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20

MOST COMMON ENGLISH PHASAL VERBS

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What is a Phrasal Verb

Phrasal verbs – also known as compound verbs – are verbs with more than one word. Like idioms, their meaning is not as straight forward as they may seem. The verbs change their meaning when accompanied by an adverb or preposition.

According to two Leading Linguists learners will encounter, on average, one phrasal 20 most common English phrasal verbs in every 150 words of English they are exposed to. This is why they are essential if you want to be fluent in English and speak like a native.

In this eBook I have listed **20 essential phrasal verbs** that are commonly used in everyday conversation. This is a good place to start learning phrasal verbs and expanding your English vocabulary.

1.

Add up



To count or calculate the total

- We added up all of the fruits. There were 8 in total.

If something is logical, credible or makes sense

- Her story doesn't add up. I think she's lying.

2.

be fed up with

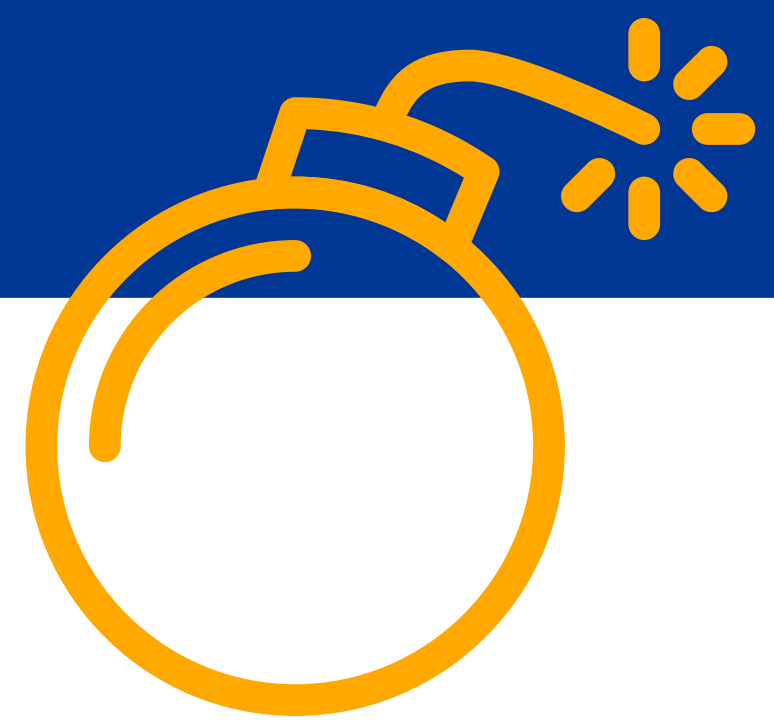


To be tired or bored of someone or something

- My boss is fed up with me because I am always late for work.

3.

blow up



To explode

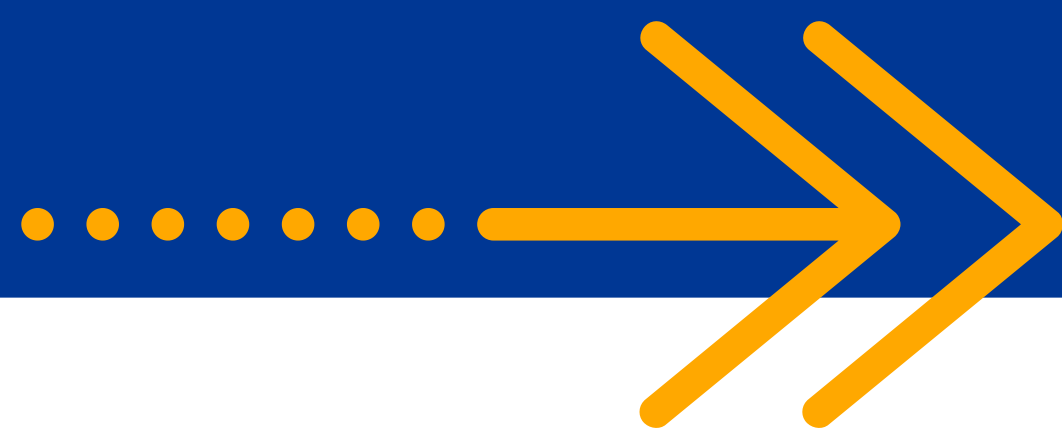
- The bomb blew up.

To inflate or fill with air

- She blew up the balloons at the birthday party.

4.

carry on



To continue

- Even if you don't feel like it, you must persevere and carry on.

5.

come back



To return

- I will come back at five pm so please wait for me before starting the meeting.

6.

find out



To discover or learn facts or the truth

- Ben's boss found out that Ben had been stealing from the company.

7.

get along



To make progress

- How are you getting along with your English lessons?

To be on friendly terms or to live in harmony

- I don't get along with my sister very well because she is always nagging me.

8.

get away



To escape or manage to leave

- I couldn't get away from the meeting for four hours.

9.

give up



To stop an activity or a bad habit

- You should give up smoking in order to improve your health.

To surrender

- They gave up the battle.

10.

go on



To continue

- I'm sorry I interrupted you. Please go on.
- He went on his journey.

11.

go out



To leave; to exit

- I went out of the office by the back entrance to avoid being seen leaving early.

12.

grow up

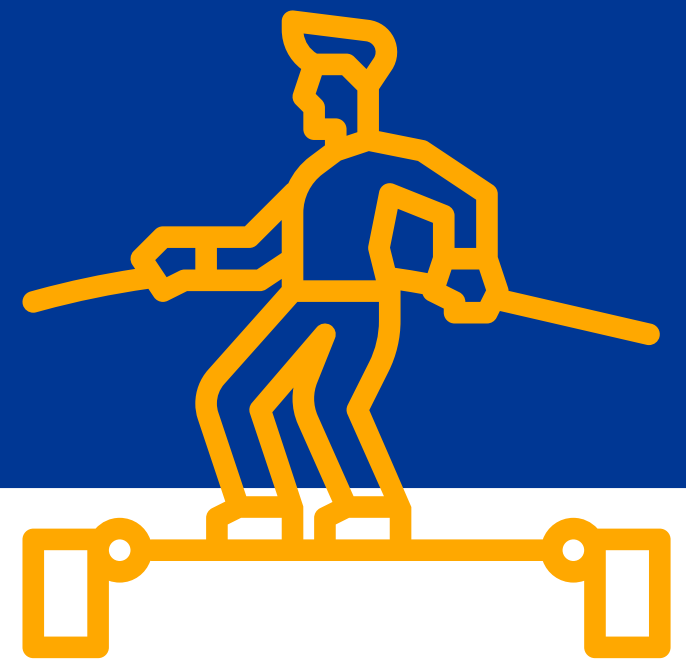


To become an adult

- Children grow up very quickly and parents need to cherish the time they have with their kids.

13.

hold on



To wait

- Please hold on a moment while I check the availability of that product.

14.

look after



To take care of someone or something

- She looked after her mother she was sick.
- You need to look after your belongings when you go out.

15.

look forward to



To anticipate or be excited about something that's going to happen

- I am really looking forward to going on holiday next week

16.

pass out



To lose consciousness or fall asleep involuntarily

- I was so tired when I got home that I passed out.

To distribute things to a group of people.

- I passed out the papers to the students in the class.

17.

pick up



To retrieve or get something off the ground.

- She picked up all the litter in the park.

To collect someone.

- My dad picked me up from school late.

18.

put up with



To endure or tolerate.

- The manager put up with Bob's lateness because he was a very skilled employee.
- Most parents will not put up with their children's disobedience.

19.

turn up



To increase the volume

- Please turn up the volume. I love this song.

Someone or something that appears by chance

- You'll never guess who turned up to the party.
Ted Baker. I haven't seen him in years.

20.

watch out



To be careful; to be cautious

- You should watch out for dangerous wildlife in Australia.

If you enjoyed this eBook and want to continue learning and expanding your vocabulary make sure to:



1. Join our Facebook group Conversations over Coffee where you can listen to and be involved in conversations with native speakers.



2. Sign up for a free 15-minute trial call to learn how I can help you meet your needs.



3. Join the Whatsapp group to be notified of all new resources and opportunities to work together.