

50 Phrasal Verbs you need to know

VOLUME 1



Welcome to Volume 1 of 50 Phrasal Verbs You Need to Know

Introduction

Phrasal verbs are an essential aspect of the English language, and their significance cannot be overstated. Phrasal verbs consist of a verb combined with one or more particles, typically prepositions or adverbs, to create unique meanings that may not be evident from the individual words alone.

Understanding and mastering phrasal verbs is crucial, as they enhance communication skills, promote fluency, and contribute to overall language proficiency.

Firstly, phrasal verbs are ubiquitous in spoken and written English, making them indispensable for effective communication. Unlike straightforward single-word verbs, phrasal verbs often convey subtle nuances and idiomatic expressions that are commonly used in daily conversations. For instance, the verb "give" can take on various meanings when combined with different particles, such as "give up," "give in," or "give away." Each of these phrasal verbs conveys a distinct message, from surrendering to quitting or donating, demonstrating the richness and complexity of the English language. Thus, acquiring a grasp of phrasal verbs empowers students to engage in more meaningful and expressive/colourful dialogue.

Furthermore, phrasal verbs play an important role in enhancing reading comprehension and writing skills.

In literature and academic texts, phrasal verbs are frequently employed to convey precise meanings or subtle shades of emotion. Without a solid understanding of these expressions, students may struggle to interpret the intentions of authors or struggle to compose cohesive and expressive essays themselves. Therefore, learning phrasal verbs equips learners with the tools to engage with a broader range of texts and communicate their ideas effectively in writing.

Moreover, phrasal verbs contribute significantly to oral and written fluency. Language learners often encounter situations where the use of a phrasal verb is more natural and idiomatic than using a single-word verb. Being able to use phrasal verbs confidently allows students to participate in discussions, give

presentations, and express themselves in a manner that sounds more native-like. This fluency not only boosts their self-esteem but also makes for smoother interactions with English speakers.

Another reason why phrasal verbs are important is that they provide a bridge to understanding the culture and context behind language. English is a language rich in idiomatic expressions, and many phrasal verbs have evolved over time to reflect cultural practices and historical contexts. By delving into the meanings and origins of phrasal verbs, students gain insight into the intricacies of English-speaking societies. This cultural awareness broadens their worldview and helps them connect with people from diverse backgrounds.

Conclusion

In conclusion, phrasal verbs are a fundamental aspect of the English language that students should learn and master. They offer a gateway to effective communication, improved reading and writing skills, enhanced fluency, and a deeper understanding of English-speaking cultures. As students progress in their language learning journey, the ability to use phrasal verbs will serve them well in academic, social, and professional contexts, making it an essential skill to acquire. By embracing phrasal verbs, students unlock the door to a richer, more nuanced, and more expressive use of the English language.

I hope you find this collection of Phrasal Verbs useful. Many of them you may know already. But it's good to have them in one place to be able to refer to them easily. They are numbered and in alphabetical order.

To your success!

Michael



About the Author

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1 Add up - to make sense or be logical

Example: Her explanation didn't add up to me.

2 Ask for - to request something

Example: She asked for a glass of water.

3 Back down - to withdraw from a position or argument

Example: The company backed down from its strict policy.

4 Back up - to support or assist

Example: John backed up his friend during the argument.

5 Bring up - to mention or introduce a topic

Example: The teacher brought up a new idea in class.

6 Call off - to cancel an event or arrangement

Example: They called off the meeting due to bad weather.

7 Call up - to make a phone call

Example: I'll call up my friend to invite her.

8 Check in - to register at a hotel or venue

Example: We'll check in at the hotel before sightseeing.

9 Check out - to investigate or examine

Example: The detective checked out the crime scene.

10 Come across - to encounter or find unexpectedly

Example: I came across an old friend at the mall.

11 Come up with - to think of or suggest an idea or solution

Example: She came up with a brilliant plan.

12 Cut off - to disconnect or stop the supply

Example: The storm cut off power to the entire neighborhood.

13 Cut out - to remove or eliminate something

Example: You should cut out sugary snacks from your diet.

14 Do over - to repeat or redo something

Example: The chef had to do the dish over due to a mistake.

15 Do without - to manage without something

Example: We had to do without electricity for hours.

16 Eat out - to dine at a restaurant

Example: They often eat out on weekends.

17 Eat up - to consume all of something

Example: The kids ate up all the cookies.

18 Fall apart - to break into pieces or fail completely

Example: The old house is falling apart.

19 Fall back - to retreat or move away

Example: The troops had to fall back to a safer position.

20 Get along - to have a good relationship with someone

Example: My sister and I get along very well.

21 Keep on - to continue doing something

Example: Despite the challenges, he kept on pursuing his dreams.

22 Keep up - to maintain or continue at the same pace

Example: He struggled to keep up with the others in the race.

23 Look after - to take care of someone or something

Example: She looked after her little brother while their parents were away.

24 Look for - to search for something

Example: I'm looking for my keys; have you seen them?

25 Make out - to see or understand something with difficulty

Example: I can't make out what the sign says from here.

26 Make up - to invent or create a story

Example: The children made up a tale about a magical kingdom.

27 Pass out - to lose consciousness or faint

Example: The heat was so intense that he passed out.

28 Pay back - to repay money or a favor

Example: I'll pay you back the loan by the end of the month.

29 Pay for - to give money in exchange for goods or services

Example: She paid for the new dress with her credit card.

30 Pick out - to choose or select from a group

Example: He picked out the best apples at the market.

31 Pick up - to collect or gather

Example: Can you pick up some groceries on your way home?

32 Pick up on - to notice or detect something

Example: She picked up on his sadness and offered comfort.

33 Put on - to wear clothing or accessories

Example: She put on her favorite dress for the party.

34 Put off - to cause someone to lose interest or enthusiasm

Example: The bad weather put off the picnic plans.

35 Run into - to encounter unexpectedly

Example: I ran into my old high school teacher at the mall.

36 Run out - to use up all of something

Example: We ran out of milk, so I need to buy some.

37 Run over - to hit and knock down with a vehicle

Example: The careless driver ran over a pedestrian.

38 Settle down - to establish a stable life or routine

Example: After traveling for years, he decided to settle down in a small town.

39 Set up - to arrange or organize something

Example: We'll set up a meeting for next Tuesday.

40 Take after - to look similar to someone, have same personality etc.

Example: My daughter takes after her father in many ways; they are both very outgoing.

41 Take off - to remove or start a journey

Example: The plane is about to take off.

42 Take on - to accept or undertake a responsibility or challenge

Example: She decided to take on the role of team captain.

43 Take up - to start a new hobby or activity

Example: She decided to take up painting during her free time.

44 Turn away - to not accept entry

Example: The band was so popular the venue was completely sold out and we had to turn away hundreds of fans wanting to get in.

45 Turn up - to appear or arrive unexpectedly

Example: He turned up at the party without an invitation.

46 Turn down - to reject or refuse an offer or request

Example: He turned down the job offer because of the low salary.

47 Wake up - to stop sleeping and become conscious

Example: I wake up at 7 AM every day.

48 Wash up - to clean one's hands or face

Example: Before dinner, we should all wash up.

49 Wash up– to be finished, often said about someone's successful career ending

Example: He had a long career as a singer but after his voice got bad he was completely washed up.

50 Worked up–to become emotional when something, usually bad, happened

Example: When her car broke down on the freeway she became very worked up. She seemed distressed and was crying.

This has been Volume 1 of 50 Phrasal Verbs You Need to Know sent out to my Newsletter Subscribers and nobody else.'

I hope you found them useful.

I plan to produce a second Volume with another 50 Phrasal Verbs. I'll let you know when it's ready.

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