

Phrasal Verbs (B2) – Worksheet 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 40



Do this worksheet
online and check your
answers instantly

Exercise 1: Match the phrasal verbs with their meanings

Match each phrasal verb with its meaning from the box. There is one extra meaning you do not need.

Example: give up → stop doing something

WORD BOX

postpone refuse an offer or request investigate think of an idea or plan recover from
tolerate start a new hobby or activity leave a place suddenly

1. put off → _____
2. turn down → _____
3. look into → _____
4. come up with → _____
5. get over → _____
6. put up with → _____
7. take up → _____

Exercise 2: Complete the sentences

Complete each sentence with a phrasal verb from the box. There are two extra phrasal verbs you do not need.

WORD BOX

broke down called off ran out of set up cut down on ended up figured out fell out
brought up

8. Our car _____ on the motorway, so we had to call a mechanic.
9. The match was _____ because of the heavy rain.
10. We _____ milk, so I went to the shop to buy some more.
11. Elena _____ her own design business after leaving university.
12. My doctor told me to _____ sugar and eat more vegetables.
13. We got lost and _____ in a tiny village miles away from our hotel.
14. It took me hours, but I finally _____ how to fix the printer.

Exercise 3: Use the correct form

Complete each sentence with the correct form of the phrasal verb in brackets.

Example: Tom ___ (grow up) in a small town by the sea. → grew up

15. By the time we arrived at the stadium, the tickets _____ (sell out).
16. The police are _____ (look into) the cause of the fire at the moment.
17. I'm thinking of _____ (take up) yoga next year.
18. Marco _____ (give up) smoking three years ago and feels much healthier now.
19. Yesterday our team _____ (come up with) a brilliant idea for the new campaign.
20. The old cinema _____ (turn into) a public library last year.
21. I can't _____ (put up with) this noise any longer!

Exercise 4: Nouns from phrasal verbs

Use the phrasal verb in capitals to form a noun that fits the gap.

Example: Our company needs a ___ plan in case the system fails. (BACK UP) → backup

22. The negotiations ended in a complete _____ and nobody signed the agreement.
(BREAK DOWN)
23. The _____ of the company by a larger rival surprised all the employees. (TAKE OVER)
24. The _____ for the charity concert was much bigger than the organisers expected.
(TURN OUT)
25. Losing the first match was a _____, but the team still won the tournament. (SET BACK)
26. The new software has one major _____: it's very expensive. (DRAW BACK)
27. Everyone was waiting nervously for the _____ of the meeting. (COME OUT)

Exercise 5: Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

Example: Please turn off it before you leave. → Please turn it off before you leave.

28. She turned down it because the salary was too low.

29. We've run out from coffee, so I'll buy some later.

30. I can't put up to his rude behaviour anymore.

31. They called the wedding of at the last minute.

32. He finally got over from his illness after a month.

33. I need to look out the meaning of this word in a dictionary.

34. My parents brought me on in a small town by the sea.

Exercise 6: Rewrite the sentences

Rewrite each sentence using the phrasal verb in brackets so that the meaning stays the same.

Example: The company decided to cancel the trip. (call off) → The company decided to call off the trip.

35. The concert was postponed until next month. (put off)

36. I can't tolerate the noise from next door. (put up with)

37. Anna refused the job offer. (turn down)

38. Our manager is investigating the problem. (look into)

39. Scientists conducted a survey of 500 teenagers. (carry out)

40. It took her a long time to recover from the shock. (get over)

Answer key – Phrasal Verbs (B2) – Worksheet 1

Exercise 1: Match the phrasal verbs with their meanings

1. **postpone**
To put something off means to move it to a later time.
2. **refuse an offer or request**
To turn something down means to say no to an offer or request.
3. **investigate**
To look into a problem means to examine or investigate it.
4. **think of an idea or plan**
To come up with something means to produce an idea or plan.
5. **recover from**
To get over an illness or a shock means to recover from it.
6. **tolerate**
To put up with something means to accept something unpleasant.
7. **start a new hobby or activity**
To take up a hobby means to start doing it.

Exercise 2: Complete the sentences

8. **broke down**
When a machine or vehicle breaks down, it stops working.
9. **called off**
To call something off means to cancel it.
10. **ran out of**
To run out of something means to have none left.
11. **set up**
To set up a business means to start it.
12. **cut down on**
To cut down on something means to have less of it.
13. **ended up**
To end up somewhere means to finally be there, often without planning it.
14. **figured out**
To figure something out means to understand or solve it.

Exercise 3: Use the correct form

15. **had sold out**
The past perfect shows the action happened before we arrived.
16. **looking into**
The present continuous needs the -ing form: are looking into.
17. **taking up**
After a preposition (of) we use the -ing form.
18. **gave up**
'Three years ago' needs the past simple.
19. **came up with**
'Yesterday' needs the past simple: came up with.
20. **was turned into**
The cinema did not do the action, so we need the passive in the past.
21. **put up with**
After can't we use the base form of the verb.

Exercise 4: Nouns from phrasal verbs

22. **breakdown**
A breakdown is a failure, e.g. of talks or a machine.
23. **takeover**
A takeover is when one company gains control of another.
24. **turnout**
Turnout is the number of people who come to an event.
25. **setback**
A setback is a problem that delays progress.
26. **drawback**
A drawback is a disadvantage.
27. **outcome**
The outcome is the result; note that the particle comes first in this noun.

Exercise 5: Correct the mistakes

28. **She turned it down because the salary was too low.**

With separable phrasal verbs, a pronoun must go between the verb and the particle.

29. **We've run out of coffee, so I'll buy some later.**

The correct phrase is run out of.

30. **I can't put up with his rude behaviour anymore.**

The correct phrase is put up with.

31. **They called the wedding off at the last minute.**

To cancel something is to call it off, not 'of'.

32. **He finally got over his illness after a month.**

Get over is followed directly by its object, without 'from'.

33. **I need to look up the meaning of this word in a dictionary.**

To find information in a book or online is to look it up.

34. **My parents brought me up in a small town by the sea.**

To raise a child is to bring them up.

Exercise 6: Rewrite the sentences

35. **The concert was put off until next month.**

Put off means postpone; keep the passive was + past participle.

36. **I can't put up with the noise from next door.**

Put up with means tolerate.

37. **Anna turned down the job offer.**

Turn down means refuse; it is separable, so both word orders are correct.

38. **Our manager is looking into the problem.**

Look into means investigate; keep the present continuous.

39. **Scientists carried out a survey of 500 teenagers.**

Carry out collocates with survey, research and experiments.

40. **It took her a long time to get over the shock.**

Get over means recover from and needs no extra preposition.

Notes for teachers: Start with the matching task to check meaning, then move through the controlled exercises before the rewriting task. Typical mistakes include putting a pronoun after the particle (turned down it instead of turned it down), using the wrong preposition (run out from, put up to) and forgetting the passive with verbs like call off. As a follow-up, ask learners to write a short story using at least six of the phrasal verbs, then swap and check each other's use.