

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

**University of Babylon
College of Basic Education
Department of English**



Phrasal Verb

**A Paper Submitted to the Council of Department of English,
College of Basic Education University of Babylon, as a Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of B.A. in
English Language and Teaching**

Prepared by

Ghassaq Ali Mahdi

Basma Hamid Karim

Supervised by

Amjed Jabbar Majeed

2022 A.D

1443 A.H

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

﴿ قَالُوا سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا ط﴾

﴿ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴾

صَدَقَ اللَّهُ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ

﴿ البقرة: 32 ﴾

Dedication

To those who tied up everything they own for free and wait for the favor to be returned... To those who shared with me my moments of success and happiness, and they patted me on my shoulders when I stumbled

..... I came today to return some favors to your generous person And I raise your name high by completing my scientific career, which I aspire to, thanks to you, who are in the heart of my mother and father.....

And to the one who had the great credit for achieving what I am now... The one who was built during my journey, wonderful, wonderful, beautiful, beautiful and stature, my spiritual father. Thank you for your trust in me and your belief in my superiority and success always. My esteemed doctor, Amjad Jabbar

Acknowledgement

First thanks to God for the Helping in Ending My Research paper
All thanks to my supervisor Lecturer Amjed Al shalah for his helping
in writing my Research paper For my Department, my teachers, thanks
for helping.

Content

Dedication	I
Acknowledgement	II
Section One	1
Introduction	2
What are phrasal verbs?	2
Phrasal verb in the formal and informal speech	6
Section two	14
Separable and Inseparable Phrasal Verbs	15
Optional separable transitive phrasal	20
Permanently separated transitive phrase verbs	21
Inseparable transitive phrasal verbs	22
Section three	25
Conclusion	25
References	28

III

Section One

1.1 Introduction

Phrasal verbs are two or more words that together act as a completely new word, with a meaning separate from the original words. For example, pick up means to “grab” or “lift,” very different from the definitions of pick and up alone. Popular in spoken English, phrasal verbs can be quite confusing because their definitions aren’t always easy to guess—and there are thousands of them. In fact, many phrasal verbs are distinct variations on the same base verb, which can add to the confusion. (Mordaunt, 2020: 1)

For multilingual speakers, in particular, phrasal verbs are one of the most difficult topics in learning English. To help simplify this complicated issue, what follows is our guide to understanding English phrasal verbs, including a list of the most common ones. Ibid

1.2 What are phrasal verbs?

Linguists have many definitions to the phrasal verbs :-

- 1- English grammar syntax By Nadia Saleem A phrasal verb is followed by a preposition or particle or more and forms Multiword verb as in
 - The cat went into the room
 - The Thieves ran away
- 2- According to a dictionary of grammatical terms in linguistic by Trask Phrasal verb as a noun a lexical verb particularly in English which consist of simple verb combine with one or more particle the meaning of the whole being typically unpredictable from the meaning of its constituent elements For example (make up, take off, turn on, put down, without, taking giving, bring up, put up,)
- 3- On the other hand, Longman in his book (students Grammar of spoken and written) has another and simple definition of phrasal verbs which is closest of a verb followed by an adverbial particle, for example; (carry out. find out. pick up). Adverbial particles are used independently, they have literal meaning significant location or direction (out, in, up, down, on, off) When these adverbial particles are used independently they have literal meaning significant location or Direction out in up down on off. (Snow, English Teaching as Christian Mision: 2001)
- 4- Matthews in his linguistics defines phrasal verb as any combination of two or more words that is treated or as the

semantic equivalent or a verb, for example; to take umbrage might be identified as a phrasal verb. Equivalent to assemble verb such as the Bristol in they took Umbrage. My suggestion is group verb Specifically of a unit in English, which is formed from a verb with the addition of preposition or adverb that can variously proceed or followed an object, for example; (take up) in I'll take up your offer, or he took my offer. the element is usually called a particle hell's particle movement or vertical shift in synthetic process moving, for example; From hypothetically before the object to position after a phrasal verb incense to has usually been distinguished from a preposition verb by Among other things the possibility of particle movement.

- 5- David crystal said that Phrasal verb is a type of that consisting of sequence of lexical elements plus one or more particles For example come in get up look out for Subtypes may be distinguish on synthetic grounds for distance the particles may be classified into propositional or adverbials types And the definitions of phrasal various someone within different description but the overall synthetic and semantic unity of these sequences is really demonstrable using transformational and substitution criteria CF, like(she got up at 6) (She rose at 6) (what time did she get up) Etc.

All these definitions agreed that the phrasal verb is two words each one has its meaning but when they get together they give another meaning. The first part of the phrasal verb is the main idea gives an idea and but the second part gives us a location for the time or the place. Many people ask why do we use a phrasal verb instead of word itself or a symbol word. People like to use a shortcut for everything in their life or to summarize everything in their life. And the phrasal verb can give them this chance to summarize their speech. *ibid*

In English traditional grammar, a phrasal verb is the combination of two or three words from different grammatical categories — a verb and a particle, such as an adverb or a preposition — to form a single semantic unit on a lexical or syntactic level. Examples: turn down, run into, sit up. There are tens of thousands of them and they are in everyday constant use. These semantic units cannot be understood based upon the meanings of the individual parts but must be taken as a whole. In other words, the meaning is non-compositional and thus unpredictable. Phrasal verbs that include a preposition are known as prepositional verbs and phrasal verbs that include a particle are known as particle verbs. Additional alternative terms for phrasal verb are compound verb, verb-adverb combination, verb-particle construction, two-part word/verb or three-part word/verb

"depending on the number of particles" (McArthur, The Oxford Companion to the English Language: 1992)

1-3 Phrasal verb in the formal and informal speech

There are many phrasal verbs that can and also should be used in formal writing. You will often see them used in many quite formal and formal texts such as business letters, academic writing, scientific papers, technical papers, legal documents, news reports, and official government documents. the formalities and transactions require a special way them. Phrasal Verbs can be formal and informal. this is what we will explain in this chapter. (Sroka, 2016: 312)

throughout the successive periods of linguistics (logical, historical and psychological structural) attention was concentrated on inflection and the basic structure of the sentence (subject + verb + object + modifiers) while the 'phrasal verbs' which differed from other verbs only by including particles in their structure did not seem to present an important grammatical problem. The particles were most frequently not considered to be parts of speech' both because of the short inconspicuous form of many of them and because of their meaning: a particle did not denote an object or action. If, on the other hand, home studies concerning the

subject were undertaken, their results could be satisfactory only for a given period, and carried with them both the advantages and the drawbacks of linguistic theories on which they were based. They did not give a presentation that is both needed and feasible nowadays. *ibid*

The problem of the distinction between the adverb and the preposition in English, which constitutes one of the central problems connected with the 'phrasal verbs', was raised when the first modern English grammar was being written and was given some attention in later grammars of English. By the end of the nineteenth century, in Sweet's work, it reached a stage of solution based on formal grounds (word-order). In the twentieth century some authors developed Sweet's line of appealing to homogeneous formal criteria. W. N. Francis, or T. F. Mitchell, whereas others continue the older tradition by making a compromise between criteria of form and criteria of meaning, e. g. E. Krüger still others stick to the oldest tradition and consider logical (or ontological) entities to be the basis for the distinction of the adverb and the preposition as well as of other parts of speech, e. g. V. Brøndal, or R. Magnusson. For a fuller account of Sweet's and the twentieth century authors' contribution to the solution of the problem. *ibid*

There are many phrasal verbs that can and also should be used in formal writing. You will often see them used in many quite formal and formal

texts such as business letters, academic writing, scientific papers, technical papers, legal documents, news reports, and official government documents. Ibid

Degree of formality is on a sliding scale rather than in distinct categories, and although phrasal verbs are often thought of as an informal part of language, most of them are neutral, and some are in fact rather formal. Some phrasal verbs are definitely informal, for example:

beaver away – work hard for a long time

belt out - sing or play a musical instrument very loudly

harp on – talk non-stop about something in a boring or annoying way

pig out - eat a lot of or too much food

In your formal writing, you should of course avoid phrasal verbs that are at the informal end of register, and steer clear of slang phrasal verbs, and those that would be considered by many to be offensive. A good phrasal verb dictionary will tell you which phrasal verbs are informal, slang, or offensive. It's true that very often, single verbs are more formal and therefore are more appropriate for formal writing than their phrasal verb equivalents. Some examples of these are:

Single verb	Phrasal Verb
constitute	make up
calculate	work out
cause	bring about
discover	find out
Discuss	talk about
emerge	come out
eradicate	stamp out
increase	go up
maintain	keep up
organize	set up
propose	put forward
select	pick out

However, most phrasal verbs are neutral, neither informal or formal, and in general there's no reason to specify they shouldn't be used in formal writing. In fact, in some cases it's more appropriate to use a phrasal verb in place of a single verb. For example, the phrasal verb 'carry out':

At the other end of the formality register, there are phrasal verbs that are so formal they're only used in very formal or serious speech or writing. If you were to use them in informal writing they would very

strange and out of place. Examples of formal phrasal verbs (adhere to, appertain to, ascribe to, disabuse of, emanate from/to, depart from, engage in, enlarge on/upon, enter on/upon, offend against, permit of, pertain to, provide against, set forth). *ibid*

As always with writing, context is everything. Your university, organization, etc. will most probably have a guide to the language you should use for formal writing, including their preferences for using phrasal verbs or their single verb equivalents. *ibid*

sometimes the phrasal verbs could be formal or informal according to the community itself. Though apparently no similar retreat is registered in British English, in American English (about) is being crowded out by (around). Stereotyped phrasal verbs are still common with (about):

That brought about the revolution

It came about that all the losses were sustained by one side. But in the literal sense (about) is being more and more restricted to formal usage, for example;

He stalked about the place for an hour or two and then left.

She tiptoed about the room, being careful not to wake anyone. (Around) would make the first action seem one of low rather than high dudgeon

and the second to be aimless. When the action per se is relatively relaxed and non-purposive, about is not normal:

He walked about the property.

They strolled about the park. The old-fashioned to (gad about) can be compared with the more recent (to ban about). Both the phrasal verbs based on about and nominal compounds based on those phrasal verbs have a certain formality or quaintness. (Bolinger, *The phrasal verb in English*: 1971)

So to sum up, don't rule out phrasal verbs in formal writing, as there are many which can contribute to an authoritative style and result in admiration from your readers!

The final section is devoted to a discussion of ...

In academic writing, it is usually necessary to refer to other sources:

As Brown points out ...

Smith puts forward the theory that ...

Her letters allude to the fact that ...

This poem was originally attributed to Shakespeare.

These results bear out earlier findings.

All the evidence points towards human error.

These recommendations are based on the results of extensive research.

Their team arrived at the same conclusions.

You may also wish to describe methods of research:

The questionnaires were followed up with interviews.

We had to factor in the effect of other treatments.

Eventually, the age range was narrowed down.

All the experiments were subjected to strict controls.

The team was then able to dispense with paper records.

The new procedures were phased in gradually. *ibid*

So we can conclude that , there is some basis for at least the first four of these beliefs, the reality is more complicated.

1 Some phrasal verbs are markedly informal, for example:

bum around, palm off, rat on, swan around

2 But some phrasal verbs, conversely, are decidedly formal and/or literary, for example: ascribe to, cast down, complain of, consign to, impinge on, renege on

Note that in many, but not all, of these, the verb is of Latin origin. On the other hand, some 'Latin' verbs form register-neutral phrasal verbs, e.g. depend on, involve in. *ibid*

3 The majority of phrasal verbs are neutral, with no particular stylistic marking. "What time shall we set off?" is neutral in conversation, while "What time shall we depart?" is unusually formal.

4 Phrasal verbs are common in many types of writing – though not all – as well as in speech. More about this below.

5 Phrasal verbs aren't the product of laziness or lack of education. In many cases they're simply the most common way of expressing a certain meaning, and when people choose non-phrasal alternatives, they do so:

- to create a deliberate stylistic incongruity for humorous effect, e.g. "What time did you rise this morning?" rather than "What time did you get up this morning?"
- to specify a meaning more precisely. Dress up and disguise are approximate synonyms, but "I disguised myself as a monk" suggests an intention to deceive; this isn't necessarily implied in "I dressed myself up as a monk", which could refer to a fancy-dress party. The phrasal verb sail through something means, more or less, to succeed easily, but "You'll sail through your exams" seems to have a nuance of

effortlessness that "You'll pass your exams easily" lacks.(Crystal, A
dictionary of linguistics and phonetics: 2011)

Section Two

2.1 Separable and Inseparable Phrasal Verbs

As we mentioned before that a phrasal verb is a verb combined with a preposition or adverb (or both) that means something different from each of the words that make up the verb. There are two types of phrasal verbs. Separable phrasal verbs can be broken up by other words, while inseparable phrasal verbs cannot be separated by other words.

with Separable Phrasal Verbs, You can insert other words into the middle of a separable phrasal verb. Consider the following example, using the phrasal verb take back:

I need to take back the shirt I lent you.

Where's that shirt I lent you? I need to take it back .

Here is a selection of some of the more common separable phrasal verbs and simplified definitions.

add up - add (mathematics)

back up - cause to move backwards; support; make a digital copy

blow up - cause to explode; destroy by explosives; enlarge a photograph

break down - analyze; list the parts of something separately

bring about - cause something to happen

bring off - accomplish something

bring on - cause something to happen

bring out - publish; emphasize

bring over - bring (something/somebody here)

bring to - revive somebody

bring up - raise; care for a child during childhood

brush out - brush the inside of

burn down - destroy by burning

burn up - consume by fire

buy out - by the other person's share of a business

buy up - buy the whole supply of something

call off - cancel (an event or meeting)

call up - telephone; summon for military service

calm down - become calm

carry on - continue doing something

carry out - fulfill; complete; accomplish; perform (usually orders or instructions)

carry over - carry; financial/numerical – move a value from one period to another

cheer up - cause somebody to become cheerful

chew up - chew thoroughly; to destroy or tear something with the teeth of machinery

while Inseparable phrasal verbs can be transitive (i.e., they can take a direct object), but you can't insert that direct object into the middle of the phrasal verb. In other words, they can't be separated, thus their name.

Consider the following examples:

If you focus your education solely on one area, you'll have nothing to fall back on if you change your mind.

Each child should have at least one older child to look up to .

Here is a selection of some of the more common inseparable phrasal verbs and simplified definitions.

back out of - fail to keep a promise; break an agreement to do something

bear down on - lean on; browbeat, approach

bear up under - endure

break in on - interrupt somebody

break into - interrupt a conversation; enter a building by forcing entry

call for - come to collect somebody; require something

care for - like something; to take care of somebody

carry on with - continue with an activity

catch up with - to reach the same place or the same level of performance or achievement as someone ahead of you

check up on - examine; verify something

come across - find accidentally (person or thing)

come along with - accompany; make progress

come by - find something accidentally

come down with - become ill with

come out with - say something

come up with - say or propose something, have an idea

count on - rely on somebody or something

disagree with - cause illness or discomfort to somebody

do away with - abolish

do without - deprive yourself of something

drop in at/on - visit casually without planning

drop out of - leave; quit (usually education)

face up to - acknowledge something

fall behind in - lag; not progress at the required pace

fall back on - use for emergency purpose

fall out with - quarrel with somebody and damage a relationship

fill in for - temporarily act as a substitute for somebody

get ahead of - overtake; beat

The value of this choice and its alternatives (including separable verb for Germanic languages) is debatable. In origin the concept is based on translation linguistics; as many single-word English and Latinate words are translatable by a phrasal verb complex in English, therefore the logic is that the phrasal verb complex must be a complete semantic unit in itself. One should consider in this regard that the actual term phrasal verb suggests that such constructions should form phrases. In most cases however, they clearly do not form phrases. Hence the very term phrasal verb is misleading and a source of confusion, which has motivated some to reject the term outright. (Hart, 2017 :92)

2.2 Optional separable transitive phrasal

VERBS Optionally separable transitive phrasal verbs permit and sometimes require particle movement. When the noun phrase is a noun, an indefinite pronoun, or a quantifier, the particle may appear either before or after the noun phrase. However, when the noun phrase is an object pronoun, the particle must be placed between the verb and the particle. The concept of end weight comes into play here. Native speakers do not like to separate verbs and particles with especially long noun phrases. Though grammatical, the result can be awkward and unclear. *ibid*

In I Iraq people prefer using the phrasal verb in inseparable case. As statistic in the following table that I have made it to the ten students who were picked up online in the sixth grade. *ibid*

1.	turn on→	He turned on the light.	10
		He turned the light on.	-----
2.	hand in→	Hand in your homework on time.	10
		Hand your homework in on time.	-----
3.	look up→	Look up the words in a dictionary.	6
		Look the words up in a dictionary	4
4.	give up→	They gave up smoking.	8
		They gave smoking up.	2
5.	ask out→	Henry asked Jenny out.	7
		Henry asked out Jenny.	3
6.	mix up→	We mixed up the numbers.	6
		We mixed the numbers up.	1

We can notice in this table that people use the phrasal verb in inseparable, the students expressed that they find the inseparable phrasal verbs easier than separable phrasal verbs. *ibid*

2.3 Permanently separated transitive phrase verbs

A small group of transitive phrasal verbs are permanently separated. Among these are get down (depress), let off (not punish), let down (disappoint), and do over. In the case of permanently transitive separated phrasal verbs, the direct object must be placed between the verb and the particle. Ibid

2.4 Inseparable transitive phrasal verbs

Another group of transitive phrasal verbs cannot be separated at all, or at least that's one school of thought—a traditional and well-established school of thought. Among these transitive phrasal verbs are pick on, look after, run across, and fall for. At a glance, it might seem that inseparable phrasal verbs are no different from separable phrasal verbs, apart from having particles which, for some unknown reason, cannot be separated. But it's not as simple as that. There is one important difference between inseparable transitive verb + element constructions and separable transitive verb + element constructions: inseparable transitive verb + element constructions are followed by prepositions (which function as prepositions), not particles. As we will see, this is also the definition of a

prepositional verb. Nevertheless, some maintain that inseparable transitive phrasal verbs are distinct from prepositional verbs, but those who maintain this distinction cannot agree on which criteria to base this distinction or, in many cases, cannot decide to which of the two classifications various verb + preposition constructions belong. Those who make no distinction between inseparable transitive phrasal verbs and prepositional verbs are not in complete agreement either. Some reject the whole notion that phrasal verbs and prepositional verbs are two distinct types of multiword verbs, a term they do not recognize. To them, all verb + preposition constructions are phrasal verbs. Others take the opposite view-that all inseparable transitive verb + preposition constructions are prepositional verbs; there is no such thing, they say, as an inseparable transitive phrasal verb. (Stuurman, 1987 : 33)

In English, there is a tendency to use phrasal verbs more in spoken and colloquial communication than in formal writing. In formal written communication, however, people often prefer to use English verbs derived from French, Latin, and Classical Greek. This is only a tendency; nevertheless, it is a salient one and it has a long history. *ibid*

While the phrasal verb was evolving naturally in the English language, an event happened that caused English to evolve along two

parallel paths. This event was the Norman French occupation of England. *ibid*

In 1066, William the Conqueror of Normandy placed all of England under an occupation that was to last for almost a century and a half. During this time, the French language came to dominate the upper echelons of English society while the English language was allowed to languish. Then, in 1204, England became officially separated from France again and the English language was once more free to flourish. *ibid*

By this time, the English language had become uncultivated. And since French was the language of the educated people at that time, it was inevitable that scholars would draw new words from the French language in order to help replenish the impoverished English language (Nist, 1966). Coincidentally, at that time many educated people also knew how to read and write Latin and Classical Greek; so they turned to these languages as well to find new words for English in order to help them keep up with new fields of learning for which there were no English words. *ibid*

English became laden with foreign terms that vied with native English words to express shades of the same idea. Nuances of a word like foretell could be expressed with the Latin word predict or with the Greek word

prophesy. As a result, while the native phrasal verb continued to evolve naturally in the population to express ordinary needs and topics, foreign words provided people with a scholarly and scientific vocabulary. *ibid*

Even today, English continues to evolve along these two parallel paths. As a result, hundreds of native English phrasal verbs have French, Latin, or Classical Greek counterparts with almost the same meanings but with a slightly more erudite ring to them. *ibid*

Section Three

Conclusion

How often do teachers hear their students complain that phrasal verbs are too difficult to learn? Very often; and the students do have a good point – phrasal verbs sometimes have no logic and can be hard to remember. But learning phrasal verbs is not impossible,

Seven tips for making idiomatic phrasal verbs easier to learn:

1. Be careful when checking for meaning in your dictionary – phrasal verbs often have more than one meaning. Study the context of the sentence in which you first saw the phrasal verb. From that context you may be able to tell which definition in the dictionary is the one you need.
2. If possible, ask a native speaker about the meaning of the phrasal verb.

3. Find out how common the phrasal verb is (again, a native speaker will be a big help). Focus on learning common phrasal verbs, not ones that are seldom used.

4. Learn the phrasal verb as part of a sentence or phrase (this helps you to remember it).

5. Double check that you can use the phrasal verb correctly. You can do this by inventing your own sentence containing the verb and again asking a native speaker if it's correct.

6. Don't try to learn every meaning of a phrasal verb: one is enough to start with. Learn the other meanings once you are sure you'll remember the first.

7. Lookout for phrasal verbs in your favourite songs. Pop music is full of them, and having a melody makes words much easier to remember. How about starting with Don't Let Me Down by the Beatles?

References

1. Adger, David. Core syntax: A minimalist approach. Vol. 20. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.
2. Allerton, D. J. "7 Verbs and their Satellites." *The handbook of English linguistics* 36 (2006): 146.
3. Bolinger, Dwight. *The phrasal verb in English*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1971.
4. Crystal, David. *A dictionary of linguistics and phonetics*. John Wiley & Sons, 2011.
5. Hart, Carl W. *Ultimate phrasal verb book*. Simon and Schuster, 2017.
6. <https://www.espressoenglish.net/to-followed-by-ing/>

7. McArthur, Thomas Burns, Tom McArthur, and Roshan McArthur, eds. *Concise Oxford companion to the English language*. Oxford University Press, USA, 2005.
8. Mordaunt, Owen G., and Matthew McGuire. *Phrasal Verbs for English Language Learners*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2020.
9. Snow, Donald B. *English teaching as Christian mission: An applied theology*. Herald Press, 2001.
10. Sroka, Kazimierz A. *The syntax of English phrasal verbs*. De Gruyter Mouton, 2016.
11. Stuurman, Frits. "Hendrik Poutsma (1856–1937), fifty years on." (1987).
12. Thim, Stefan. *Phrasal verbs: The English verb-particle construction and its history*. Vol. 78. Walter de Gruyter, 2012.