

CHAPTER - VI

Phrasal Verbs

Look at the following sentences :

1. Sayapatri and Sukumar looked at each other.
2. The child looked up the word in the dictionary.

In the above sentences the verb *look* has two parts — a main verb (look) and another small word (*at*, *up*). In sentences 1, the small words *at* is a prepositional particle and in sentence 2, *up* is an adverb particle. These verbs are known as two-word verbs. The verb group in sentence 2 is known as a **phrasal verb**. We can say, a phrasal verb is formed when an *adverb particle* is added to the main verb to make a new verb. The verb has a new meaning most of the times.

For example :

5. I have *run out* of money.
6. The people of Manali are *looking forward* to a new source of living.

Phrasal Verbs : Their Meanings :

Some phrasal verbs are very easy to understand. For example :

7. We *went round* the city.
8. Prices have *come down*.

In the above sentences we can easily understand the meanings of the phrasal verbs (went round, come down) if we have understood the meaning of the words they are made up of.

Now look at the following phrasal verbs.

9. Our request was *turned down*.
10. Lisa and Misa have *fallen out*.

We cannot guess the meaning of the phrasal verbs in the above sentences even if we know the meanings of the words which make them. The meaning of 'turn down' has nothing to do with the meanings of 'turn' and 'down'. Similar is the case with 'fallen out'. The phrasal verbs here give us quite different meanings. 'Turned down' means rejected and 'fallen out' means quarrelled. Most phrasal verbs of this type can be replaced by a single-word verb.

Transitive and Intransitive use :

Like the ordinary verbs, phrasal verbs can be transitive or intransitive i.e. they can have either objects or no objects at all. Look at the following sentences :

11. My car has *broken down*.

12. The plane *took off* late.

Both the phrasal verbs do not have any objects. They are *intransitive phrasal verbs*.

Now study the following sentences :

13. We have *set up* a school.

14. I cannot *make out* your words.

15. Would you please *turn on* the light ?

In the above sentences the phrasal verbs have objects. They are *transitive phrasal verbs*.

Some phrasal verbs can be used both transitively and intransitively with or without a change in their meanings. For example.

16.(a) Intransitive : The battery has run down (= become weak)

16.(b) Transitive : (i) You will run down the battery if you use it long. (no change in meaning)

(ii) He is always running down his neighbours (= criticise : change in meaning)

17. Turn out :

Intransitive : The whole town turned out to welcome the winning football team. (came out into the street)

Transitive : This factory turns out two hundred cars a week. (produce)

18. Give out :

Intransitive : His patience gave out and he slapped the child hard. (became exhausted)

Transitive : The teacher gave out the books. (distribute, issue)

19. Look on :

- Intransitive : Two men were fighting and the rest were *looking on*. (be the spectators)
- Transitive : Most people *look on* a television set as an essential piece of furniture. (consider)

Common Phrasal Verbs, Prepositional Verbs and Phrasal Prepositional Verbs :

- break down** : (i) (= stop functioning, fail)
The car has broken down.
(ii) (= collapse, burst into tears)
She broke down when she heard of her husband's death.
- break into** : (= enter by force)
Thieves broke into our house last night.
- break in** : (i) (=interrupt a discussion)
She broke in as he was speaking.
(ii) (=tame)
It will be difficult to break that horse in.
- break off** : (= stop for a rest or break)
Let's break off for ten minutes.
- bring out** : (= publish)
The publishers have brought out a new edition.
- bring up** : (= educate/rear)
He was brought up by his uncle.
- call up** : (= summon or telephone)
I'll call you up if I need your help.
- call on** : (= visit)
They called on me yesterday for about an hour.

call off	:	(= cancel) The workers have decided to call off their strike.
carry out	:	(= execute) I expect her to carry out her promises.
carry on	:	(= continue) Carry on with your work.
do up	:	(i) (= fasten) Do up your shoes ! He forgot to do up the zip. (ii) (= decorate) She did up the room.
get on	:	(= fare, make progress) It is hard work, but I'm getting on quite well.
get over	:	(= overcome) He got over his difficulties.
give up	:	(i) (= stop) He is trying to give up smoking.
give in	:	(i) (= surrender, yield) He gave up his seat on the bus to an old lady.
give away	:	(= distribute) The Chief Guest gave away the prizes.
keep up	:	(i) (= prevent from getting low) Keep up your courage/spirits. (ii) (= maintain the same speed or level) You are walking too fast, I cannot keep up.
lay by	:	(= put away for future use / save) Lay by something.
leave out	:	(= omit) If you can't think of the answer to that question, leave it out.

look after	:	(= take care of) She has looked after her elderly parents for many years.
look for	:	(= try to find) I am looking for a new house.
look over	:	(= examine carefully) I would like to look over these documents.
look into	:	(= investigate) The police are looking into the matter.
make off	:	(= depart hurriedly) The cat made off as soon as the dog appeared.
make out	:	(= understand) His writing is always difficult to make out.
make up	:	(i) (= settle, reestablish good relations) They have made up their quarrel at last. (ii) (= invent) Did you make that story up, or is it true ? (iii) (= supply deficiency) It will take a long time to make up the loss.
pick out	:	(= choose) Would you pick out the oranges you want ?
pick up	:	(i) (= get, acquire) He has picked up some bad habits. (ii) (= recover after an illness) He is picking up again, I am glad to say.
put down	:	(= suppress by force) The police put the riot down.
put off	:	(= postpone) Don't put off today's work for tomorrow. They have put off the meeting because of bad weather.

- put out** : (= extinguish, turn off) Shall I put out the light ?
- put up** : (i) (= stay, live)
He puts up at a little hotel in the town.
(ii) (= raise)
The boy put his hand up to ask a question.
(iii) (= accommodate)
Would you put them up here for the night ?
- set in** : (= begin, start)
Winter has set in.
- set off/set out** : (= start a journey)
He set off/set out on a long journey.
- set up** : (= start, establish)
He set up a school for poor children.
- take down** : (= write down)
The reporter took down the speech.
- take off** : (i) (= leave the ground)
The aeroplane took off smoothly.
(ii) (= remove)
He took off his hat.
- take over** : (= accept duty)
When Mr Pattnaik retired, his son took over the business.
- get away with** : (= escape)
The thief got away with a lot of money.
- get on with** : (= make progress) How are you getting on with your studies ?
- go back on** : (= fail to keep)
I won't go back on my word.
- go in for** : (=like or enjoy)
Lots of people go in for cricket these days.

- keep up with : (= go forward at an equal pace with)
He could not keep up with the class.
- look forward to : (= anticipate eagerly)
We are looking forward to seeing you again.
- make up for : (= compensate for)
He tried to make up for all the trouble he had caused.
- run out of : (= have no time left)
I have run out of time.

Notes to teachers :

At this level, it is not necessary to distinguish between phrasal, prepositional and phrasal-prepositional verbs. Let all of them be called phrasal verbs.

Activity - 1

In some sentences given below the particles can be separated from the verb and put after the noun phrase (the object). Find out such sentences and rewrite them with the particles after the objects. Write NS (not separable) against the sentences where particles cannot be separated.

- Examples :**
1. I depend on you. (NS)
 2. He turned off the light.
= He turned the light off.
1. She is looking for a good dress.
 2. The enemy blew up the bridge.
 3. The police are looking into the matter.
 4. Take off your shoes before coming in.
 5. I called on an old friend yesterday.
 6. You should keep up your honour.
 7. Can I count on your help during difficulties ?
 8. The government put down the revolt firmly.
 9. The child hit on a plan to escape punishment.
 10. We called off the strike after an agreement.

Activity - 2

Replace the noun phrase in italics by an appropriate pronoun and use it in the right place.

Example : We saw *our friends* at the airport.

Ans : We saw them off.

1. Can you pick out *the correct answers* ?
2. We have pointed out *many mistakes*.
3. It is time to wind up *the speech*.
4. The soldiers pulled down *the fort*.
5. Can you carry on *this work* a little longer ?
6. They threw away *all the useless things*.
7. We closed down *our business* as it was not profitable.
8. You must lay by *a part of your income* for future use.
9. Please look up *the word* in a dictionary.
10. They have ruled out *any change in his behaviour*.

Activity - 3

Complete the sentences using the phrasal verbs and the objects in the appropriate places. Put the verbs given in brackets into the correct tenses :

Example : (i) I will _____ after lunch. (call back / you)

Ans : I will call you back after lunch.

(ii) It's a trick. Only a fool will _____. (fall for / it)

Ans : Only a fool will fall for it.

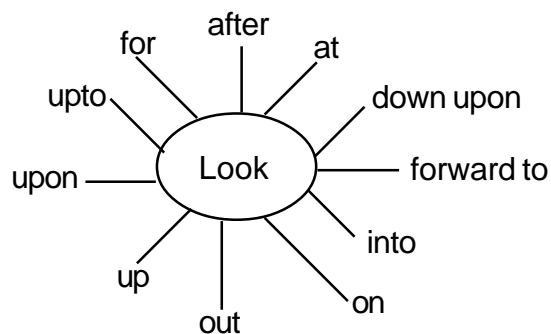
1. I _____ on my way to school. (came across / a strange animal)
2. It is better to _____. (throw away / broken chairs)
3. It was a mistake. My friend _____. (point out / it)
4. Who is _____ nowadays ? (looking after / this building)
5. His son died. He has never _____. (get over / his sorrows)

6. The machine is making a lot of noise. Can you _____ ? (switch off / it)
7. She offered to help me, but I _____. (turn down / it)
8. I met Ramesh today. He _____. (asking after / you)
9. This school is running well. We will _____. (close down / it)
10. Your brother is in trouble. You must _____ during his distress.

(stand by / him)

Activity - 4

Dictionary use. Study the diagram given below :



Combine the verb **look** with the particles shown as rays and use them in the following sentences. The verb and the meaning of the two word verb have been given in each case.

Example : (a situation getting better) The weather is looking _____ after the stormy days.

[Ans : up]

- (i) (to be careful) 'Look _____ ! there might be a snake there !'
- (ii) (to be care of) Grandma looked _____ Fakirmohan.
- (iii) (to investigate) A team of experts is looking _____ this problem.
- (iv) (to consider somebody in a particular way) I look _____ Reeta as my sister.
- (v) (to search for something in a dictionary) Please look _____ the word in a dictionary.
- (vi) (to consider with contempt) Never look _____ girls; they can work wonders.
- (vii) (to expect something enjoyable) I am looking _____ my birthday.
- (viii) (to think about or study) Look _____ the following sentences.
- (ix) (to watch something happening) Everyone looked _____ in silence.

(x) (to consider with respect) After the morning prayers all the children looked _____ Swami.

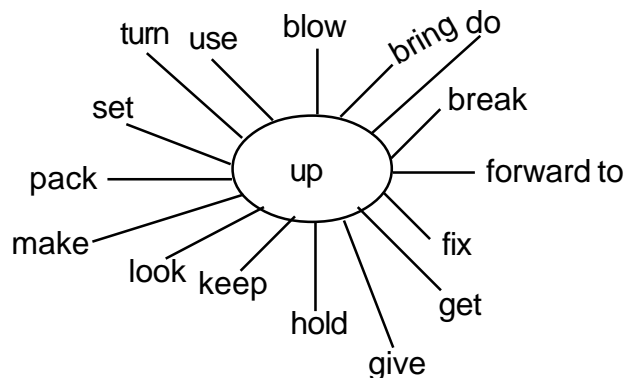
(xi) (to search) Where is my grammar book ? I have been looking _____ it since morning.

Do similar exercises using 'break / come / give / go / put'.

Let there be a competition in the class.

Activity - 5

Dictionary use. Study the diagram given below :



Combine the particle up with the verbs shown as rays and use them in the following sentences putting them into the correct tense form. The meaning of the two word verb has been given in each case.

Example : (To search for something in a dictionary) Please _____ up in the dictionary how the phrase is used. [Ans. - Look)

- (i) (To replace some lost thing) We must work hard to _____ up the lost hours.
- (ii) (to stop working) It's going to rain, we should _____ up and go home.
- (iii) (to start a business / an institution) I plan to _____ up a business after getting the degree.
- (iv) (to exhaust something so that nothing is left) I have _____ up all the petrol in my scooter.
- (v) (to separate) The group _____ up after the quarrel.
- (vi) (to leave bed after sleeping) We usually _____ up early in the morning.

- (vii) (a situation getting better) After three long rainy days the weather is _____ up.
- (viii) (to come to a meeting) Only a few students _____ up in the class due to heavy rain.
- (ix) (to destroy by exploration) The platoon of soldiers _____ up a bridge.
- (x) (to take care of) We should _____ up children with care.
- (xi) (to make something attractive) We _____ up our house before my sister's marriage.
- (xii) (to arrange something to happen) We have _____ up the meeting for the next week.
- (xiii) (to stop doing something) Don't _____ up hopes.
- (xiv) (to obstruct) A marriage procession _____ up the traffic for an hour.
- (xv) (to maintain something at a high level) We must try to _____ up the honour of our school.

Do similar exercise using after / for / off / on / out. Let there be a competition in the class.

Activity - 6

Replace the underlined expressions with phrasal verbs using the verbs given in brackets.

- (i) I don't like the way Swami is being educated. (bring)
- (ii) The government rejected the employees' request for pay revision. (turn)
- (iii) The strike was cancelled. (call)
- (iv) We reduced our expenses after our father's retirement. (cut)
- (v) I disappointed my parents by my poor results. (let)
- (vi) I can hardly understand what you say. (make)
- (vii) Most children resemble their parents. (take)
- (viii) We called a doctor when my mother was ill. (send)
- (ix) We continued working long after the evening. (keep)
- (x) Have you read the book I gave you ? (go)

Activity - 7

Combine one verb from group – **A** with a suitable particle from group – **B**. In this way, frame 10 phrasal verbs. Use them in sentences. Who will do it first in the class ?

Group – A : break, bring, call, come, cut, get, give, go, keep, let, make, put, set, take

Group – B : after, at, away, by, down, for, from, in, into, off, on, out, over, to, up

Activity - 8

Choose the correct particles and complete the phrasal verbs in the sentences.

1. Please turn _____ the radio. (on, up)
2. Cholera broke _____ everywhere. (down, out)
3. The meeting came _____ very successfully. (up, off)
4. I do not give _____ to anybody's pressure. (out, in)
5. I agree _____ you on this point. (with, to)
6. They have closed _____ their old business. (up, down)
7. I look _____ him as my own father. (after, upon)
8. Every month I lay _____ a few rupees for my child's education. (by, down)
9. I could not make _____ what he was saying. (up, out)
10. The police put _____ the violence. (off, down)
11. Nobody was at the airport to see him _____. (out, off)
12. Why did he turn _____ your request ? (down, off)
13. A nuclear war cannot be ruled _____ in the future. (out, over)
14. The thief made _____ with a large amount of money. (off, out)
15. The old man passed _____ in his sleep. (away, out)

Activity - 9

Replace the word(s) in *italics* with their corresponding phrasal verbs choosing from the list given)

(get over, pack up, look up, brought out, keep on, do away with, drop out, stand by, go back on, fell through)

1. He has **published** a new book.
2. We are tired. We must **stop working** now.
3. You can **continue** working if you like.
4. Will you **help** me during my bad days ?
5. He has not been able to **overcome** his fears.
6. We **withdrew** from the match after a quarrel.
7. The talk between India and Pakistan **failed** due to many disagreements.
8. He promised to help me, but later he **failed to keep** his promise.
9. India has **stopped having** the caste system.
10. The situation is **improving** day by day.

Activity - 10

Choose the appropriate phrasal- prepositional verb from the given list for each of the sentences below and complete the sentences.

(run out of, get on (well) with, come out with, looking forward to, put up with, catch up with, come in for)

1. When the whole class was worried how to solve the problem, Suresh ____ a solution.
2. We all are eagerly ____ our sister's wedding.
3. I ____ a rude shock when my friend cheated me.
4. We have ____ sugar. Can you buy some ?
5. We do not ____ our new neighbour.
6. Who can ____ such mischief ?
7. The child walked fast to ____ his parents.

