

**1** Many verbs consist of more than one word in English. Generally these verbs are **verb + particle** (*in/on/out/off* etc). These are called phrasal verbs. A phrasal verb does not have the same meaning as the normal verb:

Normal meaning



Normal meaning, with emphasis



Phrasal verb



**2** A common structure is **verb + particle**:

get by go on go away grow up keep on meet up watch out

I can speak a little French. I can **get by**.

I'm sorry I interrupted your story. Please **go on**.

The music was so bad we paid the musicians to **go away**.

We **grew up** in the countryside, but now we live in the city.

It's hard to succeed, but you must **keep on** trying.

They visited different shops, then **met up** at the library.



There's a policeman coming. **Watch out!**

Sometimes phrasal verbs have the same meaning as one-word verbs. Which examples above mean: continue/ manage/ leave?

**3** Another structure is **verb + particle + object**. Can you underline the phrasal verbs in these examples?

Someone broke into my flat and stole my tv and video.

We've got an au-pair to look after the children.

I bumped into Chris and Annie in the centre.

The police are looking into the crime.

Which examples above mean: investigate/ meet?

**4** Some phrasal verbs have three parts, with two words after the verb. Can you underline the phrasal verbs in these examples?

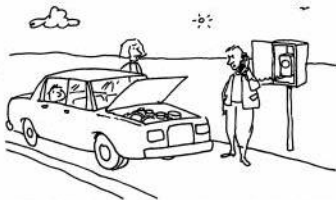
Mary left before me, but my car is faster, so I caught up with her very soon.

Parts of this cathedral date back to the tenth century.

We were so busy we didn't get round to watching the video until midnight!

**A Underline the phrasal verbs in these sentences:**

- Sue was so busy she stayed up all night to finish her work.
- Laurence is so rude. How can you put up with him?
- He took up skiing when he was 4. He was a champion at 16.
- I'm like my mother, but my sister Sarah takes after our father.
- If we start out now, we'll be there by nine o'clock.
- Hurry up! I don't want to be late.
- 'Could you find out what time the train leaves, please?'
- The soldiers carried out a dangerous raid.
- If you are hot, take off your coat.



- 10 The car broke down on the motorway. We had to get help.

**B Now put the phrasal verbs from A into categories:**

Verb + particle

*She stayed up.*

Verb + particle + obj

*He took up skiing.*

Three part Verbs

*How can you put up with him?*


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**C Complete the sentences using these phrasal verbs:**

got by grew up stay up watch out hold on play around

- My parents \_\_\_\_\_ in Bulgaria, but they went to live in London when they were married.
- They broke the window when they were \_\_\_\_\_ with a football.
- Last night we \_\_\_\_\_ to watch the late film on tv.
- 'Can you speak Chinese?' 'No, when we were there we \_\_\_\_\_ with a few words and some sign language!'
- 'Can I speak to Paul, please?' '\_\_\_\_\_, I'll just go and get him.'
- \_\_\_\_\_! Don't touch the paint, it's wet!

**D Rewrite these sentences, replacing the verbs underlined with one of these phrasal verbs:**

keep on find out got away bumped into

- The police followed the robbers, but they escaped.
- I'm trying to discover whose car this is.
- Most of the students said they wanted to continue studying.
- I met an old friend on the ferry. What a surprise!