



**THE HARVEY
SKIDOO TREE**
LANGUAGE LOOK



1

THE HARVEY SKIDOO TREE

4 PHRASAL VERBS

A) Look for the 4 phrasal verbs and try to guess their meaning from the context of how they're used in the text.

- 1) to be into st/sb (line 9) 2) to take sb up on st (line 11) 3) rev st up (line 25) 4) head for st (line 49)

B) Check your understanding with the definitions and examples at the bottom of the page.

C) Complete the sentences with the correct phrasal verb, keeping in mind that they are verbs and need to be expressed with the appropriate verb tense (sometimes more than one verb tense is possible). Include a pronoun if necessary in your answer which you can write in the space below the sentences. (One phrasal verb is used twice.)

ex:	I couldn't find my keys even though I ___ for over an hour.	<i>looked for them / was/had been looking for them</i>
1)	The engine didn't seem to be running very well so I ___ a little to get it going.	
2)	I ___ backgammon but I just can't find anyone to play with me.	
3)	He ___ the pub when we saw him and invited him to join us at the restaurant.	
4)	___ science fiction? If you are, there's a great film now playing at the cinema.	
5)	I'll ___ later, if that's alright with you.	

USE OF ENGLISH

When being descriptive about something, there's a practice in English of 'borrowing' words from one category (ex: nouns or adverbs) and use them in another (ex: verbs). 'Sex' is a noun but in recent times people have been beginning to use it as a verb such as 'sex something up', to make that something look more appealing or exciting. If the new usage of the word catches on and becomes more widely acceptable, then there is a chance for it to become officially recognized. English speakers don't always have to wait until something becomes more officially acceptable, though. In the interests of communicating an idea or image to another, occasionally native speakers make up such new applications and the listener/reader has a clearer idea as a result.

There are two such examples in the text. See if you can find them. 1) _____ 2) _____

Hint: One refers to increasing or intensifying something and is not typically considered or used as a verb as it is in this case.

Hint: The other is typically used as a noun but can be used as a verb referring to orientating something more towards one direction.

Both can be found near the bottom of the first page.

AN EXPRESSION OR TWO

You may already know what these two expressions mean, but how easily can you explain them to a person who may not?

1) at any rate (used in line 16)

2) by now (used in line 45)

Examples of Phrasal Verbs

- 1) (line 9) to feel strongly interested or passionate about something or somebody
 ● *They're really into dubstep but I'm not.*
 ● *She's not into him anymore.*
- 2) (line 11) to take advantage of an offer made by somebody
 ● *I wish I had taken him up on it before. It would have saved me a lot of time.*
 ● *Do you think I should take her up on it? She seems sincere.*
- 3) (line 25) to move something so the revolutions of the motor go faster (often making a louder noise) but the vehicle is probably not in motion yet
 ● *My friend likes to rev his Harley up before leaving. His neighbours hate it.*
 ● *I like to rev the engine up to hear it running.*
- 4) (line 49) to go towards something
 ● *Let's head for the mountains and see how close we can get.*
 ● *We were heading for the supermarket when we remembered that we had to meet John.*