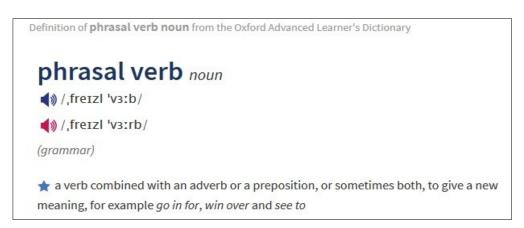
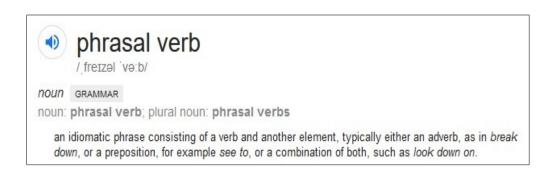
# A Note on Phrasal Verbs

#### I What are Phrasal Verbs?

A **PHRASAL VERB** is an idiomatic phrase consisting of a **verb** and **another element**, either **an adverb** or **a preposition** or **a combination of both.** 







In other words, **PHRASAL VERBS** are basic verbs which can combine with different prepositions, adverbs etc. to make verbs with completely new meanings. The meaning of phrasal verbs is often unguessable. They are used more in speaking than in writing.

Example: Put on Put across Put up with

#### **II The structure of Phrasal Verbs:**

The phrasal verbs can usually be formed in three ways:

1. Verb + Adverb

Example: Look up, break down

2. Verb + Preposition

Example: Look after, see to

3. Verb + Adverb + Preposition

Example: Look forward to, look down on

# **III The grammar of Phrasal Verbs:**

**The type I** Phrasal Verb (Verb + Adverb) can either be **transitive** or **intransitive**. Transitive Phrasal Verb will take a direct object while intransitive Phrasal Verb will not have an object at all.

• When this type of Phrasal Verb has a direct object, we can separate the two parts.

Example: She **turned down** my request.

She **turned** my request **down**.

- When the direct object is a **pronoun,** we must separate the two parts of the phrasal verb and insert the pronoun between them.
  - Raju **switched off** the TV.
  - Raju **switched** the TV **off**.

and

Raju switched it off.

but not:

Raju switched off it.

**The type II** Phrasal Verb (Verb + Preposition) is also called a prepositional verb. Every preposition has an object. So, this type will always have a direct object. It will always be **transitive**.

Prepositional verbs cannot be separated.

✓ When I was young, my grandmother looked after me.

# But not

x When I was young, my grandmother looked me after.

**The type III** Phrasal Verb (Verb + Adverb + Preposition) ends with a preposition. Hence, it always takes a direct object. It is **transitive**. This phrasal verb **cannot be separated**.

I **look forward to** opening the school.

Our leader **came up with** a new idea to celebrate the Independence Day.

→ Notice that when we use this phrasal verb with another **verb** we use the **gerund** (opening, visiting, going, ......).

#### IV Some commonly used Phrasal Verbs

- 1. Break in on = interrupt (a conversation)
- 2. Bring down = reduce or lower
- 3. Bring up = rear
- 4. Call at = visit (place)

5. Call for = demand

6. Call off = cancel

7. Call on = visit (person)

8. Call upon = exhort, require, invite

9. Carry on = continue

10. Come across = meet by chance

11. Come up with = find or produce an answer or make a

suggestion, etc.

12. Get away = escape

13. Get over = overcome

14. Get rid of = eliminate, eradicate, throw away

15. Give away = distribute

16. Give in = yield, surrender

17. Give up = stop, abandon

18. Go for = attack

19. Go off = explode

20. Go on = continue

21. Go through = undergo (especially a difficult situation),

examine

22. Keep on = continue

23. Let off = release

24. Look after = care, protect

25. Look for = search

26. Look forward to = await something eagerly, anticipate with

pleasure

27. Make out = understand

28. Put across = convey

29. Put off = postpone

30. Put on = wear

31. Put out = extinguish

32. Put up with = bear, tolerate

33. Set out = start

34. Set up = build

35. Take after = resemble

36. Take off = remove

37. Taken aback = surprised

38. Think back on = recall

39. Turn down = reject, decline

40. Turn up = come, appear, reach

Zainul Abideen K HST English VPKMM Hss Puthur Pallikkal <u>zainakodi@gmail.com</u> +91 9447 67 9447 +91 9747 00 3635