**University of Bejaia**

**Faculty of exact sciences**

**Department of computer science.**

**Module: technical English**

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**Level: L2**

**Lesson 02: Phrasal verb:**

**Questionnaire:**

* Work in pairs. Interview your partner with the questions.
* Have you ever forgotten to **turn** your cell phone **off** at a concert or the movies?
* Do you **throw away** old clothes or do you give them to other people?
* Do you enjoy **trying on** clothes when you go shopping?
* Do you often **go away** on the weekend? Where to?
* Before you go shopping, do you usually **write down** what you have to buy? Do you only buy what’s on the list?
* Do you enjoy **looking after** small children? Why (not)?
* Have you ever asked you neighbors to **turn** the TV or the music **down**? What happened?
* What’s the first thing you **turn on** after you wake up in the morning?

**Definition:**

A **phrasal verb** consists of a [verb](https://www.usingenglish.com/glossary/verb.html) and a [preposition](https://www.usingenglish.com/glossary/preposition.html) or [adverb](https://www.usingenglish.com/glossary/adverb.html) or both of them that modifies or changes the meaning; 'give up' is a phrasal verb that means 'stop doing' something, which is very different from 'give'. The word or words that modify a verb in this manner can also go under the name [particle](https://www.usingenglish.com/glossary/particle.html). In the phrasal verb “give up” the word “up” is the particle.

With some separable verbs, the object can come before or after the particle, though when a [**pronoun**](https://www.usingenglish.com/glossary/pronoun.html)is used it comes before the particle:

*Turn* the TV *off*. ( the object is before the particle) *optional.*  
*Turn* *off* the TV. ( the object is after the particle). *Optional.*   
*Turn* it *off*. (The object is a pronoun so it must come between the verb and its particle). *Obligatory.*

# **Phrasal verbs**

She has always ***looked down on***me. ( verb+ adverb+preposition)

Fighting ***broke out*** among a group of 40 men. ( verb+adverb)

I’ll ***see to*** the animals.( verb+ preposition)

Don’t ***put*** me ***off***, I’m trying to concentrate. ( the object is a pronoun).

For instance, in the first example, the phrasal verb ‘to look down on someone’ doesn’t mean that you are looking down from a higher place at someone who is below you; it means that you think that you are better than someone.

## Transitivity

Phrasal verbs can be [intransitive](https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/explore/transitive-and-intransitive-verbs) (i.e. they have no object):

We ***broke up*** two years ago.

They ***set off*** early to miss the traffic.

**or** [**transitive**](https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/explore/transitive-and-intransitive-verbs) **(i.e. they can have an object):**

The police were called to ***break up*** the fight.

When the door is opened, it ***sets off*** an alarm.

They ***pulled*** the house ***down*** and redeveloped the site.

## Word order:

# **Separable and Inseparable Phrasal Verbs**

A phrasal verb is a verb combined with a preposition or adverb (or both) that means something different from each of the words that make up the verb. There are two types of phrasal verbs. Separable phrasal verbs can be broken up by other words, while inseparable phrasal verbs cannot be separated by other words.

## Inseparable phrasal verb

The verb and adverb elements which make up intransitive phrasal verbs are never separated:

✓  We ***broke up*** two years ago.

✗  We ***broke*** two years ago ***up***.

**Separable phrasal verb**

The situation is different with transitive verbs, however. If the [direct object](https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/explore/subjects-and-objects)  is a noun, you can say:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ✓ They ***pulled*** | the house | ***down***. |
|  | [direct object] |  |
| ✓ They ***pulled down*** the house. | | |

 It is optional.

If the object is a [pronoun](https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/explore/pronouns)  (such as it, him, her, them) , then the object always comes between the verb and the adverb:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ✓ They ***pulled*** | It | ***down***. |
|  | [direct object] |  |
| ✗ They ***pulled down*** it. | | |
|  | | |

# It is obligatory.