

# An Analysis of the Phrasal Verbs and their Semantic Domains.

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## Abstract

This research paper tackles The Analysis of the Phrasal Verbs and their Semantic Domains .The first chapter is an introduction about the research , the second chapter is called literature review in which is mentioned the definitions, types , Function , and how are phrasal verbs is different from Prepositional verbs , while chapter three is concern with the analysis of Phrasal Verbs in the Novel "The Scarlet Letter "by Nathaniel Hawthorne.Chapter four is a conclusion that sum up the research paper.

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#### **Chapter One: Introduction**

Phrasal verbs refers to an ordinary verb combined with a preposition or an adverbial particle that has at least one meaning which is unpredictable and different than what would be denoted by taking the literal meanings of the individual words separately and placing them together. (Douglas (2012).

#### 1.1 The Statement of the Problem

Idiomatic expressions are ways of expressing ideas that over time become accepted as standard usage in language even though they are often not readily understandable from their grammatical construction or from the meaning of their parts. Many idioms are created by adding a preposition to a basic verb, which forms a verb phrase known as a phrasal verb that is different from the meaning of the verb alone. The questions which raised here are the following :

- 1. What are the Phrasal Verbs and their types ?
- 2. What are the functions of Phrasal verbs?
- 3. What are the Semantic Properties of Phrasal verbs ?

#### 1.2 The Aim of the Study

The Study will tackle the main points about phrasal verbs ,its definitions, properties, and how can learners recognize it from other types of verbs .

#### **1.3 The Hypotheses**

It is hypothesized that phrasal verbs are used in speech because they can aid in communication. This study provides a reference point for the speakers and real examples of how phrasal verbs are applied in normal, English sentences .

#### **1.4 The Procedures**

1. Presenting a frame work about phrasal verbs ,types ,function and form of Phrasal verbs.

2.Presenting an analysis of Phrasal Verbs in the Novel "The Scarlet Letter "by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

3.Presenting the findings of the research paper in the conclusion.

#### 1.5 Limits

.This study is limited to phrasal verbs in English language (at English Department, college of Education, university of Babylon, during the academic year 2021\_2022).

#### **1.6 The Value of the Study**

This study is valuable for students, teachers, book designers of English.

### **Chapter Two :Literature Review**

## **2.1 Definitions of Phrasal Verbs**

A phrasal verbs is a phrase (such as take off or look down on) that combines a verb with a preposition or adverb or both and that functions as a verb whose meaning is different from the combined meanings of the individual words. The meaning of a phrasal verb as a unit is usually very different from the meanings of the individual verb and the particle: the meaning of come across is not equal to the meaning of come and across. Like other common words, a phrasal verb is can have more than one meaning: The airplane took off is not the same as Their business took off or I took off my shoes.

(//www.merriam-webster.com)

A phrasal verb is a special kind of verb that consists of two (or three) parts. The first part is always a verb. The next part is a word such as

across, after, away, back, down, in, into, off, on, out, over, or up. In a phrasal verb, this second part is called a particle. AS in the following example:

"I found out peanuts are technically a fruit!"

Here, the words "found out" act as a phrasal verb. This can easily be explained by simply looking at the sentence and thinking about all the different ways it can be understood. For example, if "found" and "out" were interpreted literally, the sentence would have no real meaning at all.) Gardner and Davies 341(

Phrasal verbs are idioms which expressing ideas that over time become accepted as standard usage in language even though they are often not readily understandable from their grammatical construction or from the meaning of their parts. Many idioms are created by adding a preposition to a basic verb, which forms a verb phrase known as a phrasal verb that is different from the meaning of the verb alone. For example, the verb "to drop" means "to let something fall." In contrast, as a phrasal verb "drop in" means "to visit someone without having received an invitation," whereas "drop out" means "to stop doing what one usually does".(Gardner and Davies 341(

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airplane took off is not the same as Their business took off or I took off my shoes. (Gardner and Davies 341(

## 2.2 Types of Phrasal Verbs

There are two types of phrasal verbs: transitive and intransitive. Transitive phrasal verbs are used with a direct object (a word or part of a sentence that is affected by the action of a verb), and "are V spread across written and spoken registers," meaning they are relatively common in regular conversation and written texts for examples of this type of phrasal verb are the following, with the phrasal verbs underlined: (Biber, Conrad, and Leech 129).

We should give up this project.

I need to <u>drop off</u> the kids at school.

I need to <u>set up</u> the decorations before everyone arrives. As we can see, all of these examples have the phrasal verb rely on another part of the sentence. Someone needs a project in the first place before they can stop working, or "give up" on it. In the same way, one needs kids in order to leave them somewhere, or do a "drop off." Finally, if there are no decorations, then nobody has to arrange, or "set up" anything. Intransitive phrasal verbs have no direct object . They refer to an action that is complete without relying on an object, as a transitive verb does, for example:

Be patient and hang on one moment!

Come on, let's just go already.

I am so sleepy. I need to wake up.

Here, we can see that these phrasal verbs indeed act differently than transitive phrasal verbs. In each example the sentence does not need a direct object to make sense, for "hang on" simply means to "wait," "come on" calls for action like the word "hurry," and "wake up" is interchangeable with "energize" or "vivify.(Biber, Conrad, and Leech 129).

## 2.3 How are phrasal verbs different from prepositional phrases?

Phrasal verbs can contain prepositions, these same prepositions can also be used in prepositional phrases, the differences can be shown in the following examples:

Examples: I looked up the directions.

Amy looked up the road.

In the first example, the preposition up is part of the phrasal verb looked up, a unit meaning "to locate information in reference materials." The meaning of the sentence changes if the two words are not working together. In the second sentence, up the road is a prepositional phrase (the preposition up followed by the road, which is the object of the preposition).

There are also some phrasal verbs that look exactly alike but can have different meanings. Though they look the same, the phrasal verb work out can have a different meaning from work out ,as in these examples:

Examples: Our plan worked out.

The woman worked out at the gym.

In the first sentence, the phrasal verb functions to show that the plan was successful. In the second sentence, worked out signifies that the woman exercised at the gym. The context of each phrasal verb determines which meaning is used in the sentence.

## 2.4 Function of the Phrasal Verbs

A phrasal verb plays the same function as does a simple verb. However, a phrasal verb conveys an idiomatic meaning. Phrasal verbs are commonly used in both writing and speaking, but they are more difficult for nonnative speakers who rely solely on memorization to understand. The most important characteristic of a phrasal verb is that the meaning of the combined structure is different from the original meanings of the verbs used to create the phrasal verb.

## Chapter Three: The Analysis of Phrasal Verbs in the Novel "The Scarlet Letter "by Nathaniel Hawthorne

The use of phrasal verb can be found in many literary works such as novels, song lyric, articles, magazines, and newspapers. Novel is a kind of literary work used to entertain the readers. By reading novels, the reader can feel and also imagine what the story is about.. The use of phrasal verb in the novel is really interesting to be analyzed because the novelists commonly used some forms of phrasal verbs in their story. Phrasal verbs were chosen to be analyzed in this study because they are a common type of multi word verbs and the use of phrasal verb in the novel is easier to find.

The chapter is analysed English phrasal verbs . The phrasal verbs were taken from the novel which is called "The Scarlett Letter " by Nathaniel

Hawthorne. It was published in 1988 by Published by EMC/Paradigm Publishing in the United States of America. This novel was chosen as the data source because it is one of the famous novels and it is also coherent with the topic of this study. Besides, this novel also contains some forms of phrasal verbs and it was interested to be analyzed in order to find out the form of phrasal verbs.

\_...they hung up the red necklace ...(Hawthorne, 1988: 58)

The idiom hung up consists of two words formed by a verb hung and an adverb up. This idiom is categorized as a phrasal verb since it is built from a verb as well as adverb that combine together to create a new meaning. It belongs to a transitive phrasal verb because it has an object "the red necklace" functioning as a direct object of a verb hung up.

\_"Bring out the instruments!" (Hawthorne, 1988: 98)

The phrasal verb in the sentence above is bring out, it is derived from two word classes, the verb bring and the adverb out. The adverb in the phrasal verb is followed by the noun phrase "the instruments" and it has functions as an object of the verb bring out. Therefore, the phrasal verb above is categorized as a transitive phrasal verb (having an object). \_" Time went on; a kind of intimacy, as we have said, grew up between these two cul-tivated minds, which had as wide a field as the whole sphere of human thought and study, to meet upon; they discussed every topic of ethics and religion, of public affairs...."(Hawthorne,1998,101)

The phrasal verbs in the sentence above consist of the verb went and an the adverb on .It is considered an intransitive phrase because there is no direct object that follows it.

\_...the rest drew off... (Hawthorne, 1988: 112)

The idiom drew off is derived from the verb drew and the adverb off which are called a phrasal verb. It is categorized as intransitive phrasal verb (without an object).

\_"I never took off it . By God, I told them the truth."(Hawthorne,1988:145)

In this example, the phrasal verbs "took off" and "held out" are separable and convey different meanings from the original verbs, while both "off" and "on" are particles.

\_"The reason I was standing way up on The church ....."(

Hawthorne, 1988: 198)

The idiom standing up is derived from the verb stand and the adverb up which are called a phrasal verb. It is categorized as transitive phrasal verb (the church is the object). \_"What you can't get out of it , face it" (Hawthorne, 1988: 199) The words "out" and "into" are both particles. The first particle is a phrasal verb ("get out of"), It is categorized as transitive phrasal verb (it is the object).

<u>"Hester Prynne turned down</u> the job offer"(Hawthorne, 1988, 200)

" turned down" consists of two words formed by a verb turned and an adverb down. This idiom is categorized as a phrasal verb since it is built from a verb as well as adverb that combine together to create a new meaning. It belongs to a transitive phrasal verb because it takes an object which is the job offer functioning as a direct object of a verb turned down.

\_"You should back me up on this....."(Hawthorne, 1988, 220)

In this sentence Hawthorne used the phrasal verbs "back up", it is derived from two word classes, the verb back and the adverb up. This phrasal verb belongs to a transitive phrasal verb because it needs an object which **appears between the verb and its dverb**.

#### **Chapter Four : Conclusion**

A phrasal verb is a compound verb that contains a verb and a prepositional adverb or particle. Together, these form a semantic unit. A phrasal verb may also appear as an idiom. It may have a transitive or intransitive verb and/or particle. Some phrasal verbs are not separable, which means that an object can appear between the verb and its preposition/adverb. The meaning of a phrasal verb as a unit is usually very different from the meanings of the individual verb and the particle.

A phrasal verb plays the same function as does a simple verb. However, a phrasal verb conveys an idiomatic meaning. Phrasal verbs are commonly used in both writing and speaking, but they are more difficult for nonnative speakers who rely solely on memorization to understand.

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