

Phrasal Verbs

Phrasal verbs such as *put up*, *come across* and *get over* are very common in English, especially in speech. Sometimes a phrasal verb can have more than one meaning, e.g.

put up

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| = raise | 1. Mary knew the answer so she <i>put up</i> her hand. |
| = increase | 2. Taxi-drivers have just <i>put up</i> their fares. |
| = build | 3. Some workmen have just <i>put up</i> three houses in three weeks. |
| = stay | 4. Uncle sometimes <i>puts up</i> at a friend's home in London. |
| = provide accommodation | 5. We can <i>put up</i> two members of the visiting soccer team for a fortnight. |
| = provide | 6. Ms. King has <i>put up</i> \$1,000 to buy prizes for the best four pupils. |
| = get somebody to do something | 7. Who <i>put you up</i> to this? |

In each of the following sentences, choose the right explanation of the words in bold type.

- When the strikers asked for a pay increase of 10%, the manager refused to consider it. Two weeks later, he **backed down** and offered an increase of 8%.
A. ran away B. gave way C. became angry D. fell over
- You can **bank on** us to support you at the meeting.
A. object to B. agree with C. rely on D. stand on
- The workmen are **behind** with the repairs to the roof.
A. late in finishing B. unwilling to start
C. hiding away D. getting on quickly
- What are those boys talking about? I wonder what they're **up to**.
A. standing on B. climbing up
C. planning to do D. arguing about
- Go and help Mary to **blow up** the balloons for the party.
A. put air into B. explode C. hang up D. go and buy
- Terrorists have threatened to **blow up** an important pipe line.
A. expand B. take control of
C. insert air into D. damage by an explosion
- World War II **broke out** in 1939.
A. finished B. started C. became worse D. was cancelled
- Uncle said he will probably **call round** at about seven o' clock this evening.
A. telephone B. shout across to
C. expect you to visit him D. come and see (you)
- The scheme is a good one but don't get **carried away** by it. It hasn't been approved yet.
A. overcome by excitement B. too worried
C. forced to feel ill D. eager to oppose something
- Yes, your plan looks quite good. **Carry on** with it.
A. Take it away B. Continue C. Agree D. Change it again
- What did the injured man say when he **came to**?
A. arrived B. visited
C. reached us D. recovered consciousness

12. Sgt. Johnson suspects that Peter is **covering up** for a friend.

- A. falsely accusing
C. hiding behind
- B. lying to protect
D. trying to find

13. Mary was **cut off** while she was talking to Susan on the phone.

- A. disconnected
C. accidentally hurt
- B. injured
D. very surprised

14. Did your sister **get through** her driving test yesterday?

- A. take
B. pass
C. fail
D. arrive at

15. How does he always manage to **get off** helping at home?

- A. stop
B. avoid
C. suggest
D. quickly complete

16. Do you think she will **get over** her illness soon?

- A. forget about
C. find out about
- B. stop worrying about
D. recover from

17. I hope the meat hasn't **gone off** because of the heat.

- A. become bad
C. been eaten
- B. disappeared
D. increased in price

18. (On the telephone) "Please **hang on** a minute."

- A. stay on the line and wait
C. don't phone
- B. listen and take notes
D. stop talking

19. Ann **jumped at** the opportunity to study overseas.

- A. strongly object to
C. quickly accepted
- B. refused to accept
D. decided to think over

20. Although we **let off** fireworks in the school grounds, the headmaster **let us off** with a scolding.

- A. burnt _____ punished
C. ignited _____ exploded
- B. found _____ forgave
D. exploded _____ released