

# PHRASAL VERBS\_ONE

## 1. Separable and Non-Separable phrasal verbs

Phrasal verbs are either separable or non-separable. **Unfortunately, there is no rule** that will help you to look at a phrasal verb and always know whether it is **separable or nonseparable**.

### Separable phrasal verbs

Separable phrasal verbs can be separated by their object. When the object is a noun, it is usually entirely optional whether the object is placed between the verb and the particle or placed after the particle. Both sentences below are correct:

I **took** my shoes **off**.

I **took off** my shoes.

However, when a pronoun is used instead of a noun, the pronoun must be placed between the verb and the particle:

I **took** them **off**.

~~I took off them.~~

But in one type of sentence, separable phrasal verbs must be separated — when the phrasal verb has two objects:

She **put** a blanket **on**. She **put on** a blanket.

She **put** a blanket **on** the bed. ~~She put on a blanket the bed.~~

### Non-Separable phrasal verbs

Non-separable phrasal verbs cannot be separated by their object:

He **ran into** a tree. ~~He ran a tree into.~~

Throughout this book, phrasal verbs that can be separated have three dots (...) between the verb and the particle.

#### Infinitive

**1. come from** p.v. When you **come from** a place, you were born there or lived there previously. When you **come from** a family or a social situation, your past experience helps to explain your present attitudes and behavior.

Mike **comes from** Alaska, so he's used to cold weather.

Jane had a difficult childhood. She **came from** a broken home.

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**2. come from** p.v. When something **comes from** a source, that is where it originated.

The word "admiral" comes **from** an Arabic word. The mechanic heard a strange sound **coming from** the engine.

**1. figure ... out** p.v. [the object can be a noun or a noun clause] When you **figure out** something, such as the answer to a question, the solution to a problem, or why a person is a certain way or acts a certain way, you think about and succeed in understanding it.

Joe's so hostile all the time. I can't **figure him out**. I looked everywhere for my keys, but I couldn't **figure out** where I put them.

**1. give ... back** (to) p.v. When you return something to someone, you **give it back**.

Timmy, **give** that toy **back** to your sister right now!

Can I use your pen? I'll **give it back** after the test.

**1. look for** p.v. When you **look for** things or people, you try to find them.

I **looked** for you at the party, but I didn't see you.

I'm **looking for** 303 Main St.

Excuse me, can you help me?

**1. put... on** p.v. When you place something on or apply something to your body, you **put it on**.

I **put on** my new dress before going to the party. Eric forgot to **put** suntan lotion **on**, and now he's as red as a lobster.

**2. put...on** p.v. When you place something on or apply something to another surface, you **put it on**.

I **put** the book **on** the table.

Jerry **put** too much fertilizer **on** his **lawn**, and now he has to cut it twice a week.

**3. put... on** p.v. When you attach or affix something to another thing, you **put it on**.

The Wilsons **put** a new roof **on** their house last year.

I told the tailor to **put** red buttons **on** the dress he's making for me.

**4. put... on** p.v. When you **put on** weight, you gain weight.

Did you see Mike? He's **put on** so much weight that I didn't recognize him. I need to go on a diet. I've been **putting on** a lot of weight lately.

**5. put ...on** p.v. When you organize or perform something for other people's entertainment, such as a play or a concert, you **put it on**.

The club **put on** a show to raise money for the party.

That opera hasn't been **put on** in more than 200 years.

**6. put.. on** p.v. [informal] When you **put** people on, you kid or tease them.

You won the lottery? You're **putting me on!** (Also, 'you're **having me on**)

Don't **put me on** — tell me the truth.

**put-on** n. Something done with the **intention** of fooling or **deceiving** people is a **put-on**.

He didn't really win the lottery. It was all a big **put-on** to impress his girlfriend.

**run into** p.v. When you are driving and hit another vehicle or something near the road, such as a tree or a telephone pole, you **run into** it.

Ali was driving too fast, and he **ran into** a telephone pole. I was **run into** by a drunk driver.

**2. run into** p.v. When you meet people **unexpectedly** or **unintentionally**, you **run into** them.

**Bump into** is the same as **run into**.

We **ran into** Karen and her new boyfriend at the supermarket yesterday.

I owe Frank \$300, so I hope I don't **run into** him.

**3. run into** p.v. When you unexpectedly **encounter** difficulties or problems, you **run into** them.

I thought it would be easy to fix my car, but I've been **running into** problems.

Janice **ran into** one problem after another at work today.

**4. run into** p.v. When the total of something grows to a large amount or number, it **runs into** that amount or number.

If you fixed everything on that old car that needs fixing, it would **run into** thousands of dollars. The number of starving people in the country **ran into** millions.

**1. show up** p.v. When you appear somewhere, you **show up**. **Turn up** is similar to **show up**.

/ was supposed to meet my sister for lunch, but she hasn't **shown up** yet.

Over a hundred people **showed up** for the news conference.

**2. show up** p.v. When something appears or becomes visible, it **shows up**. The spots won't **show up** until the last stages of the disease.

It's hard to photograph polar bears because they don't **show up** well against the snow.

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**1. take ...off** p.v. When you remove something from your body, you **take it off**.

/ was so tired when I got home that I **took** my clothes **off** and went straight to bed. **Take off** your

shoes. You're getting mud on the carpet.

**2. take ...off** p.v. When you remove something from a surface, you **take** it **off**.

I **took** the book **off** the table. You need to **take** the old wax **off** the floor before you wax it again.

**3. take ...off** p.v. When you remove something from something it is attached or affixed to, you **take** it **off**.

Alfonso always **takes** the skin off chicken before he cooks it. After Jane **took** the flat tire off her bicycle, she put on the new one.

**4. take ... off** p.v. When you **take** time **off** from work or study, you do something different, instead of working or studying.

I can't work tomorrow. I have to **take** the day off for some tests at the hospital. Our company always lets us **take** the week between Christmas and New Year's Day off.

**5. take off** p.v. When an airplane leaves the ground and flies up into the air, it **takes off**.

Our plane **took off** an hour late because of the snow. Put on your seat belt; we're **taking off** now.

**takeoff** n. **Takeoff** is when an airplane leaves the ground and flies up into the air. The **takeoff** was delayed because of the snow.

**6. take off** p.v. When a business or other organized activity becomes very successful, it **takes off**.

The new restaurant's business is **taking off** because it got a good review in the newspaper. If this business **takes off**, we could make a lot of money.

**7. take off** p.v. [informal] When you leave suddenly or quickly, you **take off**.

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After he found out the FBI was looking for him, he **took off** in a hurry. This party's boring — let's **take off**.

**8. take ... off** p.v. When you reduce the price of something that is for sale by a certain amount, you **take** that amount **off** the price.

The sign in the store window said, "Every Monday **take** 10 percent **off** all marked prices." The car dealer **took** \$2,000 **off** the list price.

**EXERCISE 1 A — Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense (Past, Present or Future).**

**Example:** Sergeant Jones is very strict with his children. He COMES FROM a military family.

1. After the police arrived, we \_\_\_\_\_ quickly.

2. Sales of air conditioners really \_\_\_\_\_ when the temperature got over 100 degrees last summer.

3. Megan \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of weight \_\_\_\_\_ when she was pregnant.

4. I'm going to install a new program tonight, and I hope I don't \_\_\_\_\_ any problems.

5. The invisible ink \_\_\_\_\_ only under ultraviolet light.

6. I was expecting 100 people at the party, but only around 50 \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Jane was lucky; she \_\_\_\_\_ a good family.

8. Be sure you \_\_\_\_\_ a coat of **primer** \_\_\_\_\_ before you paint the **fender**.

9. My cousin is so weird that even his mother can't \_\_\_\_\_ him \_\_\_\_\_.

10. I don't feel well; I think I'll \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow \_\_\_\_\_ and stay home.

11. We were scared to death when we heard voices \_\_\_\_\_ the attic.

12. My son always forgets to \_\_\_\_\_ his coat before he goes outside.

13. I was surprised when our plane \_\_\_\_\_ on time.

14. We \_\_\_\_\_ our dog all night, but we couldn't find him.

15. Paul finally \_\_\_\_\_ my CDs after I asked him for them about a million times.

16. I'm not going to the party because I don't want to \_\_\_\_\_ Janice.

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#### EXERCISE 1B

Choose SIX-EIGHT PHRASAL VERBS from the examples above and write a paragraph using them.