself be persuaded by  
   d) misunderstand
55 Definitions 3

Choose the alternative which best matches the meaning of the phrase in capitals.

1. At first, the Managing Director insisted that she was right and everyone else was mistaken, but in the end she was forced to CLIMB DOWN.  
   a) apologise  
   b) admit that she was wrong  
   c) join in the discussion  
   d) resign as managing director

2. ‘What did the security guards say to you?’  
   ‘They told me to CLEAR OFF.’  
   a) go away  
   b) tidy the place up  
   c) finish my work  
   d) push the boat into the water

3. Simon hasn’t got a job, and isn’t trying to get one: he just SPONGES OFF his friends.  
   a) works with them  
   b) complains to them  
   c) borrows money from them  
   d) takes advantage of them

4. Anna loves TINKERING WITH old sports cars.  
   a) taking people out in  
   b) driving fast in  
   c) buying and selling  
   d) trying to repair

5. Rioting in the capital was SPARKED OFF by the arrest of the rebel leader.  
   a) prevented  
   b) caused  
   c) delayed  
   d) exploded

6. I was not a success as a door-to-door salesperson. The first house I went to, a man opened the door and told me to BUZZ OFF.  
   a) stop ringing the doorbell  
   b) shut up  
   c) try to be more interesting  
   d) go away and leave him alone
Section 9:
Just for fun!

This section consists of two crossword puzzles and three crazy headline puzzles. With a couple of exceptions, all of the phrasal verbs in these puzzles have appeared in earlier tests in the book. Enjoy!

7. My cousins are always HARKING BACK TO the time when they were in the army.
   a) complaining about   b) telling us about
c) arguing about        d) telling lies about

8. When the German army occupied Norway during the Second World War, many people refused to KNUCKLE UNDER.
   a) submit to them       b) stand up to them
c) pay their taxes        d) shake hands with them

9. Some conference speakers have very little to say, but they’re still able to SPIN OUT their material.
   a) change the subject   b) remember their words
c) make it seem important d) make it last a long time

10. The boss sometimes lets her staff KNOCK OFF at four o’clock.
   a) hand in their work   b) stop for a tea break
c) leave work            d) make suggestions
Underline the spelling mistake in each of these newspaper headlines.

1. MEAT PRICES ARE DOWN AGAIN. HOUSEWIVES ADVISED TO CHOP AROUND FOR THE BEST BARGAINS
2. DON'T KNOCK OFF EARLY ON FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, WORKERS WARNED
3. LOCAL COUNCIL TELL GRAFFITI ARTISTS TO 'FUZZ OFF'
4. NEW WEBSITE BOASTS BIGGEST ENCYCLOPÆDIA OF THE WORLD'S WINES. 'WELL WORTH SIPPING INTO,' SAY THE EXPERTS
5. SAILING IS NOW THIRD MOST POPULAR HOBBY. 'MEN LOVE TO MISS ABOUT IN BOATS,' SAYS LEISURE FIRM.
6. SWIMMER'S DEATH SHARKS OFF A SAFETY ENQUIRY
7. AMAZON EXPLORERS DECIDE TO DRESS ON DESPITE THE HEAT
8. 'ATTENDANCE AT WATER POLO EVENTS DRIPPING OFF' SAYS OFFICIAL REPORT
9. IMMIGRANT WORKERS FEEL ALIENATED: HAVE A HARD TIME SITTING IN
10. EIGHTY-YEAR-OLD JUDGE CRITICISED FOR RODDING OFF DURING TRIAL. 'IF HE CAN'T STAY AWAKE, HE SHOULD RETIRE,' LAWYER COMMENTS

11. FIRE BRIGADE ON ALERT AS VANDALS THREATEN TO TURN DOWN FARM BUILDINGS
12. BRITISH ATHLETE INTENDS TO CRY FOR NEW WORLD RECORD AT COMING COMMONWEALTH GAMES
13. NEW ZEALAND NOCTURNAL GROUND PARROT IN DANGER: 'WE MUST CONSERVE ITS HABITAT OR IT WILL DIG OUT SOON,' SAYS LEADING NATURALIST.
14. SHOCK MEDICAL REPORT: STUDENTS CRANKING UP UNDER EXAMINATION PRESSURE
15. POLICE SURROUND PRISON AS DANGEROUS CRIMINALS TRY TO FREAK OUT
16. SECURITY LIGHTENED UP AT AIRPORTS AS NEW TERRORIST CAMPAIGN BEGINS
17. AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS, HUSBAND FINALLY MUMBLIES TO WIFE'S LOVER
18. MANCHESTER MAN JUMPS INTO LONG-LOST BROTHER IN NEW YORK NIGHTCLUB
19. LADY CHATTERLEY TO MARRY HER GARDENER: 'I JUST HOPE IT FORKS OUT FOR THEM,' SAY HER PARENTS
20. HOUSEWIVES TIRED OF BEING TIED TO THE KITCHEN SINK: 'THERE MUST BE MORE TO LIFE THAN LASHING UP,' THEY SAY
58 Crossword

Study the clues and complete the crossword.

Across

1. Go up one side of the mountain and ________ the other side. (4,4)
4. If you want something from the mail order catalogue, you will have to ________ for it. (4,3)
7. When a typhoid epidemic breaks out, we say there has been an ________ of typhoid. (8)
8. Verb used in the expression ‘_______ away with’ meaning ‘get rid of’. (2)
10. This is a phrasal verb from the game of cricket. If somebody finds you very attractive, we say that you have ________ed them ________. The verb describes the way the ball is sent to the batsman. (4,4)
13. Opposite of ‘up’. (4)

14. Opposite of ‘off’. (2)
15. You use this to tie up parcels. (6)

Down

1. ‘_______-_______’ clothing is clothing which you no longer want. (4,3)
2. If you break the law, you may finally ________ up in jail. (3)
3. A method of printing. The first part of the word is the same as the particle in 4 across and 1 down. (6)
5. If you want to remember exactly what someone said, don’t rely on your memory: ________ it ________. The particle here is the same word as 13 across. (4,4)
6. When you ________ on thin ice, you are in danger of going through and into deep water. (5)
9. To ‘______ up’ is to admit that you did something. The word is also used in the expression ‘on my ________’, meaning ‘alone’. (3)
10. Restaurants in Wellington usually ________ up very quickly on Saturdays, so it is a good idea to phone up and reserve a table. (4)
11. The opposite of 16 down. It is also the first part of 7 across. (3)
12. When you see the train about to leave the station, you have to ________ to catch it. The same verb is used in the expression ‘to ________ somebody down’, meaning to criticise them or give them a bad name. (3)
16. A particle used in many phrasal verbs, such as ‘turn ________’, meaning to go to bed, and ‘give ________’, meaning to surrender. (2)
Double definitions crossword

The answer to each clue is a two-part phrasal verb (or a noun or adjective derived from a phrasal verb). Each clue consists of two parts. The first part gives a dictionary definition; the second gives a typical sentence in which the phrasal verb might be used. The following verbs and particles are used.

**Verbs**
- aim
- book
- burn
- carry
- cast
- fall
- lie
- look
- make
- set
- sit
- stand
- switch
- touch
- turn
- walk
- work

**Particles**
- about
- at
- back
- by
- down
- in
- off
- on
- out
- over
- up

**Across**

3. Be careful, take care. (4,3)
   '______ _______! There's a car behind you!'

5. Point towards. (3,2)
   'Hold the dart like this and ______ _______ at the bull's eye.'

8. The dust that comes from a nuclear explosion. (7)
   'The trouble with nuclear _______ is that it is radioactive and highly dangerous.'

10. Solve, deduce. (4,3)
    'Don't ask me what the answer is. Try to _______ it _______ for yourself.'

11. Pay attention. (3,2)
    'Then I told him what I really thought of him. That made him _______ _______ all right!'

12. Land (of an aeroplane). (5,4)
    'Everyone gave a big sigh of relief as soon as they saw the plane _______ _______.'

16. A kind of railway at an amusement park. (10)
    'I love the way a _______ railway twists and turns.'

17. Total amount of money taken by a company during the year. (8)
    'Did you know that the Little Inkling Company more than doubled its _______ last year?'

18. Become extinguished. (4,3)
    'We let the fire _______ itself _______.'
Down

1. Something you no longer need, especially clothing. (4,3)
   'Oxfam is always glad to receive _______ _______ clothing.'

2. Wander. (4,5)
   'The best way to see a town is to park your car and just _______ _______ for an hour or two.'

3. Make a reservation. (4,2)
   'If you want a ticket for Hamlet, you really ought to _______ _______ now.'

4. Lipstick, face powder, eye shadow, etc. (6)
   'Do you think that men as well as women should use _______?'

5. Improve something by adding or removing small details. (5,2)
   'I haven’t got time to repaint the garage door. I think I’ll just _______ it _______ here and there.'

6. Stay in bed a bit longer in the morning. (3,2)
   'I have to get up at six every day to make the breakfast, so I like to _______ _______ on Sunday mornings.'

7. Change from one thing to another. (6,4)
   'We have decided to _______ _______ from oil to gas fired central heating.'

8. Discern, just be able to see. (4,3)
   'We could only just _______ _______ the farmhouse in the early morning mist.'

9. Ready and waiting to get a place or go into action, etc. (7)
   'On Fridays, all the flights out of Cologne are fully booked, and dozens of people are on _______.'

10. Continue. (5,2)
    'After the police arrested the man, the Princess was able to _______ _______ with her tour of inspection.'

11. Organise, establish. (3,2)
    'The government has _______ _______ a special committee to look into the problem of drug smuggling.'
Answers

Test 1
1 was like 9 get back
2 go with 10 take down
3 get in 11 is for
4 took back 12 takes off
5 come from 13 go on
6 come back 14 came off
7 go away 15 get up
8 is about

Test 2
1 away 9 through
2 back 10 with
3 for 11 up
4 on 12 off
5 from 13 around
6 like 14 into
7 about 15 after (x 2)
8 over

Test 3
1 back 9 to
2 from 10 on
3 in 11 along
4 before 12 into
5 round 13 up
6 forward 14 off
7 across 15 about
8 out

Test 4
1 across 6 round
2 away 7 into
3 on 8 behind
4 back 9 down
5 to 10 over

Test 5
1 It should be ‘the street lights went off’.
2 It should be ‘Gone away’.
3 It should be ‘I’ve really gone off it lately’.
4 It should be ‘flu virus going round’.
5 It should be ‘Do go on!’

Test 6
1 taken down 6 take off
2 take it back 7 take after
3 take out 8 taken in
4 take up 9 take it up
5 taken over 10 take on

Test 7
1 c
2 e
3 a
4 d
5 b

Test 8
1 False 6 True
2 True 7 True
3 False 8 False
4 False 9 True
5 True 10 True

Test 9
1 get 9 broken
2 take 10 stay
3 threw 11 see
4 put 12 comes
5 chop 13 take
6 lie 14 cuts
7 goes 15 dropped
8 call

Test 10
1 break 9 trade
2 stay 10 bought
3 give 11 drawing
4 keep 12 gone
5 show 13 dig
6 get 14 deal (x 2)
7 calling 15 brought
8 handed

Test 11
1 get down 9 lie down
2 take down 10 put down
3 turn down 11 write down
4 break down 12 track down
5 cut down 13 wear down
6 come down 14 stand down
7 look down 15 let down
8 put down

Test 12
1 dried 9 work
2 took 10 helping
3 cuts 11 drop
4 throw 12 slipped
5 rub 13 stand
6 pick 14 wipe
7 fallen 15 pass
8 show

Test 13
1 stay 6 frighten
2 running 7 slipped
3 take 8 tow
4 look 9 fade
5 break 10 sent

Test 14
Caption a away
Caption b down
Caption c in
Caption d off
Caption e out

1 ‘How nice of you to drop in! ’
2 ‘I’ll soon work it out.’
3 ‘Attendance has been dropping off lately.’
4 ‘You should have seen the fish that got away!’
5 ‘He has slowed down a lot since his operation.’

Test 15
1 g 6 i
2 h 7 b
3 c 8 f
4 a 9 j
5 e 10 d

Test 16
1 puts off a look into
2 go off b hang up
3 hangs up c fell through
4 fell out d stand for
5 cut down e put off
6 stand for f make up
7 fell through g gone off
8 make up h go out
9 look into i fallen out
10 go out j cut down

Test 17
1 cut out a tuck in
2 give away b tore off
3 drop in c give away
4 turn in d cut out
5 tear off e hang up
6 look into f turn in
7 break off g look into
8 tucks in h turn around
9 turn around i drop in
10 hang up j break off

1 d 6 g
2 c 7 j
3 i 8 a
4 f 9 h
5 b 10 e
Test 21
1. let off  a. set off
2. stand by  b. leaked out
3. look over  c. look over
4. clear up  d. let off
5. cut down  e. clear up
6. cover up  f. playing at
7. bump into  g. bumped into
8. set off  h. cut down
9. playing at  i. stand by
10. leaks out  j. cover up

Test 22
1. outfit  a. outburst
2. outlook  b. outcry
3. outbreak  c. outcast
4. outlet  d. outcome
5. outlay  e. outset

Test 23
1. If you don't feel like cooking, go get something from the Mexican takeaway.
2. The joys of modern travel: a five-mile tailback on the freeway.
3. A non-stick frying pan! The scientific breakthrough we've all been waiting for!
4. It takes minutes to fill your basket, and hours to go through the supermarket checkout.
5. A bank holdup.
6. If the traffic gets too bad, pull into a lay-by and have a rest.

Test 24
1. handout  a. breakdown
2. mixed-up  b. fallout
3. holdup  c. outfit
4. outlook  d. take-off
5. make-up  e. standby

Test 25
1. c  6. b
2. a  7. d
3. d  8. b
4. b  9. a
5. a  10. c

Test 26
1. You can stay in your car: this is a drive-in movie.
2. These shoes have no laces: they are slip-on shoes.
3. This is not an aerosol deodorant: it is a roll-on deodorant.
4. The crooks used this as a getaway vehicle.
5. This is a pop-up book.
6. This is a pick-up truck.
7. This is cast-off clothing.
8. There is a sale on: everything at knockdown prices.
9. The shop owner does not live here: it is a lock-up shop.
10. This shed is not freestanding: it is a lean-to shed.

Test 27
1. built-up  a. stuck-up
2. throwaway  b. follow-up
3. run-down  c. see-through
4. mixed-up  d. takeover
5. worn-out  e. stand-offish

Test 28
1. a lean-to  a. make-up
2. a pinup  b. hangover
3. a pick-up  c. lie in
4. a handout  d. show down

Test 29
1. d  6. b
2. f  7. j
3. a  8. g
4. i  9. c
5. h  10. e

Test 30
1. 'OK, everybody. Tea break over. Time to get back to work!'
2. 'We speak out against injustice wherever we find it.'
3. 'The problem is that we've run out of matches.'
4. 'My wife has walked out on me. I can't think why.'
5. 'Please don't wait up for me.'
6. 'This is what happens when you fall behind with the rent.'
Test 53
1 b 6 b
2 d 7 d
3 b 8 c
4 c 9 a
5 d 10 c

Test 54
1 d 6 b
2 b 7 c
3 a 8 d
4 c 9 c
5 a 10 b

Test 55
1 b 6 d
2 a 7 b
3 c 8 a
4 d 9 d
5 b 10 c

Test 56
1 MEAT PRICES ARE DOWN AGAIN. HOUSEWIVES ADVISED TO SHOP AROUND FOR THE BEST BARGAINS
2 DON'T KNOCK OFF EARLY ON FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, WORKERS WARNED
3 LOCAL COUNCIL TELL GRAFFITI ARTISTS TO 'BUZZ OFF'
4 NEW WEBSITE BOASTS BIGGEST ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF THE WORLD'S WINES. 'WELL WORTH DIPPING INTO,' SAY THE EXPERTS
5 SAILING IS NOW THIRD MOST POPULAR HOBBY. 'MEN LOVE TO MESS ABOUT IN BOATS,' SAYS LEISURE FIRM.
6 SWIMMER'S DEATH SPARKS OFF A SAFETY ENQUIRY
7 AMAZON EXPLORERS DECIDE TO PRESS ON DESPITE THE HEAT
8 'ATTENDANCE AT WATER POLO EVENTS DROPPING OFF' SAYS OFFICIAL REPORT.
9 IMMIGRANT WORKERS FEEL ALIENATED: HAVE A HARD TIME FITTING IN

Test 57
1 EIGHTY-YEAR-OLD JUDGE CRITICISED FOR NODDING OFF DURING TRIAL. 'IF HE CAN'T STAY AWAKE, HE SHOULD RETIRE,' LAWYER COMMENTS

Test 58
Across
1 come down
4 send off
7 outbreak
8 do
10 bowl over
13 down
14 on
15 string

Down
1 cast off
2 end
3 offset
5 note down
6 skate
9 own
10 book
11 out
12 run
16 in

Test 59
Across
1 look out
2 aim at
8 fallout
10 work out
11 sit up
12 touch down
16 switchback
17 turnover
18 burn out

Down
1 cast-off
2 walk about
4 book up
6 make-up
7 touch up
9 lie in
11 switch over
13 make out
14 standby
15 carry on
16 set up

Test 60
1 CONTROVERSY OVER SUNDAY OPENING OF INDIAN SHOPS IN CARACAS: SHOPOWNERS SAY THEY INTEND TO CARRY ON AS USUAL
2 YOUNGSTERS TUCK IN AT VILLAGE FEAST
3 OLD PEOPLE ADVISED TO WRAP UP WELL DURING COLD SPELL
4 ANGRY SCENES IN CONGRESS: BRAZIL'S PRESIDENT LASHES OUT AT OPPOSITION'S 'DISHONEST TACTICS'
5 OFFICIALS CRITICISED FOR SWANNING ABOUT IN EXPENSIVE CARS AT TAXPAYERS' EXPENSE
6 WHOLE TRIBES WIPED OUT BY FLU EPIDEMIC
7 SEA FREEZES OVER IN COLDEST WINTER IN LIVING MEMORY
8 VILLAGERS MOUNT CAMPAIGN TO STAMP OUT TREE VANDALISM
9 CAT, TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OLD, PASSES AWAY AFTER SHORT ILLNESS
10 SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR PROMISES TO ROOT OUT CORRUPTION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS