

# Phrasal Verbs

How We Got Them  
&  
How to Teach Them



February 29, 2012



**Shaping the Way We Teach English**

# Goals

1. Take a look at how particle verbs arrived in English
2. Offer numerous activities and plans for *giving students the chance to learn them.*

# But first, a quiz...

You will see 7 True/False  
polls on your screen.  
Some are fact, some opinion.  
Try them out.

## Quiz: True or False Questions

*Phrasal verb* is the correct term, although some use *multiword verb*, *two-word verb*, *particle verb*, or *party verb*.

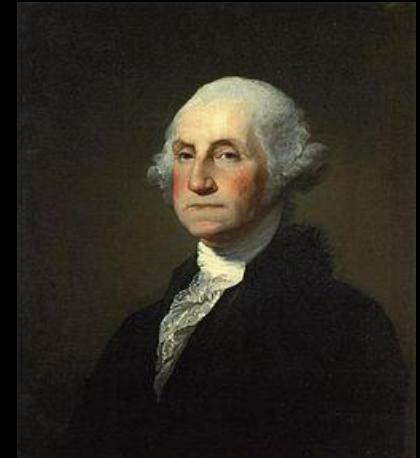
False

# Quiz: True or False Questions

PVs are relatively new to English, appearing in the last 120 years.



False



Portraits from Wikipedia commons

## Quiz: True or False Questions

A phrasal verb makes for one semantic unit. If you take away any part, the meaning will usually change.

True

## Quiz: True or False Questions

Many PVs have a one-word synonym, such as *take off* and *remove*.

True

## Quiz: True or False Questions

Swedish also has a  
sizeable number of  
phrasal verbs.

True

## Opinion Poll

We should keep phrasal verbs away from beginning learners until they have reached a satisfactory level of English.

Opinion Poll

Phrasal Verbs are easy.

# What are Phrasal verbs?



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Identify the verbs in these  
two sentences:

1. We tried but couldn't figure out any solution.
2. He wrote his aunt a thank-you letter, just to get it over with.

# My friend's response (She has written and published two novels):

1. We tried but couldn't figure out any solution.
2. He wrote his aunt a thank-you letter, just to get it over with.

# Thinking lexically...

1. We tried but couldn't figure out any solution.
2. He wrote his aunt a thank-you letter, just to get it over with.

# Phrasal Verbs...

are made of a main verb  
followed by particles, e.g.

figure out

come up with

steer clear of

The words combine to make a new meaning, often independent of the separate parts. Thus,

main verb	particle	new meaning
tell	apart	distinguish one thing from another
shut	up	stop talking
kick	out	expel

# Deep roots: How did we get these phrasal verbs?

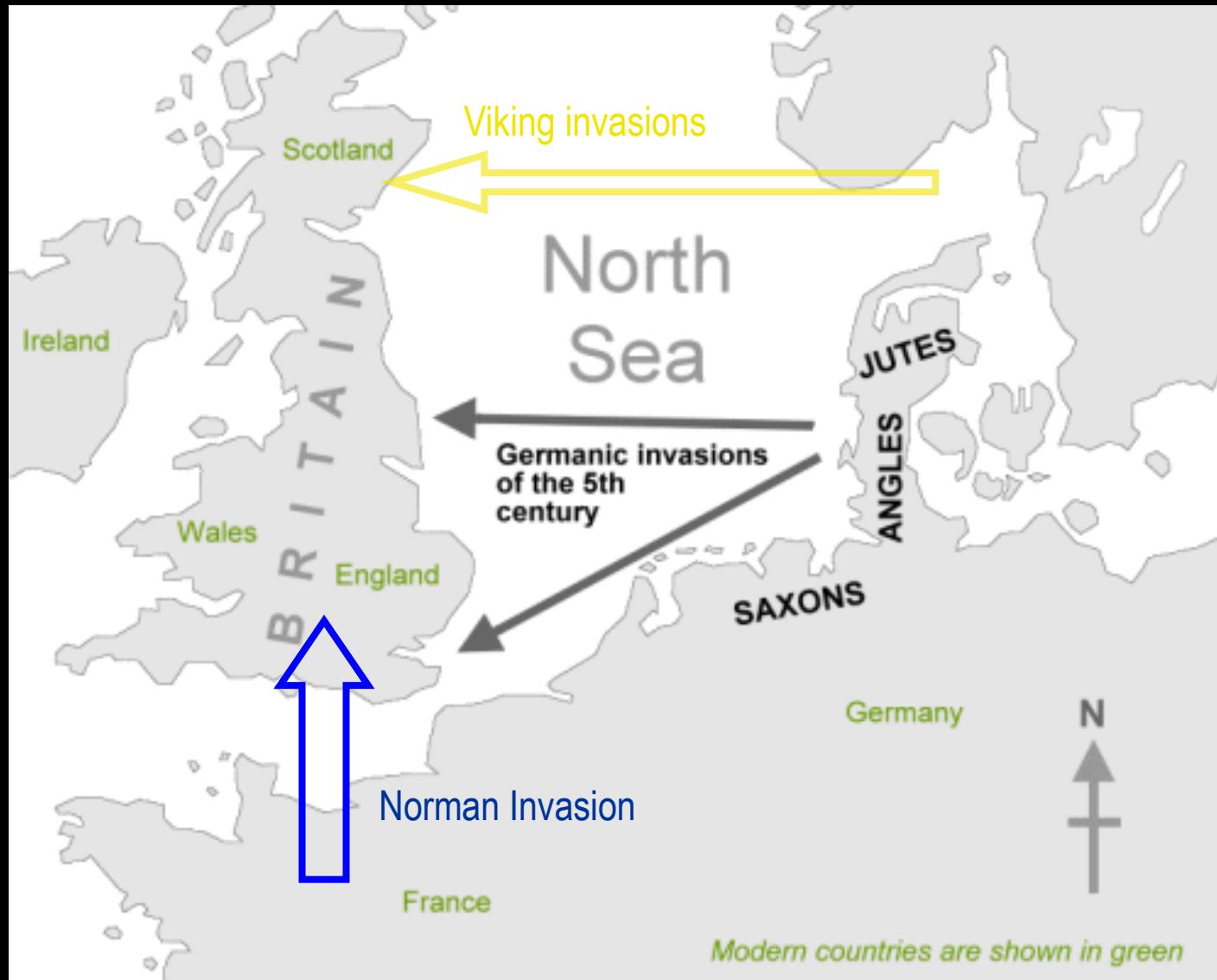


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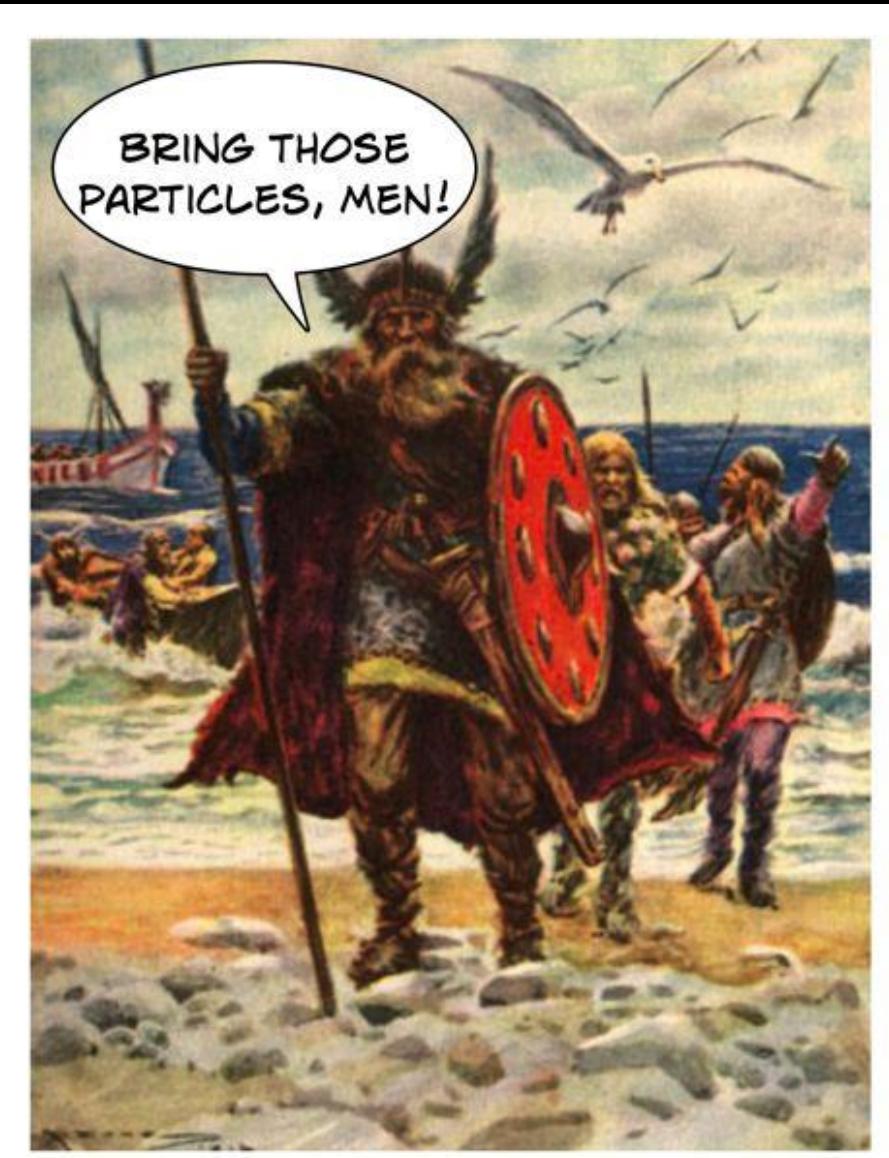


Map from wikipedia commons

# A Brief History of English

410	Romans leave
450	Anglos, Saxons, and Jutes
700-1000	Viking Invasions
1066	Norman invasion

from *Mother Tongue*, Bill Bryson



Vikings

pictures from Wikipedia commons



Normans

# Post Norman Conquest: Middle English

Sometimes French words replaced Germanic words	crime <del>firen</del>
Sometimes they combined	gentleman
Sometimes two words survive	royal kingly

Examples from [wordorigins.org](http://wordorigins.org)  
and David Crystal

# Comparing Pairs

1. exit (e.g. a taxi)	
2. tolerate	
3. extinguish (e.g., a fire, a match)	
4. resemble	
5. transform	
6. cancel	
7. activate (a light)	
8. Ridicule, mock	

# Comparing Pairs

1. exit (e.g. a taxi)	get out of
2. tolerate	put up with
3. extinguish (e.g., a fire, a match)	put out
4. resemble	look like
5. transform	turn into
6. cancel	call off
7. activate (a light)	turn on / switch on
8. ridicule	make fun of

What differences do you notice between the columns?

Possibly 1/3 of English  
verbs are phrasal

Wei Li, Xiuhong Zhang, Cheng Niu, Yuankai Jiang, Rohini Srihari

# Teaching Party Verbs



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# The Whole Thing

Get students to focus on seeing the whole thing: the verb and the particles together.

# Think “learning”

Instead of “teaching,” allow students the chance to learn, by exploring how phrasal verbs are used.

Provide a huge variety of activities.

# Beware Grammarocity\*

An unrestrained zeal for applying--  
and especially explaining--grammar  
rules even when they are confusing  
or inaccurate.

\*This word doesn't officially exist--yet.

# Repetition

We learn language through repetition. The English teacher's perpetual goal, then, is to expose learners to a huge amount of repeated language forms while keeping things fresh. The key, of course, is variety.

# Varied Activities



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Ideas in Variety

# Polls

Three polls will appear on the screen in a moment.

Please take part.

Ideas in Variety

# Brainstorm & Poll

If you want to lose weight,  
what foods should you  
cut back on?

# Ordering

---

## ***Activity 4: ORDERING 'PARTY VERBS THROUGHOUT THE DAY'***

Put these Particle Verbs in the order in which they are likely to occur throughout the day for for you (with #1 happening first and #10 happening last). Your answers will differ.

**Wake up (#28)**

**Turn in (go to bed)**

**Dress up (#84) (for going to a club)**

**Make it (#40) (on time to school/work)**

**Get off (#81) (work; finish work)**

**Eat out (#92) (at the nice restaurant)**

**Turn off (#31) (the TV and lights)**

**Get up (#29)**

**Fall asleep (#54)**

**Put on (#33) (some clothes)**

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# Songs

You are going to hear a song called  
“Do You Wanna Eat Out or  
Do You Wanna Eat In?”

Listening

# Spoken word

Gather clips from movies, radio,  
podcasts--your own recordings.  
Authentic are the best.  
Especially unscripted authentic.

“The Neighbor’s Dog”

## Pre-listening

# “The Neighbor’s Dog”

This story is about two neighbors (one of whom feels bad) a dog, and a “replacement dog.”

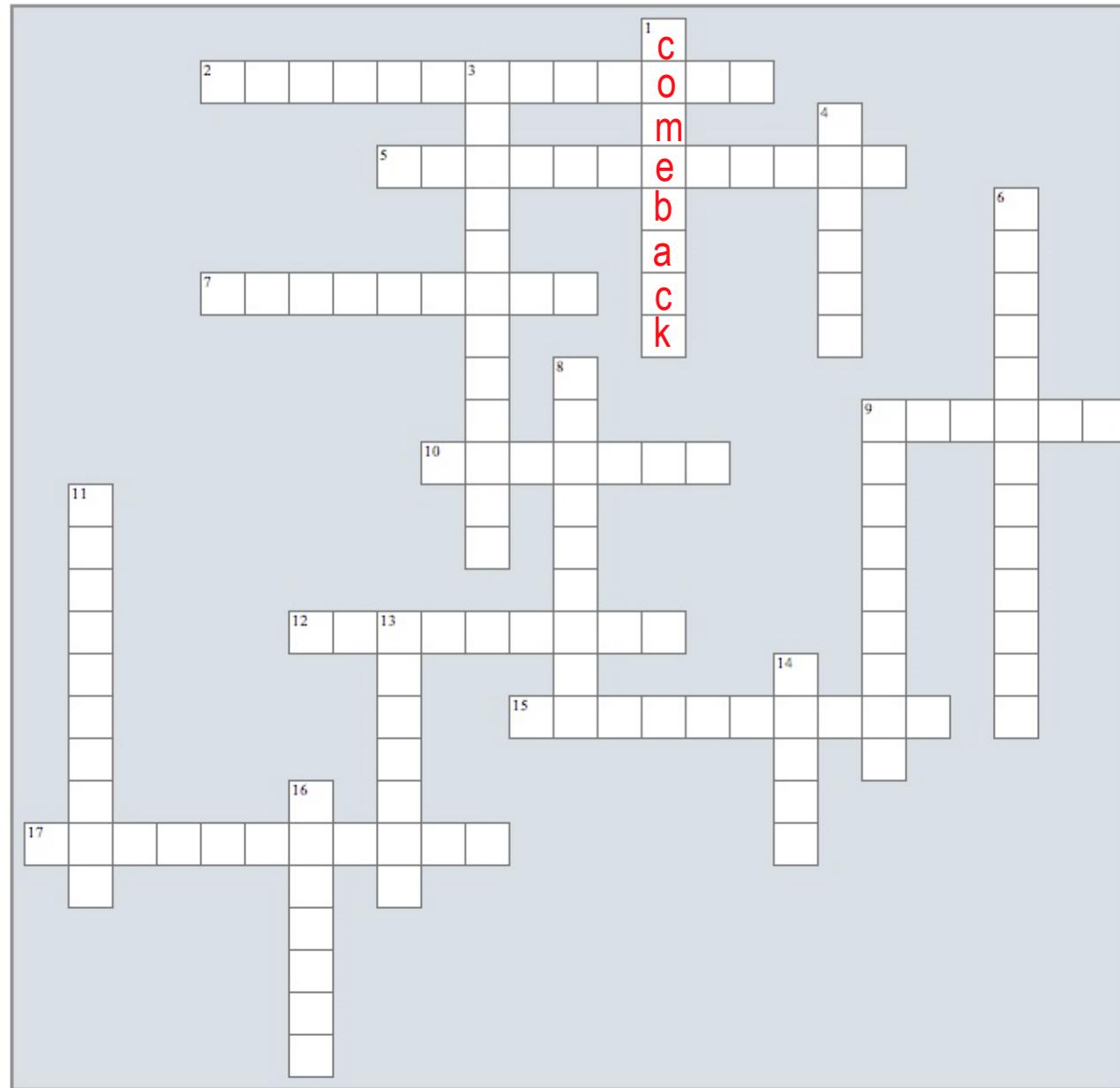
What on earth could this story be about?

Any theories?

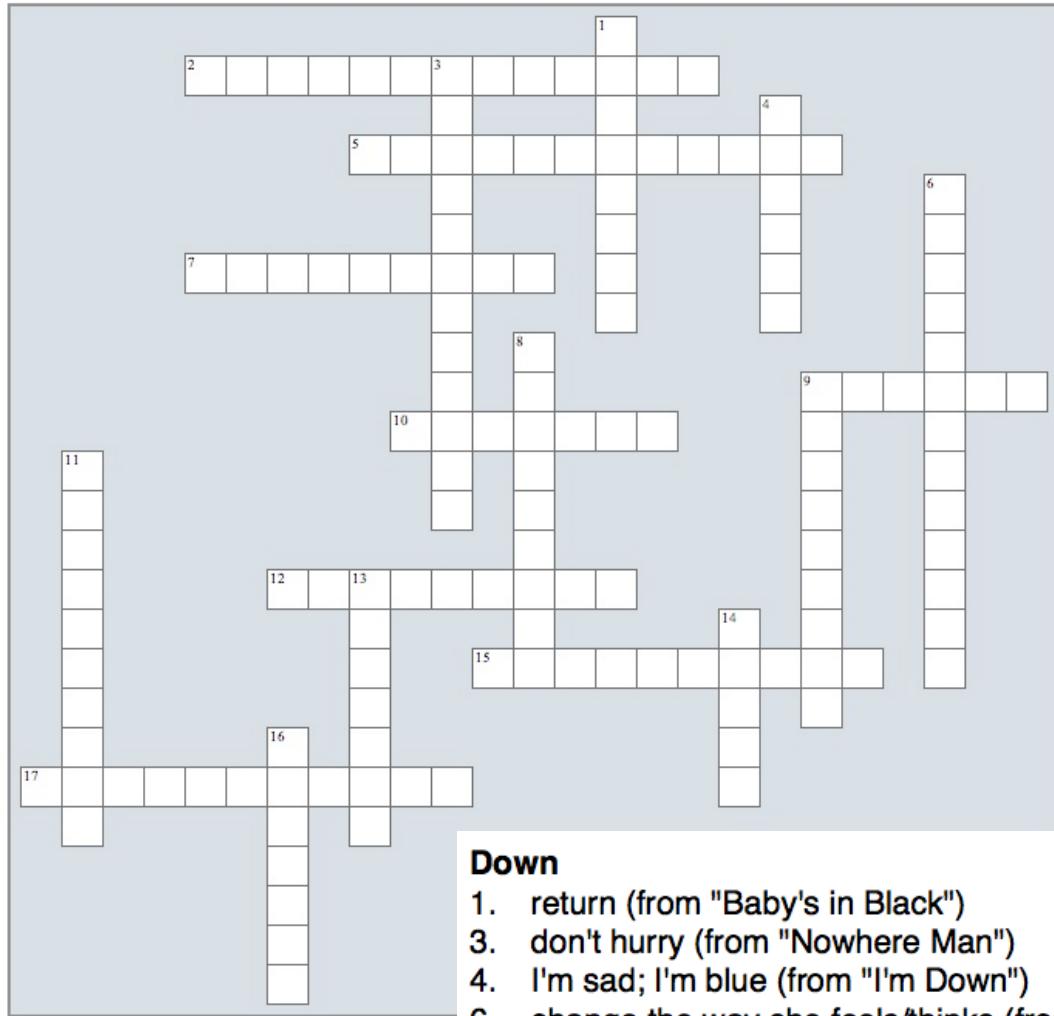
My next-door neighbor is a really sweet lady, but whenever we (1) \_\_\_\_\_ people, she introduces me as the woman who (2) \_\_\_\_\_ her dog. And it's true. I did (3) \_\_\_\_\_ her dog, and I (4) \_\_\_\_\_ about it. But what she never says is that she bought a replacement dog, and she herself (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that other dog. She never (6) \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ when she introduces me to people.

My next-door neighbor is a really sweet lady, but whenever we (1) meet people, she introduces me as the woman who (2) ran over her dog. And it's true. I did (3) run over her dog, and I (4) felt bad about it. But what she never says is that she bought a replacement dog, and she herself (5) ran over that other dog. She never (6) brings that up when she introduces me to people.

Particle Verbs in the Beatles 1 (www.etseverywhere.com)



## Particle Verbs in the Beatles 1 (www.elsewhere.com)



### Down

1. return (from "Baby's in Black")
3. don't hurry (from "Nowhere Man")
4. I'm sad; I'm blue (from "I'm Down")
6. change the way she feels/thinks (from "You're Gonna Lose That Girl")
8. got fed up; couldn't take anymore (from "You Won't See Me")
9. fix things between us, solve our problem (from "We Can Work it Out")
11. take her on a date (from "You're Gonna Lose That Girl")
13. search; try to find (from "I Don't Want to Spoil the Party")
14. manage, succeed enough (from "With a Little Help From My Friends")
16. arrives, happens to make an appearance (from "I Don't Want to Spoil the Party")

# Ideas in Variety

# Make Board Games

**Name Something...**

**Directions:**  
1. In turns, roll the die. 2. Move your game piece along the board. 3. Finish the sentence.

Start	... people can turn on.	people can turn off...	... you get fed up with.
... you are good at.	... you are not good at.	... you have to put up with in life?	... you do as soon as you wake up.
... you dress up for.	... you can get out of	... you can get off.	... you look forward to.

Ideas in Variety

# Phrasal Verb PowerPoint Game

# Last Night Liz

Last night Liz \_\_\_\_\_ her husband.

She was coming home late, and it was raining very hard, and she pulled the car into the driveway. It was Monday night, the night when her husband Maddox put the garbage cans out at the end of the drive. She saw him there coming out of the garage, but her foot slipped off the brake, and she couldn't turn away in time.

So last night Liz \_\_\_\_\_ her husband.

## Mime Guessing Game

### EASY LEVEL

You are falling asleep

You are waking up

You are putting out a cigarette

You are getting off a bus

You are an airplane taking off

You are calling someone up on the phone

You are shutting up

You are nodding off (fall asleep, doze off)

You are washing up

You are turning off the TV

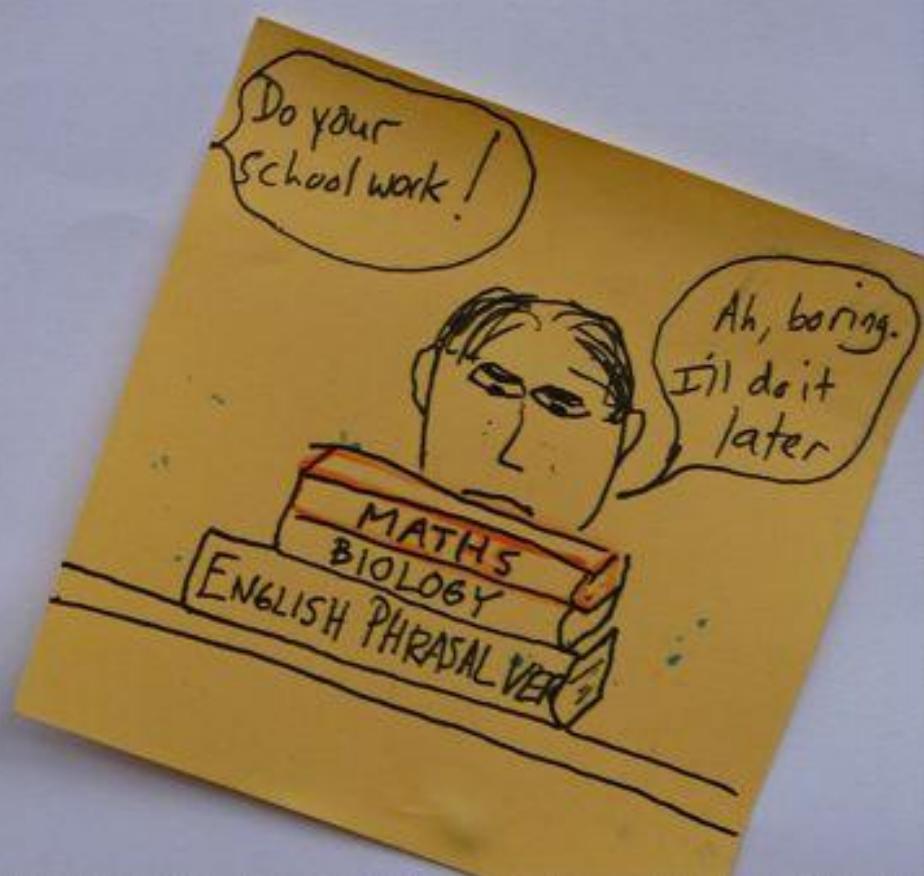
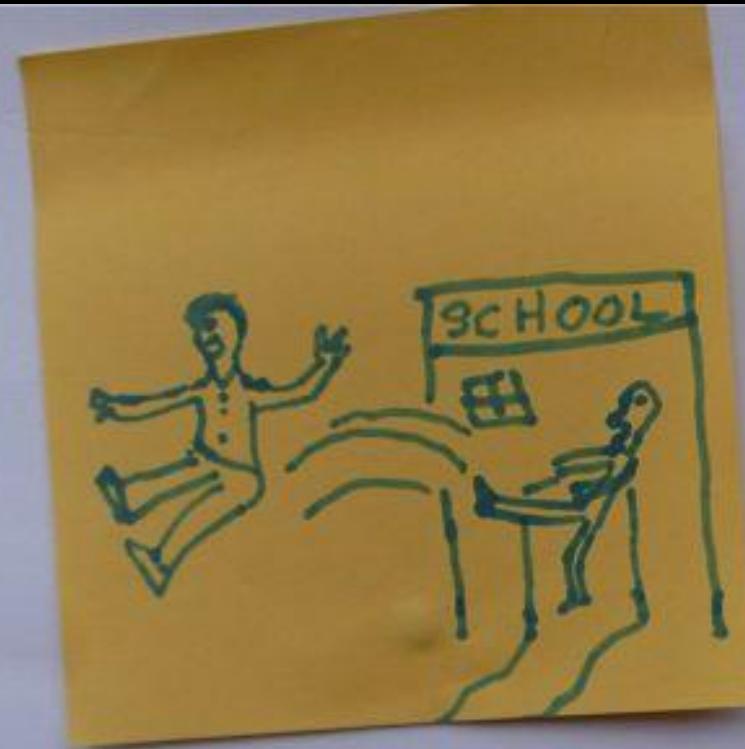
You are throwing up

You are taking off your jacket

You are putting on a hat

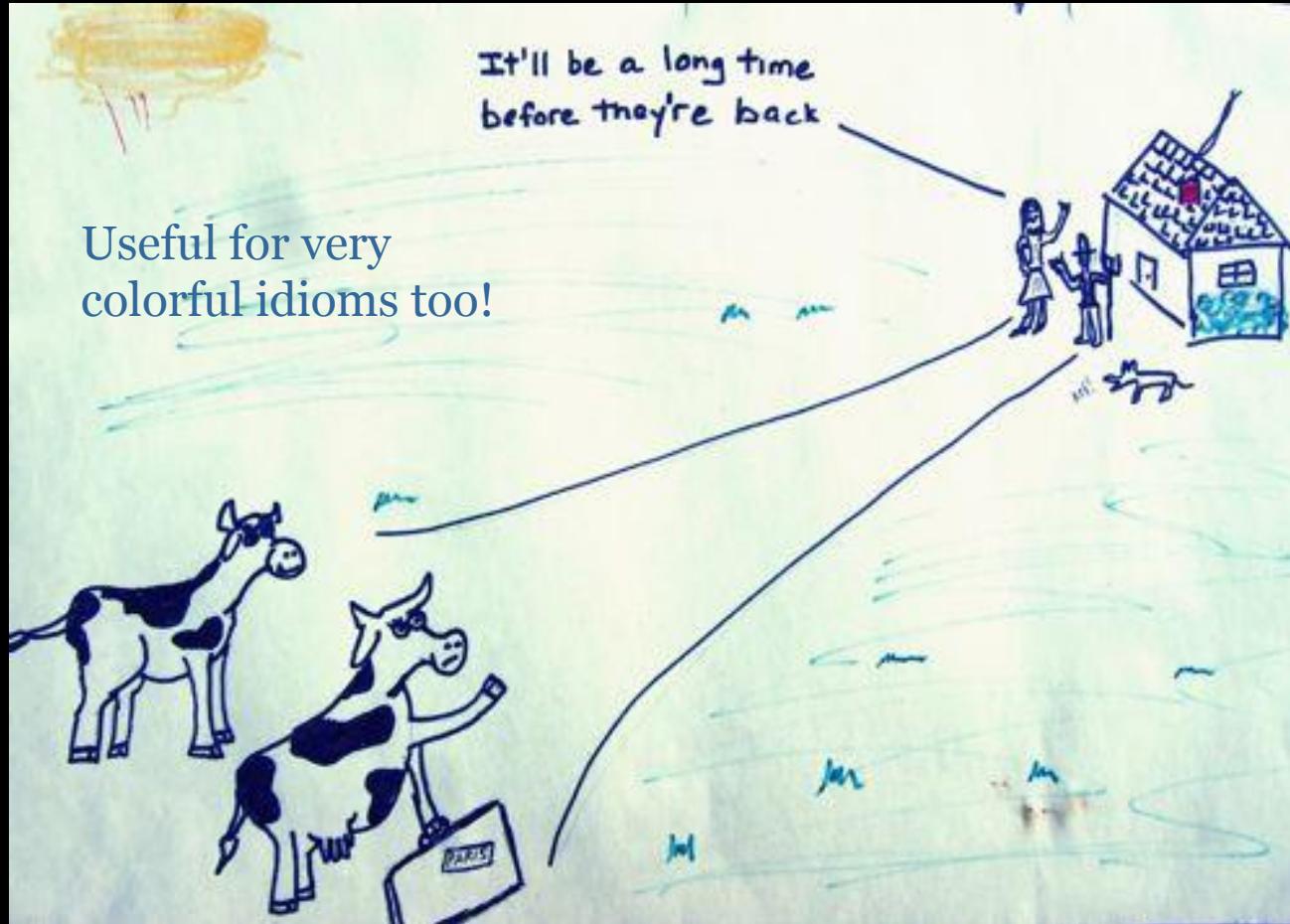
Ideas in Variety

# Picture Drawing



Ideas in Variety

# Picture Drawing



U \_\_\_\_\_ t \_\_\_\_\_ cows c \_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_

Ideas in Variety

# Exaggerate the Mental Picture

Memory experts suggest the wilder, more exaggerated an image, the easier it is to remember.



# Conversation Cards

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**Activity 3: PARTICLE VERB DISCUSSIONS** Answer these with your partner. (Note: numbers refer to listing of PVs on your sheet "100 Particle Verbs.")

1. When was the last time you **ate out**(92)? Where did you eat on New Year's Eve, in or out? And what did you eat?
2. When you **were a student** were you exceptionally hardworking, or did you **fool around** (8) a lot? And today, do you **goof around** (8) when you should be working?
3. Have you ever been in a car or bus or train when it **broke down** (82)? Describe when and where.
4. Describe how you feel when you're in a plane and it's **taking off** (88). How do you feel when the plane has leveled off, when it's landing, and once it has landed?
5. Name three things that you're **good at** (56). (Don't be modest now). And three things that you're **no good at**.
6. Is there anything that you are still **looking for** (47) in life, something that will make life easier, give it more meaning?
7. What's the hardest thing about **brining up** (58) a child?
8. What things do you **get fed up with** (71) at work?
9. Have you ever **passed out** (41) from being too hot, or sick? From exhaustion?  
Describe the circumstances?
10. Is there anything that you hope to **get to** (48) do this summer?
11. Did you **make it** (40) on time to class today? Exactly what time did you **show up** (27)?
12. What time do you usually **get off** (81) work?
13. Is there something in life that you would **do over** (85) if you could?
14. Have you known any twins? How did you **tell them apart** (90)?
15. When was the last time you **dressed up** (84)? Why? Where were you going?

# Exploring



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# “Stop explaining,

start exploring. Give students a chance to guess--and therefore a chance to show that they misunderstand. In the end, it is the degree of student involvement which is important. Exploring in pairs, in groups, and with the teacher is more exciting and more helpful than any explanation given by the teacher.”

Michael Lewis, *The English Verb*

# Compare

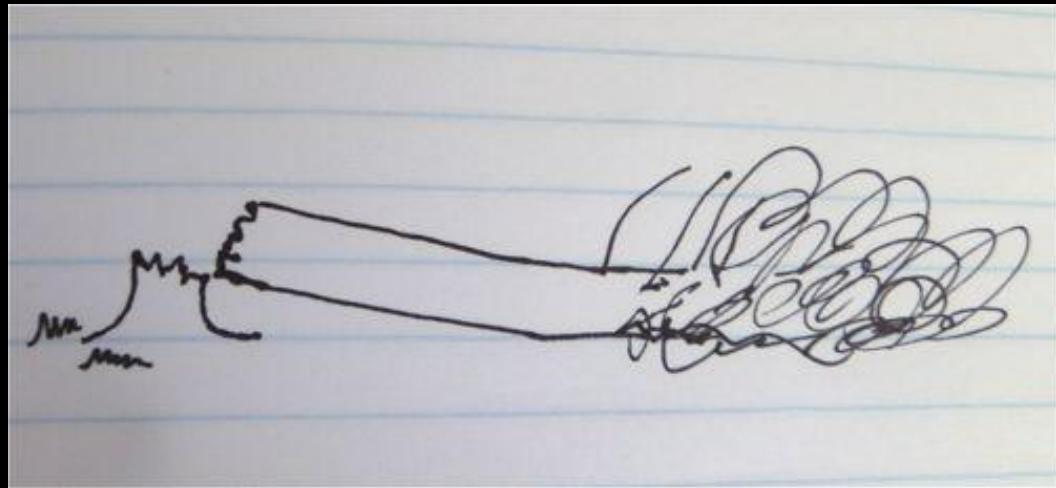
They cut down the tree

They cut up the tree

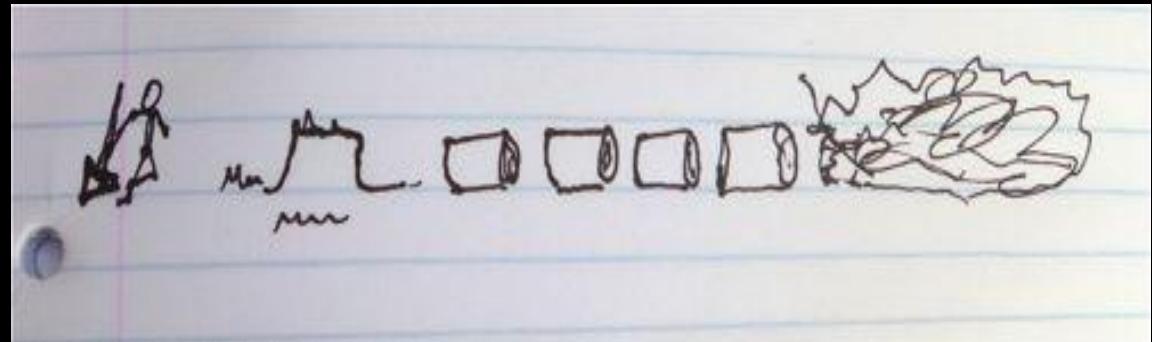
Ideas in Variety

# Compare

They cut down  
the tree



They cut up  
the tree



# Print-Rich Environment

- Make a word wall
- Put PV drawings up
- Collect student drawings.
- Make a little magazine
- Collect student art. Scan them.  
Create your own archive

# Use Google to explore collocations

1. Put quotation marks around  
your search subject.  
e.g. “come down with”
2. Make your own concordances



google search



## Search

[Everything](#)[Images](#)[Maps](#)[Videos](#)[News](#)[Shopping](#)[Applications](#)[Books](#)[Places](#)[Blogs](#)[Flights](#)[Discussions](#)[Recipes](#)[Patents](#)[Fewer](#)[Any time](#)[Past hour](#)[Past 24 hours](#)[Past 2 days](#)[Past week](#)[Past month](#)[Past year](#)[Custom range...](#)[All results](#)[Related searches](#)[More search tools](#)

About 431,000,000 results (0.16 seconds)

### [Google Search Appliance \(GSA\) - fast, relevant search for your ...](#)

[www.google.com/enterprise/search/gsa.html](http://www.google.com/enterprise/search/gsa.html)

The **Google Search** Appliance (GSA) provides fast, relevant search for your intranet or website. An on-premise, easy-to-deploy solution, the GSA provides your ...

### [Google Site Search - A Google Search Engine for Your Website](#)

[www.google.com/sitesearch/](http://www.google.com/sitesearch/)

With Google Site Search, you can put a **Google search** box on your website and enable prospective visitors and customers to find information instantly. Google ...

### [Google Search for your phone](#)

[www.google.com/mobile/search/](http://www.google.com/mobile/search/)

**Google Search** on the go. Movies, sports scores, local results, and more.

### [News for google search](#)

[Sky Sports.com Google Search](#)[SkySports](#) - 10 hours ago

Check out the latest from the written press with all the gossip and speculation from today's newspapers. Sky Sports Events Centre gives you complete control ...

[SkySports](#)

### [Tech Journal: Balancing Advertising and Content](#)

[Wall Street Journal \(blog\)](#) - 6 hours ago

### [Sky Sports.com Google Search](#)

[SkySports](#) - 1 day ago

### [Google People Search](#)

[googlepeoplesearch.net/](http://googlepeoplesearch.net/)

Harness the incredible power of the worlds leading **search** engine to find people, free people **search**, **search** people free online, people lookup, people finder, ...

### [Google Advanced Search](#)

[www.google.ca/advanced\\_search](http://www.google.ca/advanced_search)

Go to **Google** Home. Advanced **Search**, Advanced **Search** Tips | About **Google** ... Autodesk DWF (.dwf), **Google** Earth KML (.kml), **Google** Earth KMZ (.kmz) ...

### [App Store - Google Search](#)

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916 votes - Free

4 Jan 2012 - The new **Google Search** app for iPhone and iPad. Search the web faster and easier with the latest Search app from Google. Get exclusive ...

## Discussions search: “stocked up on”

### have you ever stocked up on a product being thrifty and gone a bit ...

20 posts - 15 authors

have you ever **stocked up on** a product being thrifty and gone a bit mad Old Style MoneySaving.

<http://forums.moneysavingexpert.com/showthread.html?t=232567>

### READ!!! Stock Up On Food, Water, Ammunition NOW!!! - Topix

20 posts - 10 authors - Last post: Oct 9, 2008

If you're not **stocked up on** food, water, and ammunition you're putting yourself and family in danger. We are in uncharted waters. ...

<http://www.topix.com/forum/city/marion-va/TDLJIM0O83OP7TQKA>

### getting ready for Lent- I've stocked up on lentils...what are your ...

16 posts - 11 authors - Last post: Feb 25, 2007

Anybody else giving up meat & dairy for Lent? I've got a collection of vegetarian and fish recipes, but I was wondering if any of you have ...

<http://chowhound.chow.com/topics/373358>

### If you haven't stocked up on adult diapers you're gonna have a ...

7 posts - 2 authors - Last post: Jul 15, 2008

Discussion about If you haven't **stocked up on** adult diapers you're gonna have a real messy poop party when the SHTF at the ...

<http://www.godlikeproductions.com/forum1/message457664/pg1>

### So how many people have stocked up on FB?? - Page 2 - Diaper ...

10 posts - 6 authors - Last post: Aug 31, 2006

Page 2-So how many people have **stocked up on** FB?? Diaper Chatter and Q & A.

# News search: “come down with”

**Google™** "come down with" [Search News](#) [Search the Web](#) [Advanced news search](#) [Preferences](#)

**News**

[Top Stories](#)  
[More sections ▾](#)

**All news**  
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**Any recent news**  
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[Past week](#)  
[Past month](#)

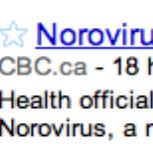
**Sorted by relevance**  
[Sorted by date](#)

[« View all web results for come-down-with](#)

 [Review: Life Unexpected – s01e05 – Turtle Undefeated](#)  
TV.com - [Judy Manning](#) - 5 hours ago  
They have a night at the drive-in theatre in a neighboring town but Lux tells them she can't go because she thinks she has **come down with** something. ...

 [Republicans Spurn Once-Favored Health Mandate](#)  
WBUR - [Julie Rovner](#) - 17 hours ago  
If you're in an accident or you **come down with** a dread disease, you're going to get taken to the hospital and someone's going to pay. ...

 [Local reaction to Pawlenty's proposal mostly mixed](#)  
Brainerd Daily Dispatch - [Mike O'Rourke, Matt Erickson](#) - 9 minutes ago  
... and we knew it was going to be sizable," Houle said, adding in this case when the parent catches cold, the child expects to **come down with** pneumonia. ...

 [Norovirus hits St. John's nursing home](#)  
CBC.ca - 18 hours ago  
Health officials say an increasing number of people on Newfoundland's east coast have **come down with** Norovirus, a nasty stomach bug that spreads rapidly and ...

 [CDC researchers estimate swine flu has hit 3.5 million in Florida](#)  
Los Angeles Times - [Bob LaMendola](#) - Feb 12, 2010  
An estimated 3.5 million people in the state, including 560000 in South Florida, have **come down with** swine flu, according to ...  
[H1N1 infections reach 57 million](#) Baltimore Sun  
[Of Swine and Men Scientists study H1N1's past to predict what the virus has in ...](#) Science News

[all 1,184 news articles »](#) [Email this story](#)

# Google Research Student Activity

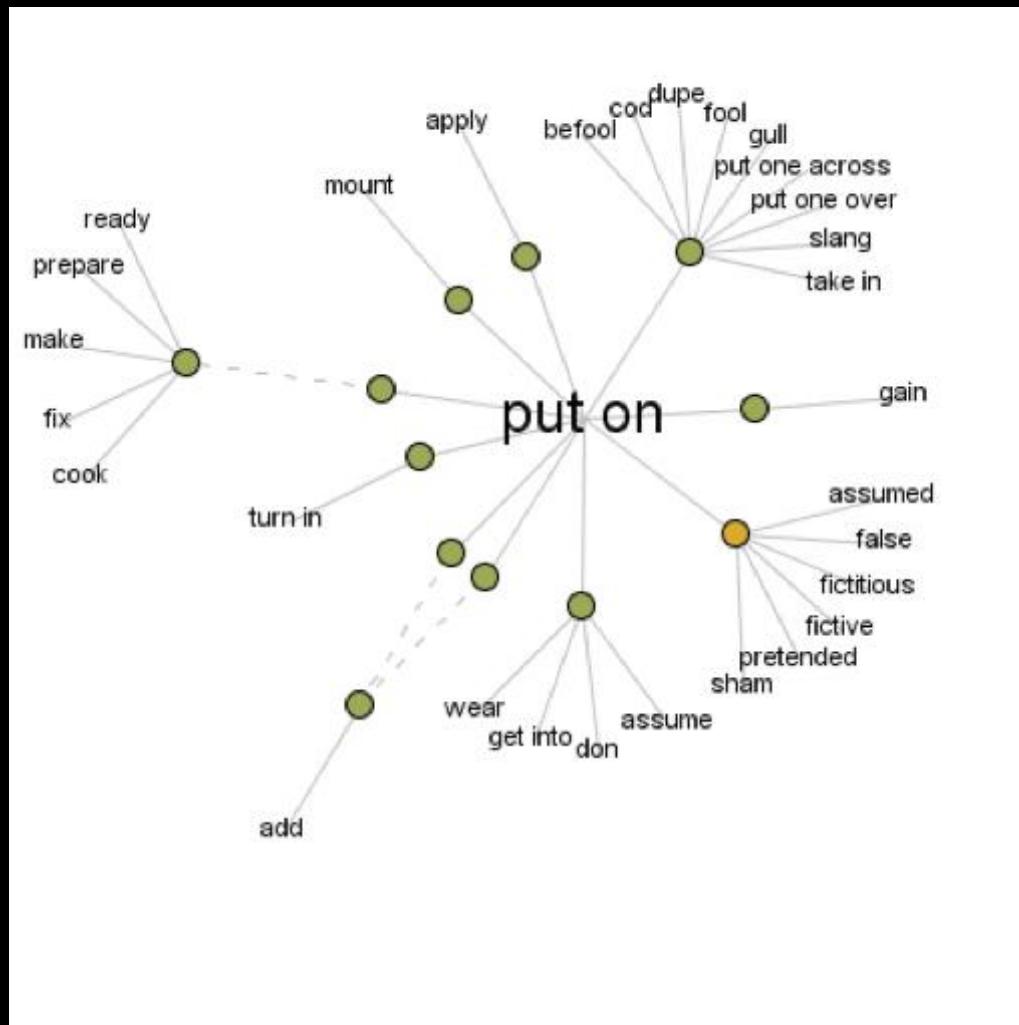
## Internet Research

<b>PV (forms search ed for)</b>	<b># of hits</b>	<b>Sample sentences from Net</b>	<b>Meaning in your own words</b>	<b>Notes</b>
			•	

# Google Research Student Activity

## Internet Research

PV (forms search ed for)	# of hits	Sample sentences from Net	Meaning in your own words	Notes
Kick off	4.5 million	"Guns N' Roses <u>Kick Off</u> 2012 Club tour with Epic New York Club Show"	To begin. Probably used for the start of something formal: an event, a concert tour.	Often preceded by <u>set</u> . "set to kick off" meaning ready to start.
"to kick off"	6.5 million			
"kicked" off	2.5 million	"Frankie Cocozza has been kicked off Fear Factor"	<u>Kick off</u> is also a noun: a start or beginning.	Wow! In the past tense, "kicked off"-- the meaning is usually different. expelled: "kicked off Facebook" kicked off <i>Fear Factor</i> .



Phrasal  
meaning addition  
English adverb combination Sentences complete semantic contain part frequent often verbs indirect direct different language sentence syntax may unit particularly objects original

# phrasal verb

## preposition

come tell  
blow  
**apart** down  
turn drink **out**  
make after  
pass in  
carry in  
**fall** put into  
break call  
with **up**  
off **up**  
look to  
back give  
pull through  
**take** on

He was in a car accident but pulled through.

They blew out a tire driving through  
The desert

Sometimes I feel as though  
my body is falling apart

# Part V

# Conclusions



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# Summing Up

1. Phrasal verbs are easy and fun-- if your activities are easy and fun
2. Go for variety
3. Repeat phrasal verbs often
5. Think *student action, not teacher explaining*



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# Available to you

1. Guide to Varied phrasal verb activities  
(with list of 100 phrasal verbs)
2. “Do you Wanna Eat Out” and  
“The Neighbor’s Dog” from
2. English Teachers Everywhere  
web site.
4. Phrasal Verb PowerPoint game



[www.etseverywhere.com](http://www.etseverywhere.com)



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# End of Webinar Poll