

18 Phrasal verbs (look for, put on, get up)

1 We can use many verbs with other words to make a phrasal verb, e.g. **look for, put on, get up**.

2 One verb can go with several other words to make different phrasal verbs: **go with, go off, go on**. The meaning of the phrasal verb is not always clear from the two parts. For example, **go on** means 'continue'. You should check the meaning of phrasal verbs in a dictionary.

3 Grammatically, there are three different groups of phrasal verbs.

► Group 1:

*The police are **looking for** the criminal.*

*The police are **looking for** him.*

(Not *They are ~~looking him for~~*.)

Look for has an object (**the criminal, him**). Note that the object goes after the phrasal verb. Some common verbs in this group are:

agree with	ask for	feel like
look after	look at	look for
get at	join in	call for

► Group 2:

*She **put on** a hat.*

*She **put** a hat **on**.*

*She **put it on**. (Not ~~She put on it~~.)*

Put on has an object (**a hat, it**). If the object is a pronoun (**me, you, her, him, it, us, them, one, some, any**), then it goes in the middle of the phrasal verb; if the object is a noun, it can go either after the verb or in the middle. Some common verbs in this group are:

bring back	draw out	put on
fill in	take off	put away
hand in	rub out	look up
let out	turn down/off	

► Group 3:

*I usually **get up** at 7 o'clock.*

Get up is a phrasal verb that does not have an object. Some common verbs in this group are:

come round	get away	get back
go on	get off	get up
hold on (=wait)	go off	go out

Practice

A Use the phrasal verbs in the box in the correct form to complete the conversation between Frank and his daughter Anna.

go out (= leave a building/room)	come round (= visit)	join in (= take part in)
turn down (= lower, make quieter)	get back (= return)	call for (= collect)
get off (= leave a bus/train/plane)	look after (= care for)	put on (= wear)

Frank: Anna, ⁰ turn down the music a bit. I want to tell you something.

Anna: What is it?

Frank: Tom has just phoned to say that he is ¹ _____ here with his children, Jane and Michael. He wants us to ² _____ them while he goes to the shops in the centre of town.

Anna: We don't have to stay at home, do we? I'm going to the sports club with Sally. She's ³ _____ me at 11 o'clock.

Frank: No, you can ⁴ _____ if you like. But it's cold; are you going to go on your bike?

Anna: Yes, but I'll ⁵ _____ some warm clothes.

Frank: Okay, Jane and Michael can go there on the bus. I'll tell them where to ⁶ _____. And when you're at the club, can you let Jane and Michael

7 _____ your games.

Anna: Don't worry. We always have a good time together.

Frank: Good, but remember to ⁸ _____ by 1 o'clock, because that's when we're having lunch.

B In each sentence, replace the underlined words with a phrasal verb from the box that means the same. Use a dictionary to help you.

brought back	get-away	went off	fill in	get at
hold on	look up	put away	rubbed out	

- 0 How did the prisoners escape? get away
- 1 If you want a passport, you must complete this form. _____
- 2 Wait! I'm coming. _____
- 3 I can't reach the books at the back of the cupboard. _____
- 4 The bomb exploded just before midnight. _____
- 5 The teacher erased the words that were wrong. _____
- 6 You can consult the meaning of the words in a dictionary. _____
- 7 Has Philip returned the books that he borrowed? _____
- 8 At the end of the day the children stored their toys. _____

C Complete these short dialogues with a sentence that has a phrasal verb, in the correct tense, and the word in brackets().

- 0 Anna: Have you taken your shoes off?
Carol: (them) Yes, I've taken them off.
- 0 Jane: We must ask for some more paper.
Dennis: (some) I'll ask for some tomorrow.
- 1 Tom: Have you looked for your keys?
Ann: (them) Yes, I've _____ everywhere.
- 2 Jeff: Can you turn the bedroom lights off, please?
Harry: (them) Yes, I'll _____ in a minute.
- 3 Olive: Have the students handed in their homework?
Pam: (it) Yes, they've all _____.
- 4 Ken: Do you agree with Tom?
Ben: (him) No, I never _____.
- 5 Susan: When did you draw the money out of your bank account?
Noel: (it) I _____ of my account yesterday.
- 6 Karen: When did you let the cat out into the garden?
Sally: (it) I _____ into the garden, before I went to bed.