

*catch up with** (reach someone by going faster)

You can rest now and **catch up with** us later. You're going too fast! I can't catch up!

*cut down on** (reduce the amount of)

Sheila has decided to **cut down on** holidays this year.

You're eating too many sweets. You should **cut down**.

*drop in on** (visit for a short time)

Let's **drop in on** David while we're in Paris. The next time you're nearby, please do **drop in**!

*get along/on with** (have a friendly relationship with)

James doesn't **get on** well with his maths teacher.

keep up with• (move at the same speed as)

You're going too fast! I can't **keep up with** you.

live up to (be as good as someone expects)

The film didn't **live up to** our expectations.

look forward to (think you will enjoy)

I'm **looking forward to** going on holiday this year.

look out onto/over (have a view of)

Our hotel room **looks out onto** the lake.

put up with (accept without complaining)

I can't **put up with** all this noise!

run out of (have no more of)

I think the car is about to **run out** of petrol!
There isn't any more milk. We've **run out**.

see to (pay attention to, often meaning 'repair')

The brakes on your car need **seeing to**.

stand for (tolerate)

I will not **stand for** so much talking!

take after (be similar in appearance or character)

Karen **takes after** her mother. They're very similar.

call for (come to your house and collect)

We'll call for you about 8.00 so please be ready.

call on (visit for a short time)

I called on Professor Jones and wished her a Happy Birthday.

deal with (take action to solve a problem)

Could you **deal with** this customer's problem please?

get at (try to say, suggest)

Helen couldn't understand what her boss was **getting at**.

get over (recover from)

Peter was ill with flu, but he's **getting over** it now.

head for (go in the direction of)

The escaped prisoner is thought to be **heading for** London.

join in (take part in, contribute to)

When Alex started singing, everyone **joined in**.

see to (pay attention to, often meaning 'repair')

The brakes on your car need **seeing to**

Ex.1 Underline the correct preposition in each sentence.

Can you explain that again? I don't know what you're getting *by/with/at*?
He's a very strict teacher. He doesn't stand *for/up/with* any bad behavior in class.
I enjoyed London, but it didn't really live up *to/with/for* my expectations.
I smoke 20 cigarettes a day, but I'm trying to cut *off/through/dawn*.
I think she has got *over/by/down* the break-up with her boyfriend.
Call *by/in/for* you at eight o'clock, and then we'll go to the party together.
I'm going crazy! I can't put *off/up/down* with so much confusion!
I'm lucky; I get *on/off/over* really well with my colleagues.
If you miss too many lessons, it's difficult to catch *over/up/with*.
It's difficult to keep *along/by/up* with changes in bio-technology.
My car needs a service - the engine needs seeing *in/to/at*.
The printer is working, but it's run *away/out/down* of ink.

Ex.2 Complete each sentence (a-h) with an ending (1-8).

- a) If you have any kind of problem, just call me and I'll deal
- b) I've been so busy lately that I've decided to cut
- c) Ann and Sue are really looking
- d) Our teacher told us that she would not stand
- e) Nearly everybody says that Mark takes
- f) Jackie is very friendly and generally gets
- g) Half-way through the race, Martin found that he couldn't keep
- h) We were told that the concert was going to be good but it didn't live

- 1. for cheating in our end-of-term test.
- 2. on well with the people she works with.
- 3. with it as soon as I can.
- 4. after his father's side of the family.
- 5. down on the **amount** of time I spend watching television.
- 6. up with the others any more.
- 7. up to our expectations at all.
- 8. forward to seeing you both again in July.

Ex. 3 Complete each sentence with a suitable form of one of the phrasal verbs in the box. Use each one once only.

catch up with, cut down on, drop in on, get on with, keep up with, (not) live up to, look forward to, run out of

- 1. The book you lent me _____ my expectations.
- 2. Any time you're in the area, feel free to _____ us.
- 3. Sorry, we have _____ orange juice. Would you like some water?
- 4. Unfortunately Susie doesn't _____ her new neighbors.
- 5. Bill left before I did, but I ran and _____ him.
- 6. I'm really _____ my holiday in Italy next week.
- 7. It was a difficult class, and I couldn't _____ the other students.
- 8. You should _____ smoking if you can't stop completely.

bring up (look after a child until adult)

Tom's aunt **brought him up** after his parents died.

call off (cancel)

The school **called off** the match because of bad weather.

clear up (make clean and tidy)

Could you help me **clear up** the room after the party?

cut off (be disconnected during a phone-call)

I'd just got through to Delhi when I was **cut off**. This is usually used in the passive.

fill in (complete by writing)

Could you **fill this form in** with all your details, please?

give up (stop doing something)

Paul had to **give up** gymnastics because of injury.

knock out (make unconscious)

Bryson **knocked** his opponent **out** in the second round.

let down (disappoint, fail to keep a promise)

Ann said she would help, but she **let me down**.

look up (find information in a reference book)

I **looked** this word **up** in a dictionary and in an encyclopedia.

pick up (collect in a car)

The taxi will **pick you up** at 6.30.

put off (postpone)

The weather was bad, so they **put off** the match for a week.

put up (provide accommodation in someone's house)

A friend in Prague **put me up** for a couple of nights.

take up (start a hobby or activity)

Sam has just **taken up** parachuting.

get away (escape)

One of the burglars was caught, but the other **got away**.

grow up (change from a child to an adult)

I grew **up** in a small town in Peru.

set off/out (begin a journey)

We **set off** early to avoid the traffic.

take off (when a plane leaves the ground)

Our plane **took off** more than three hours late.

turn up (arrive, often unexpectedly)

Ex. 4 Complete each sentence (a-h) with an ending (1-8).

- a) It's very cold and wet at the moment so we've put _____
- b) Mary's parents were quite strict and brought her _____
- c) Your room is very untidy! Could you clear _____
- d) I was talking to Helen when suddenly we were cut _____
- e) Zoe tried to persuade her mother to give _____
- f) Tim started painting his room this morning and he's getting _____
- g) If you like, we could come and pick _____
- h) A branch of a tree fell and knocked _____

- 1. it up please, and put everything away.
- 2. Peter out for a few moments.
- 3. off our garden party until next week.
- 4. **up** smoking, but she didn't have much success.
- 5. on very well so far.
- 6. off and I couldn't get her number after that.
- 7. you up in our car at about 7.00.
- 8. up to be very polite and obedient.

Ex. 5 Complete each sentence with one suitable word.

- 1. Jess asked if she could help me _____ up the dirty dishes.
- 2. I need a dictionary, so I can _____ up this word.
- 3. If I were you I'd _____ off early because Edinburgh is a long way.
- 4. Our meeting tomorrow has been _____ off, I'm afraid.
- 5. I'm not sure about the size of this coat, so can I _____ it on?
- 6. Robert had to _____ in a form, giving all his personal details.
- 7. You'll never guess who _____ up at our school party last week!
- 8. Six people applied for the job, but one of them _____ out.

Ex. 6 Test

1. Would you _____ my dog for me this weekend?

- a) ☐ look
- b) ☐ look after
- c) ☐ look up

2. My neighbour _____ eggs yesterday.

- a) ☐ ran
- b) ☐ ran out of
- c) ☐ ran into

3. John _____ his leg at the baseball game.

- a) ☐ broke

- b) broke down
- c) broke off

4. Our boss _____ our meeting until next week.

- a) ☐ put
- b) put off
- c) put down

5. Could you _____ the music while I'm on the phone?

- a) ☐ turn
- b) turn off
- c) turn around

6. I don't _____ my new science teacher.

- ☐ a) get up
- ☐ b) get over
- ☐ c) get on with

7. We both _____ meeting your new girlfriend.

- ☐ a) look
- ☐ b) look up
- ☐ c) look forward to

8. My car _____ on the highway today.

- ☐ a) broke down
- ☐ b) broke off
- ☐ c) broke away

9. It will be easier to read if you _____ the lights.

- ☐ a) switch
- ☐ b) switch on
- ☐ c) switch over

10. I have to _____ to the finish line and back.

- ☐ a) run away
- ☐ b) run out of
- ☐ c) run