

Target structure: Phrasal verbs

Context: Suspension Bridges

Summary:

Students will learn and practice phrasal verbs related to engineering and construction using examples from suspension bridges.

Suspension bridges **hold up** massive roadways using strong cables that **run through** tall towers, allowing them to **spread out** the weight evenly. Engineers **come up with** innovative designs to make these structures both strong and flexible. Before construction, experts **look into** factors like wind resistance and material durability to ensure safety. Workers **set up** the main cables first, then carefully **put together** the roadway sections. Over time, maintenance crews **check over** the cables and towers to prevent damage. If any issues **come up**, they must **deal with** them immediately to keep the bridge safe for travelers.

Phrasal verbs:

Phrasal verbs are verbs combined with one or more particles (prepositions or adverbs) that change their original meaning. They are commonly used in English and can be challenging for learners because their meanings depend on the context.

Les verbes à particule sont des verbes combinés à une ou plusieurs particules (prépositions ou adverbes) qui changent leur sens d'origine. Ils sont couramment utilisés en anglais et peuvent être difficiles pour les apprenants car leurs significations dépendent du contexte.

Examples :

"Hold up" (verb + adverb)

Literal meaning: Support or keep something elevated.

Engineering example: "The cables hold up the roadway, preventing it from collapsing."

Here, "hold up" means to support or keep the roadway elevated.

"Run through" (verb + preposition)

Literal meaning: Pass through or extend across something.

Engineering example: "The suspension cables run through the towers to distribute weight evenly."

Here, "run through" means that the cables extend through the towers.

"Spread out" (verb + adverb)

Literal meaning: Distribute evenly over an area.

Engineering example: "The forces on a suspension bridge spread out across the cables."

Here, "spread out" means that the forces are evenly distributed.

"Come up with" (verb + preposition)

Literal meaning: Invent or think of an idea.

Engineering example: "The engineers came up with an innovative bridge design."

Here, "come up with" means to create or think of a new idea.

"Look into" (verb + preposition)

Literal meaning: Investigate or examine something.

Engineering example: "Experts are looking into ways to make suspension bridges more resistant to earthquakes."

Here, "look into" means to investigate or research.

"Set up" (verb + adverb)

Literal meaning: Arrange or install something.

Engineering example: "Workers set up the cables before constructing the deck."

Here, "set up" means to install or prepare the cables.

"Put together" (verb + adverb)

Literal meaning: Assemble or construct something.

Engineering example: "Engineers put together the bridge sections piece by piece."

Here, "put together" means to assemble or build the sections.

"Check over" (verb + adverb)

Literal meaning: Inspect carefully.

Engineering example: "The maintenance team checks over the bridge structure regularly."

Here, "check over" means to carefully inspect for issues.

"Come up" (verb + adverb)

Literal meaning: Arise or appear unexpectedly.

Engineering example: "If any structural issues come up, engineers must act quickly."

Here, "come up" means to appear or arise unexpectedly.

"Deal with" (verb + preposition)

Literal meaning: Handle or manage a situation.

Engineering example: "The team dealt with a major crack in the bridge support."

Here, "deal with" means to handle or manage the problem.