

Student Worksheet

The 3 Step Guide to Phrasal Verbs

A Guide to Self-Learning

Step 1: How to recognize the phrasal verb

*Definition of a common phrasal verb =
verb and preposition together that changes the meaning*

Example 1:

I **get up** at 7 every day

Meaning = to leave your bed/ to stand up from a chair

Example 2:

I will **pick** you **up** at the airport

Meaning = to collect someone (from a location/destination)

Exercise:

Question: What time do you get up every morning?

Answer:

Question: At what time will you pick the kids up after work?

Answer:

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Step 2: Understand the meaning of the phrasal verb from the context of the sentence

Example 1:

We really have to **get going** with this project

Meaning = to focus and start working on

Example 2:

We are very late for our meeting, we have to **get going**

Meaning = to start moving/ to leave somewhere

Exercise:

Question: What project do you want to get going this year?

Answer:

Question: What's the best time to get going from the office Christmas party?

Answer:

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Step 3: How to remember new phrasal verbs

*These are techniques to help you memorize new vocabulary.
You have to choose the best ones for you.*

Technique 1: Repetition:

Repeat the phrasal verb in different contexts

Example 1:

I need to get going with my English

Example 2:

I need to get going with my cooking lessons

Exercise:

Choose a phrasal verb that is useful to you.

Try to use it in different ways.

Check your answers with your teacher.

Answer 1:

Answer 2:

Answer 3:

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Technique 2: Create a personal context

Make your own personal sentence using a new phrasal verb

Note: When you use a personal context there is an emotional reaction and this helps you remember the new vocabulary/ phrasal verb.

Example 1:

I have to get going with my gym exercises

Example 2:

I have to get going with my diet

Example 3:

I need to get going with my job applications

Exercise:

Create at least 2 personal examples using the phrasal verb "get going" or a different phrasal verb.

Check your answers with your teacher.

Answer 1:

Answer 2:

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Technique 3: Create a bizarre context

For visual learners

*In your mind, create a bizarre image and then associate the
phrasal verb with the image*

Example 1:

The Spanish president, Pedro Sanchez is wearing a pink dress and sitting on a white horse and says to the French president Emmanuel Macron ...

“We really have to get going with these vaccinations!”

Exercise:

Try to create a bizarre mental image and then include a new phrasal verb in the image. Perhaps the person in your image is “**trying on** a cowboy hat” or “**looking after** a baby elephant”.

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Technique 4:

**Write down new vocabulary when you hear them.
Create an active list of phrasal verbs**



Exercise:

For the next week, try to make notes when you hear and use English. After 1 week, report to your teacher with the notes you made. How many new phrasal verbs do you have?

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Technique 5: Put phrasal verbs in groups

*As you discover and learn more phrasal verbs you can put them
into “**verb groups**”*

Common verb groups are Look, Keep, Be, Go and Get.

Verb Group “Look”

Examples:

To look up: Let's look up a nice hotel in Paris for our holiday?

To look down: We don't like his attitude, he is always looking down on us

To look through: Can you look through the 2020 financial report and find the sales figures?

To look forward to: I am really looking forward to my holidays, I can't wait.

Exercise:

Choose a verb and create a verb group with as many different prepositions as possible.

Write them down and create your own contexts.

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Organic Learning

1. Identify new vocabulary and phrasal verbs that are important to YOU
2. Create examples that have value in your life
3. Only learn a few words/ phrasal verbs in 1 day
4. Use some of the 5 techniques to help you remember

Organic Learning Example

Many learners need English for travel. All the following phrasal verbs are connected to travel and airports. Therefore they are useful and you will be motivated to remember them all.

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the phrasal verbs:
check in, pick up, switch off, take off, take off, take out

All passengers must two hours before the flight.

Can you your shoes please?

You can your luggage in the Baggage Reclaim area.

The plane at 12:30 this afternoon. (use the 3rd person "s")

All travelers have to their laptops.

When going through security, you need to any electronics of your bag.

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2. Next, create YOUR personal sentences with the 6 phrasal verbs from exercise 1

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Organic Learning Challenge

If you learn just 2-3 phrasal verbs a week then you will have 100 new phrasal verbs in 1 year. This will allow you to understand most phrasal verbs and to manipulate them