

Phrasal Verbs (B2) – Test 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 30



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Choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) for each question.

Part 1: Meaning in context

Read each sentence and choose the meaning of the phrasal verb in quotation marks.

- We had to 'put off' the meeting until next Friday because Sara was ill. 'Put off' means:
A cancel completely B postpone C organise D shorten
- I can't 'figure out' how this new printer works. 'Figure out' means:
A repair B switch on C understand D describe
- The story Kenji told us 'turned out' to be completely true. 'Turned out' means:
A was found in the end B was believed at first
C seemed at first D was hoped
- Don't 'give up' now – you're nearly at the top of the hill! 'Give up' means:
A complain B slow down C look back D stop trying
- Amira 'takes after' her grandmother; they both love painting and have the same laugh. 'Takes after' means:
A looks after B admires C resembles D lives with
- The company is 'looking into' the complaints from customers. 'Looking into' means:
A investigating B ignoring C answering D reading out
- I 'came across' some old photos while I was cleaning the attic. 'Came across' means:
A threw away B found by chance
C searched for carefully D sold
- Can you 'make out' what that sign says? It's too far away for me. 'Make out' means:
A invent B remember C translate D manage to read
- After two years together, Lucas and Mia finally 'broke up'. 'Broke up' means:
A got married B had a small argument
C ended their relationship D moved house
- The teacher 'pointed out' a few mistakes in my essay. 'Pointed out' means:
A drew attention to B corrected C ignored D made up

Part 2: Choosing the right phrasal verb

Choose the phrasal verb that best completes each sentence.

- Our train was delayed by two hours, so we didn't _____ until midnight.
A take off B get in C get over D set up

12. Could you — the music, please? I'm trying to study.
A turn up **B** turn over **C** turn out **D** turn down
13. We've — milk, so I'll go to the shop and get some.
A run out of **B** run into **C** run over **D** run away from
14. I'm really — the concert on Saturday – I've wanted to see this band for years.
A looking up to **B** looking after **C** looking forward to **D** looking out for
15. The fire alarm — in the middle of the night and woke everyone up.
A went out **B** went off **C** went on **D** went over
16. She was offered a job in another city, but she — because she didn't want to move.
A turned down it **B** turned it up **C** turned it off **D** turned it down
17. It took Omar weeks to — the flu; he felt tired for a long time.
A get away **B** get across **C** get over **D** get by
18. The police are trying to find out how the fire —.
A broke down **B** broke out **C** broke up **D** broke in
19. Nobody expected Tom to — at the party, but he arrived at ten o'clock.
A turn up **B** turn in **C** turn over **D** turn back
20. Prices have risen so much that many families are having to — on luxuries like eating out.
A cut off **B** cut back **C** cut out **D** cut in

Part 3: Particles, word families and accuracy

Choose the correct particle, noun or sentence for each question.

21. Our car broke — on the motorway, so we called for help.
A up **B** out **C** down **D** off
22. I can't put — with this noise any longer!
A off **B** up **C** on **D** down
23. The doctor told Ines to cut down — sugar.
A with **B** from **C** of **D** on
24. There has been a sudden — of flu at the school; twenty students are ill.
A breakout **B** breakdown **C** outbreak **D** breakthrough
25. Scientists have made an important — in cancer research.
A breakthrough **B** breakdown **C** outbreak **D** breakup
26. Losing the first match was a —, but the team still reached the final.
A setup **B** outset **C** set-off **D** setback
27. Which sentence is correct?
A My sister gets on well her new flatmates.
B Can you look after my cat while I'm away?
C The meeting was called on because of the storm.
D He gave up to smoke last year.

28. Which sentence contains a mistake?

- A** We set off early to avoid the traffic.
- B** She brought up three children on her own.
- C** Can you hand in it before Friday?
- D** They called the party off at the last minute.

29. The new manager wants to _____ a few changes in the way we work.

- A** bring up
- B** bring about
- C** bring back
- D** bring round

30. A: Are you still going to the gym every day? B: No, I _____ last month. I just didn't have time.

- A** gave it up
- B** gave up it
- C** gave it in
- D** gave it away

Answer key – Phrasal Verbs (B2) – Test 1

1 B	2 C	3 A	4 D	5 C	6 A	7 B	8 D	9 C	10 A
11 B	12 D	13 A	14 C	15 B	16 D	17 C	18 B	19 A	20 B
21 C	22 B	23 D	24 C	25 A	26 D	27 B	28 C	29 B	30 A

Explanations

- B** – 'Put off' means to move an event to a later time, and 'until next Friday' confirms this.
- C** – 'Figure out' means to understand something or find the answer after thinking about it.
- A** – 'Turn out' describes what something is finally discovered to be.
- D** – 'Give up' means to stop trying to do something.
- C** – 'Take after' means to be similar to an older family member.
- A** – 'Look into' means to examine the facts of a situation carefully.
- B** – 'Come across' means to find something without planning to.
- D** – 'Make out' means to manage to see, read or hear something with difficulty.
- C** – 'Break up' means to end a romantic relationship.
- A** – 'Point out' means to tell someone about something so that they notice it.
- B** – 'Get in' means to arrive, especially at a station or airport.
- D** – 'Turn down' means to make the volume lower, which is what you need when studying.
- A** – 'Run out of' means to have none of something left.
- C** – 'Look forward to' means to feel happy about something that is going to happen.
- B** – An alarm 'goes off' when it suddenly starts ringing.
- D** – 'Turn down' means to refuse, and a pronoun object must go between the verb and the particle.
- C** – 'Get over' means to recover from an illness or a difficult experience.
- B** – Fires, wars and diseases 'break out', meaning they start suddenly.
- A** – 'Turn up' means to arrive or appear, often unexpectedly.
- B** – 'Cut back on' means to spend or use less of something.
- C** – A car or machine 'breaks down' when it stops working.
- B** – 'Put up with' means to accept or tolerate something unpleasant.
- D** – The fixed expression is 'cut down on' something, meaning to use less of it.
- C** – An 'outbreak' is the sudden start of a disease, from the verb 'break out'.
- A** – A 'breakthrough' is an important new discovery or development.
- D** – A 'setback' is a problem that delays progress.
- B** – 'Look after' (take care of) is used correctly; the others need 'get on well with', 'called off' and 'gave up smoking'.
- C** – With a pronoun object, a separable phrasal verb must be split: 'hand it in'.
- B** – 'Bring about' means to cause something to happen, especially changes.
- A** – 'Give up' means to stop doing a regular activity, and the pronoun goes between the verb and the particle.

Notes for teachers: Use Part 1 as a warm-up for meaning, then Parts 2 and 3 to check active use. The test targets typical B2 errors: confusing phrasal verbs with the same base verb (turn up/turn down, break out/break down), dropping the final preposition (cut down on, put up with) and putting a pronoun after the particle in separable verbs (*turn down it). As a follow-up, ask learners to write their own sentences with five verbs they got wrong, or to group the verbs by particle.