



ESL Vocabulary Worksheet for Adults

Topic: Phrasal Verbs

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Exercise 1: Match Phrasal Verbs to Definitions

Match the phrasal verbs on the left with their correct definitions on the right.

Break down

Call off

Look into

Bring up

Take off

1. To investigate or examine something
2. To mention a topic
3. To cancel something
4. To suddenly become very sad or sick

5. When an aeroplane leaves the ground



Exercise 2: Identify the Phrasal Verbs

Identify the phrasal verbs in the following sentences.

1. I need to turn off the lights before we leave.
2. Can you go over the report and give me your feedback?
3. She's looking forward to the vacation.
4. They had to put off the meeting due to the CEO's absence.
5. He came across some old letters in the attic.



Exercise 3: Replace the Underlined Words

Replace the underlined words in the sentences with the correct phrasal verb from the box.

turn down

set up

run into

check out

fill out

1. Please complete the application form.
2. I encountered an old friend at the mall yesterday.
3. Can you lower the volume of the music?
4. They are organising a new department in the company.

5. You should investigate the terms of the agreement carefully.



Exercise 4: Fill in the Blanks (Contextual Usage of Phrasal Verbs)

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate phrasal verb from the list.

call off
look into
bring up
take off
break down

1. The flight is expected to _____ at 8 PM.
2. The conference was _____ due to unforeseen circumstances.
3. The detective promised to _____ the new evidence.
4. It's not the right time to _____ our financial issues.
5. The car might _____ if we don't service it soon.



Exercise 5: Phrasal Verbs in Work and Business

Match the phrasal verbs to the business-related scenarios.

Lay off

Run by

Set up

Take over

Deal with

- A. To start or establish a business or system
- B. To discuss something with someone to get approval or feedback
- C. To handle or manage a situation or problem
- D. To assume control of a company
- E. To dismiss someone from their job



Exercise 6: Create Sentences Using Business-Related Phrasal Verbs

Use each of the following phrasal verbs in a sentence related to business or work.

1. Draw up (a contract)
2. Head up (a team)
3. Kick off (a project)
4. Lay off (employees)
5. Touch base (with a colleague)



Exercise 7: Phrasal Verbs in Social Situations

Choose the correct phrasal verb to complete the sentences in social contexts.

1. I can't wait to catch up / turn up with you and hear all about your trip!
2. She always stands out / comes out in a crowd with her bright clothing style.
3. Could you please keep down / put down the noise? I'm trying to study.
4. We need to set up / put up a time to meet next week.
5. After the movie, let's head out / hand out to our favourite café.



Exercise 8: Complete the Dialogues Phrasal Verbs for Travel

Complete the travel-related dialogues with the correct phrasal verbs from the list.

check in

set off

pick up

get in

see off

1. "What time do we need to _____ at the hotel?"
2. "We should _____ early to avoid traffic."
3. "Can you _____ my friend from the airport?"
4. "The train is supposed to _____ at 9 PM."
5. "I'll go to the station to _____ my family."



Exercise 9: Match Phrasal Verbs to Their Different Meanings

Match the phrasal verbs to their different meanings.

- Take off

- Break down
- Get through

A. To remove something

B. To be successful

C. To finish something

D. To enter by force

E. To lose control of emotions

F. To communicate effectively

Exercise 12: Phrasal Verb 'Jeopardy'

Given the definition, identify the phrasal verb.

1. To tolerate

- A) **Put up with**
- B) **Take up with**
- C) **Come up with**
- D) **Run up against**

2. To resemble a family member

- A) **Turn into**
- B) **Look up to**
- C) **Take after**
- D) **Get along with**

3. To recover from something, like an illness

- A) **Get over**
- B) **Get through**
- C) **Get by**
- D) **Get up**

4. To extinguish a fire or light

- A) **Blow out**
- B) **Put out**
- C) **Turn out**
- D) **Cut out**

5. To contribute money to something, like a project

- A) **Chip in**
- B) **Pitch in**
- C) **Cash in**
- D) **Hand in**



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