

8.6 Phrasal verbs

Phrasal verbs are formed by a main verb and preposition or adverb, e.g. look (main verb) + for (preposition) = look for

Types of phrasal verbs:

- without an object: *join in, work out, fit in, pass out*:
*How often do you **work out** in the gym?*
*Yesterday was very hot and a few people **passed out** because of that.*
- with an object after the phrasal verb or between the main verb and preposition. We only use pronouns (him, them, it) between the main verb and preposition:
*I **took up** handball and rugby at the same time.*
*I **took** handball and rugby **up** at the same time.*
*I **took them up** at the same time.*
~~*I **took up** them at the same time.*~~
- with an object (both noun and pronoun):
*Every spring my brother **suffers from** an allergy.*
*Every spring my brother **suffers from** it.*

Phrasal verbs may also be made of three parts and followed by an object (noun or pronoun), e.g.

look forward to sth (main verb + adverb + preposition + object):
*We **look forward to** playing basketball in our new court.*

1 Match the sentence halves.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 You should cut | ☐ |
| 2 It's mean to put | ☐ |
| 3 My grandfather suffers | ☐ |
| 4 It isn't easy to cope | ☐ |
| 5 I really need to catch | ☐ |
| a from a sore back. | |
| b sugar out of your diet. | |
| c up on my sleep. | |
| d people down like that. | |
| e with school and work. | |

2 Correct the mistakes.

- Patrick is new to the motor racing team, but I'm sure he will fit himself in.
- David has taken on running and he's so fit now!
- It's important for team members to get on each other if they are to perform well.
- If you think there's a problem, remember that you can talk over it with me.
- If you want to join our rugby match in , just ask.
- I nearly passed it out when I saw all the blood.

3 Complete each sentence with the correct form of a verb and a preposition in the box.

behind fall figure give go in join
out over sign up up

- You need to _____ at the sports club if you want to be on the handball team.
- Michael Jordan said you should never _____ your dreams if you want to be successful.
- I can't _____ how this app works and I need your help, I'm afraid.
- I've _____ these instructions five times and I still don't understand them.
- Claire _____ with her schoolwork because she was busy with the volleyball team.
- Sophie _____ the football match and scored two goals. She's great!

4 UNIT REVIEW Choose the correct answer, A, B, or C, to complete both sentences.

- You need to _____ out a couple of times a week to stay fit.
Do you always _____ such long hours in the greengrocer's?
A take B work C keep
- Don't come too close to me because I've _____ a sore throat.
I was sad when we lost the match but I quickly _____ over it.
A got B had C suffered
- You should never _____ somebody down if you want to motivate them.
Why don't you _____ this face mask on if you're having trouble breathing?
A get B put C keep
- How do you keep _____ of your heart rate?
They're building a running _____ next to the school.
A check B court C track
- I'm _____ forward to the final of the Champion's League.
Who is _____ after your pets while you're on holiday?
A going B looking C taking
- It wasn't easy for Jake to _____ in with the boys in the team.
I can't wear these football boots because they don't _____.
A fit B join C suit
- The manager told me _____ he was looking for you.
He's the chef _____ cooks excellent vegetarian food.
A who B that C why
- She _____ the decision to leave the volleyball team.
If you _____ an effort, you would lose more weight.
A took B did C made