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Karavan O. S.

*National Aerospace University “Kharkiv Aviation
Institute” Scientific advisor – Heletka M. L., PhD,
Associate Prof.*

SPECIFICS OF PHRASAL VERBS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A phrasal verb is a vocabulary item that consists of a ‘root verb’ such as *break*, *get*, *put*, etc and a ‘particle’ (an adverb or preposition and sometimes both) such as *off*, *away* or *in*. A phrasal verb can have a **literal** meaning, i.e. ***pick up*** – *to lift something up from a surface*, e.g. *Be careful when you pick up the bag; it’s heavy*. Or, it can have an **idiomatic** meaning, i.e. ***pick up*** – *to learn a new skill or habit without intending to*, e.g. *I just picked up a few words of Turkish when I was on holiday in Izmir*.

Phrasal verbs can be transitive, intransitive and sometimes both. When the phrasal verb is **intransitive**, it’s straightforward as there is no object so the two parts stay together, i.e. *As we got older, we **grew apart***.

When we come to **transitive** phrasal verbs, the situation is far more complex. Sometimes the object can come between the verb and particle, or after the article, i.e. *You should take your jacket off* or *You should take off your jacket*. At other times the object has to come between the verb and particle, i.e. *Can you tell the twins apart?* And sometimes the object must come after the particle, i.e. *Oh no! He’s forgotten his keys. Can you run after him and give them to him?*

Working out whether a phrasal verb is transitive or intransitive can be quite difficult and there are no hard-and-fast rules. One way of finding out is by reading as much as possible and trying to notice things; it’s also good to use a dictionary. For

example, although three-part phrasal verbs such as *come up with*, *get on with* and *look up to* are transitive and aren't split (so the object comes after the second particle), there are a small number of three-part phrasal verbs that take two objects – the first comes after the verb and the other after the second particle, i.e. *I've decided to take you up on that invitation*.

Particle in phrasal verbs are preposition and adverb. In some phrasal verbs the particle has a clear basic meaning. Particles are small words which you already know as preposition or adverb. There are some of common particles in phrasal verb: about, around, at, away, back, down, for, in, into, off, on, out, over, through, to, up.

a) The particle **“Up”** sometimes expresses the idea of completing something or totally finishing something e.g. *I'd used up all my energy and I was too tired to do anything. Sometimes this particle can be used for emphasis: Eat up your vegetables, Children!* This sentence could be written without up, but using up emphasis the meaning of „finish it all or completely“.

b) The particle **“Out”**. Many phrasal verbs which use this particle, have a basic meaning of out, i.e. not in. For example: *Do exercise 8 but leave out number 10*. Particle “out” also gives an idea doing something to the end or completing something, e.g. *I sorted out my room on Sunday*. It means that arranged things that were untidy.

c) The particle **“Off”**. This particle means leaving places e.g. *We should head off at about six tomorrow*, next it can be ending or changing state means that it expresses an idea of moving towards an ending or change of state e.g. *I'll come and see you off at the airport tomorrow*. It means that go to the airport in order to say goodbye.

d) The particle **“On and In”**. The particle **“On”** sometimes has a clear basic meaning with the physical meaning of “on” e.g. *Never buy shoes without trying them on!*. It means that putting on a piece of clothing to see whether it fits and whether you like it. The particle “On” is also used with verb where there is an idea of dependence e.g. *You can always rely/depend/count on Jim!* Then, particle on in phrasal verb also contain an idea of further e.g. *You must keep on trying!* It means that continue to do something. Particle **„In“** in the phrasal verb it has a link with basic physical meaning of in. For example: *Please, call in and see us when you are next in town*. It means that visit a place or person for a short time, usually when you are going to somewhere else. Another example: *Make sure you leave the office by 6.30 p.m. or you'll be looked in*. It has a meaning that prevent someone from leaving a room or building by locking the doors.

e) Particle **“Down and Over”**. There are many kinds of meaning of particle down (such as; move in the direction of the ground, heaviness which causes difficulty, put on paper, reduce a number or amount, or not let it rise, and stop an

activity). For the examples are: *I'll write down your phone number, or else I'll forget it.* It means that write something on a piece of paper so that you do not forget it. *I'm taking these tablets to keep my blood pressure down.* It means that stop the number, level, or size of something from increasing. The car factory has shut down, and 2,000.

f) Particle **“Around and About”**. Particle “around and about” are often interchangeable in phrasal verbs: both particles are equally possible with all the verbs. These particles are often express an idea of acting in relaxed way, or without a particular purpose or without concentrating. For examples are: *If you can wait around/about for an hour, we should be able to tell you your result.* It means that stay in one place without doing anything as you wait for something to happen.

g) Particle **“For and With”**. For example: *I think you should go for it. It means that try to get or achieve it. We'll be rooting for you.* It has an informal meaning: showing support for someone in a competition, or hoping that you'll succeed. *I think a letter „R“ is stands for „Restaurant“.* It means a letter of a word or name is used to represent it. Then, particle “with” for example: *His latest book deals with the civil war of 1984-1989.* It means that if something such as book, film, article it can be related to a particular subject or idea, it is about that subject or idea. *I know, studying PhD is hard, but I think you should stick with it.* It means that continue doing something even though it is difficult.

h) Particle **“Through and Back”**. Particle “through” in phrasal verb gives an idea of going from one side of something to the other, or from the beginning to the end of something. For example: *If you sleep through a loud noise or activity, it does not wake you.* Then particle “back” is usually convey the idea of returning. For example: *If you go to the shop to exchange it in person you take it back.*

i) Particle **“Into and Away”**. *I'm putting on weights.* It has a meaning avoid something that has a bad effect on you. *Did you ever run away from your home as a child?* It means secretly leave a place because you are unhappy there.

Thus, phrasal verbs are one of the key points of learning English. These grammatical constructions have different meanings than their individual words, so there are a wide variety of uses for each one. They're important because English speakers use phrasal verbs all the time. They are extremely common in conversations, and that makes them essential to mastering the language.