

# Introduction

*1000 Phrasal Verbs in Context* is designed to help intermediate to advanced learners of English improve their knowledge of phrasal verbs. It can be used as a self-study guide by learners, or the material can be used by teachers in their EFL/ESL classes.

The book presents over 1,000 phrasal verbs in alphabetical order. The first section has phrasal verbs beginning with the letter 'a', followed by a set of quiz questions that test them. The second section has phrasal verbs beginning with the letter 'b', followed by another set of quiz questions, and so on.

<b>chop up</b>	Could you <b>chop up</b> some vegetables and put them in the soup, please? There's a knife over there.	chop up sth chop sth up
Let's chop those old boards up and use them as firewood.		 see also: <b>cut up</b>

Fig 1. Table presenting the phrasal verb 'chop up' (from p. 22)

Each phrasal verb is presented in its own table (see Fig. 1), and each table has:

- two example sentences, one with the phrasal verb colour-highlighted
- patterns of usage (e.g. 'chop up sth' / 'chop sth up')
- references to related phrasal verbs (e.g.  see also: **cut up**)
- space to write your own example sentence (under  )
- space to write your own notes (under  or  )

You may have noticed that there is no definition. This is because one of the best ways to learn phrasal verbs is to see them in context, and then figure out the meaning for yourself. It seems that if learners do this, they can get a clearer idea of the meaning, and a better understanding of how the phrasal verb is used, than they would by just memorizing a definition or a synonym. But figuring out a phrasal verb's meaning by seeing just one example of its use can be difficult, so in this book you are given two example sentences. To learn a new phrasal verb, start off by reading the sentence in which the phrasal verb is colour-highlighted. When you think you've worked out what it means, see if the meaning fits the second sentence as well. If it does, you can be fairly sure that you've found the correct meaning. If it doesn't, study both sentences again and see if you can get the correct meaning. If you really can't figure out the meaning, or if you're not sure whether the meaning you've come up with is correct or not, you can look the phrasal verb up in a dictionary. If the dictionary gives several meanings, make sure you find the one that fits the context in both the example sentences. Then you can write notes in the table to help you to remember it if you like (see Fig. 2).

<b>chop up</b>	Could you <b>chop up</b> some vegetables and put them in the soup, please? There's a knife over there.	chop up sth chop sth up
Let's chop those old boards up and use them as firewood.	 <i>The cat is hungry so I'm chopping up some meat for her.</i>	 see also: <b>cut up</b> <i>cut into small pieces</i>

Fig 2. Write your own example sentences and add your own notes.

Your notes can be written in English, or in your own language if you prefer. You can also make up and write your own example sentences. This will help you to remember the phrasal verbs, and it will also help you to remember how to use them correctly. If possible, have a teacher or a fluent speaker check your sentences for you.

Over 1,000 quiz questions are also included. All the questions are in the 'missing word' or cloze format. A sentence is given in which one word is missing, and you have to figure out what the missing word is (see Fig. 3). You are shown where the word fits in the sentence, and told how many letters it contains. In all the questions the missing word is part of a phrasal verb, either the verb (e.g. 'chop') or the particle (e.g. 'up').

36 Jenny looks a bit sad. Do you think a movie would cheer her _ _ ?	(2 letters)
37 After a hard day's work, I like to chill _ _ _ by watching TV.	(3 letters)
38 We should get our gardener to _ _ _ _ down that dead tree.	(4 letters)
39 Use this knife to chop _ _ the vegetables for the soup.	(2 letters)
40 The police are trying to clamp _ _ _ _ on drug dealers.	(4 letters)
41 If you make a mess in the kitchen, please _ _ _ _ _ it up.	(5 letters)

Fig 3. Some of the questions testing phrasal verbs beginning with 'c' (from p. 32)

The quiz questions can be used in several ways. You can test yourself before studying to find out which phrasal verbs you need to learn. You can also do the quiz questions just after you've studied some of the phrasal verbs in order to check your understanding. The questions can also be used for revision. A couple of days after you've learned some of the phrasal verbs, do the questions that test them again. Keep doing them every few days until you get them all correct. Answer sheets are provided at the back of the book (pp. 145-149), and you can check your answers in the Answer Key (pp. 150-153).

You can also find two appendixes at the back of the book. Appendix 1 (p. 154) is a small selection of recommended phrasal verb dictionaries and study guides. Appendix 2 (p. 155) is a collection of links to various online resources, including dictionaries, grammar notes, interactive games and phrasal verb quizzes in various formats.

### Key to Abbreviations

sb	somebody
sth	something
inf	informal
Brit	British English
Am	American English
Aust	Australian English

<b>account for</b>	How can we <b>account for</b> the high electricity bill this month? Did we use the air-conditioning more than usual?	account for sth
Part of her job is to record and account for all the company's expenses.		
<b>act as</b>	Bobby is a big guy and he has studied boxing, so he can <b>act as</b> my bodyguard as well as my driver.	act as sth
The hairs in the nose act as filters to help keep dust out of our lungs.		see also: <b>function as</b>
<b>act on</b>	You should <b>act on</b> your teacher's advice and try to learn these phrasal verbs.	act on sth
We're acting on our tax lawyer's advice to set up an offshore company.		
<b>act up</b> (informal)	My computer was <b>acting up</b> , so I took it a repair shop near my house and had it fixed.	act up
I'll have to miss golf as my knee is acting up again and it's very sore.		see also: <b>play up</b> (inf)
<b>add to</b>	On the film's opening night, the surprise appearance of several famous movie stars <b>added to</b> the excitement.	add to sth add sth to sth
It's reputation for friendly staff added a lot to the hotel's value.		see also: <b>contribute to</b>
<b>add up</b>	I don't believe his story. There are too many things that don't make sense and the whole thing just doesn't <b>add up</b> .	add up (Usually negative, as in 'It doesn't add up.')
The boss's claim that he didn't know doesn't add up. He must have known.		
<b>add up to</b>	What do 10, 7 and 6 <b>add up to</b> ? Do they <b>add up to</b> 22, or is it 23?	add up to add up to sth
I've checked the receipts for expenses, and they add up to over \$10,000.		see also: <b>come to</b>
<b>aim at</b>	The new ads for Levi jeans are <b>aimed at</b> young people in particular and, like all ads, they're <b>aimed at</b> increasing sales.	(be) aimed at sb/sth (be) aimed at doing sth aim sth at sb/sth
We've aimed this book at people who really want to learn phrasal verbs.		
<b>allow for</b>	When you figure out what time to leave for the airport, <b>allow time for</b> traffic jams, and also take the weather into account.	allow for sth allow sth for sth
When you make the budget, don't forget to allow for rising prices.		see also: <b>factor in</b>
<b>amount to</b>	A music CD needs to sell 100,000 copies or more to be a hit. Selling 10,000 copies doesn't really <b>amount to</b> success in the music business.	amount to sth
Does having had two books published amount to a career as a writer?		

<b>answer back</b>	My son got into trouble at school for being impolite by <b>answering back</b> to his teacher.	answer back to sb answer sb back
One of our players was sent off for answering back to the referee.		 see also: <b>talk back</b>
<b>appeal for</b>	After the earthquake, the government <b>appealed for</b> emergency aid and assistance from neighbouring countries.	appeal for sth appeal for sth from sb appeal to sb for sth
After she disappeared, the girl's family appealed to the public for help.		 see also: <b>ask for</b>
<b>appeal to</b>	Teenagers are a major market for mobile phones, so we need to design a range of cool phones that will <b>appeal to</b> them.	appeal to sb
The small apartments will appeal to single people more than families.		
<b>apply to</b>	The company's new regulation to ban smoking in offices <b>applies to</b> everyone, from cleaners and guards to the CEO.	apply to sb
Some young people from rich families think the law doesn't apply to them.		
<b>arrive at</b>	After doing research into diet, he <b>arrived at</b> the conclusion that a good diet included fish and seafood but didn't include animals or birds.	arrive at sth
They arrived at the retail price by considering all their production costs.		
<b>ask after</b>	I got an email from Elisa and she <b>asked after</b> you. I said you were fine and doing well in your new job.	ask after sb
Whenever I meet James, he asks after you and I tell him you're fine.		
<b>ask for</b>	If you get lost, <b>ask</b> someone <b>for</b> directions to your hotel and they'll tell you where to go.	ask for sth ask sb for sth
I tell my staff not to be afraid of asking for help or advice if they need it.		
<b>ask out</b>	If you like Mirka, you should <b>ask</b> her <b>out</b> . Tell her you'd like to take her to dinner and then see a movie or go dancing or whatever.	ask sb out ask sb out for sth
Do you think it's strange for a girl to ask a guy out for dinner or for a date?		 see also: <b>invite out</b>
<b>ask over / around</b>	We're <b>asking</b> some friends <b>over</b> to our new apartment for dinner on Saturday night.	ask sb over ask sb around
Let's ask a few people from work around to play cards on Sunday.		 see also: <b>invite over / around</b>
<b>attach to</b>	You shouldn't <b>attach</b> too much importance <b>to</b> what the critics say about your book. What really matters is what your readers think.	attach sth to sth
I think our boss attaches too much significance to how someone looks.		

<b>attend to</b>	We have to make sure there are enough sales staff in our stores to <b>attend to</b> all the customers who need help, especially at busy times.	attend to sb/sth
There're two more issues that we should attend to in today's meeting.		 see also: <b>deal with, see to</b>
<b>average out</b>	Some days we sell more, some days we sell less, but sales <b>average out at</b> about 150 units a day.	average out average sth out average out at sth
His income depends on sales, but it averages out at about \$3,000 a month.		

## 1000 Phrasal Verb Quiz Questions **A a**

**Complete the sentences so that each includes a phrasal verb beginning with 'a'...**

- 1 We'll have to account \_\_\_ the missing money somehow. (3 letters)
- 2 Maria sometimes has to \_\_\_ as our babysitter as well as our maid. (3 letters)
- 3 You should act \_\_\_ your doctor's advice to eat more fruit and vegetables. (2 letters)
- 4 My printer was \_\_\_\_\_ up so I had to get it fixed. (6 letters)
- 5 A good light show adds a lot \_\_\_ the excitement of a rock concert. (2 letters)
- 6 I don't believe his story. It just doesn't add \_\_\_ . (2 letters)
- 7 The electricity and telephone bills \_\_\_ up to \$325.00. (3 letters)
- 8 The ads for the new jeans are aimed \_\_\_ teenagers. (2 letters)
- 9 Don't forget to \_\_\_\_\_ enough time for traffic jams on the way to the airport. (5 letters)
- 10 Having one book published doesn't really amount \_\_\_ a career as a writer. (2 letters)
- 11 He got into trouble for answering \_\_\_\_\_ to his teacher. (4 letters)
- 12 The Red Cross had to appeal \_\_\_ more money to help people after the earthquake. (3 letters)
- 13 Our new line of watches is designed to \_\_\_\_\_ to young professional people. (6 letters)
- 14 The tax increases only \_\_\_\_\_ to people in the top income brackets. (5 letters)
- 15 We arrived \_\_\_ our conclusions after studying all the evidence. (2 letters)
- 16 I got an email from Mark and he \_\_\_\_\_ after you, so I said you were fine. (5 letters)
- 17 If you get lost, \_\_\_ someone for directions. (3 letters)
- 18 If you like her, you should ask her \_\_\_ on a date. (3 letters)
- 19 We're going to \_\_\_ some friends over for dinner tomorrow night. (3 letters)
- 20 You shouldn't attach any importance \_\_\_ what people say when they've been drinking. (2 letters)
- 21 She has to \_\_\_\_\_ to two customers at once if there aren't enough sales staff. (6 letters)
- 22 Her income depends on sales of her books, but it averages \_\_\_ at about \$10,000 a month. (3 letters)

<b>back down</b>	The workers refused to <b>back down</b> on their demand for higher wages and voted to continue their strike.	back down back down on sth
The president wouldn't back down on his decision despite its unpopularity.		
<b>back out</b>	Before the election, the president promised to cut taxes if he won. But after being elected he <b>backed out</b> , saying they couldn't afford to.	back out
They'd agreed to increase wages, but backed out when their profits fell.		 see also: <b>go back on</b> (esp. 'Go back on one's word')
<b>back out of</b>	The company <b>backed out of</b> the agreement it had signed to cut down on carbon emissions, saying the cost was now too high.	back out of sth
The government backed out of the deal to release the prisoners.		 see also: <b>pull out (of)</b>
<b>back up</b>	When writing your essay, state your thesis and then <b>back up</b> what you say with examples to show that it's true.	back up sth back sth up
The prosecutor backed his claim up with enough evidence to prove it.		
<b>back up</b>	I'll <b>back</b> you <b>up</b> if anyone says you're lying. I know what you're saying is true and I'll do whatever I can to help you.	back sb up
We trust Sue and backed her up when the company accused her of stealing.		 see also: <b>stand up for</b> , <b>stick by</b>
<b>bail out</b>	After he called and said he'd been arrested and locked up in a cell, I went to the police station and <b>bailed out</b> my troublesome son.	bail out sb bail sb out
Whenever Jim gets into debt, his parents bail him out by giving him money.		
<b>bank on</b>	We couldn't set up the computer network ourselves, so we're <b>banking on</b> an IT engineer from the university to set it up for us.	bank on sth / sb bank on sb to do sth bank on sb doing sth
They say the only two things we can bank on in life are death and taxes.		 see also: <b>count on</b> , <b>depend on</b>
<b>base on</b>	They always <b>base</b> their new designs <b>on</b> the latest market research.	base sth on sth (be) based on sth
Our prices are based on the cost of production and customer expectations.		
<b>bear down on</b>	The protesters looked scared as police <b>bore down on</b> them, waving their batons as they moved in.	bear down on sb / sth
Everyone was worried as the cyclone bore down on their city.		 see also: <b>close in (on)</b>
<b>bear on / upon</b>	The judge said that the new evidence didn't <b>bear on</b> the case and couldn't be presented in court.	bear on sth bear upon sth
We only need information that bears directly upon the issue being looked at.		

## Answer Sheets for Quiz Questions

<b>A</b>					
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22		
<b>B</b>					
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66
67	68	69	70	71	72
<b>C</b>					
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66
67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78
79	80	81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100	101	102
103	104	105	106	107	108
109	110	111	112	113	114
115	116	117	118	119	120
121	122	123	124	125	126
127	128	129	130	131	132
<b>D</b>					
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24

## Key To Quiz Questions

### A

1 for	2 act	3 on	4 acting	5 to	6 up
7 add	8 at	9 allow	10 to	11 back	12 for
13 appeal	14 apply	15 at	16 asked	17 ask	18 out
19 ask	20 to	21 attend	22 out		

### B

1 down	2 out	3 of	4 up	5 up	6 bail
7 out	8 on	9 based	10 bear	11 down	12 up
13 down	14 up	15 of	16 up	17 with	18 in
19 to	20 on	21 out	22 blacked	23 out	24 up
25 blew	26 out	27 over	28 up	29 blow	30 back
31 out	32 over	33 branch	34 away	35 broke	36 down
37 down	38 in	39 on	40 into	41 off	42 out
43 off	44 in	45 out	46 of	47 up	48 broke
49 breaking	50 up	51 about	52 along	53 around	54 to
55 brought	56 down	57 forward	58 in	59 off	60 on
61 out	62 up	63 on	64 for	65 build	66 up / on
67 into	68 down	69 out	70 in	71 bought	72 up

### C

1 call	2 for	3 off	4 on	5 calls	6 out
7 up	8 down	9 care	10 for	11 on	12 carry
13 on	14 out	15 on	16 caught	17 up	18 with
19 on	20 with	21 to	22 change	23 over	24 with
25 up	26 up	27 out	28 in	29 into	30 on
31 of	32 out	33 over	34 through	35 on	36 up
37 out	38 chop	39 up	40 down	41 clean / clear	42 off
43 out	44 up	45 clearing	46 up	47 to	48 up
49 down	50 in	51 around	52 with	53 about	54 across
55 as	56 along	57 come	58 apart	59 around	60 away
61 to	62 around	63 by	64 down	65 with	66 from
67 in	68 comes	69 into	70 for	71 of	72 off
73 on	74 coming	75 out	76 out	77 out / off	78 come
79 over	80 through	81 for	82 to	83 under	84 comes
85 up	86 against	87 to	88 up	89 with	90 to
91 with	92 of	93 out	94 to	95 up	96 cool
97 off	98 out	99 to	100 up	101 on	102 up
103 do	104 for	105 counted	106 in	107 out	108 count
109 up	110 down	111 up	112 out	113 up	114 out
115 on	116 up	117 out / off	118 around	119 cried	120 for
121 in	122 up	123 across	124 back	125 on	126 back/down
127 down	128 off	129 out	130 out	131 for	132 up

### D

1 on	2 in	3 deal	4 with	5 against	6 on
7 depend	8 on	9 from	10 to	11 down	12 for
13 out / off	14 dig	15 into	16 of	17 up	18 about
19 away	20 up	21 up	22 with	23 without	24 off
25 on	26 upon	27 up	28 of	29 up / of	30 out
31 by	32 drop	33 off	34 drop	35 out	36 up
37 down					

### E

1 eat	2 into	3 out	4 up	5 on	6 on
7 up	8 with	9 in	10 into	11 to	12 up
13 to					

### F

1 face	2 with	3 in	4 apart	5 back	6 behind
7 for	8 off	9 out	10 over / down	11 through	12 for
13 off	14 back	15 off	16 on	17 out	18 out
19 fill	20 in	21 on	22 out	23 up	24 out