



**THE HARVEY SKIDOO
TREE SERIES
LANGUAGE LOOK**



5

A TOOTH STORY

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 hang st up (line 9) 2) to let st out (line 18) 3) to figure st out (line 28) 4) to eat away at st (line 29)

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.	looked for them / was/had been looking for them
1)	He ___ a whistle when he discovered the price.	
2)	These problems at work are slowly ___ and they're stressing me out.	
3)	Yes, I ___. I suspected that they were secretly married and started looking for more clues.	
4)	All my degrees and certificates are ___ in my office.	
5)	The waves and currents of the sea are ___ at the coastline.	

USE OF ENGLISH

ELLIPSIS

This refers to eliminating unnecessary words. It is a very useful alternative to repetition and helps the written or spoken text have a smoother flow to it. Ex: She saw an object on the floor and (she) picked it up.

Relative clauses can benefit from this technique as well. Consider: •The pen (which) you are using is mine.
•The people (who are) not registered should do so now. •All the boxes (which were) holding up the stand were removed.

Q) Find three such examples of relative clauses using ellipsis in the 1st paragraph and one more in the 4th & 6th paragraphs.

AN EXPRESSION OR TWO

Q) There are two expressions found in the 5th and 8th paragraphs, one meaning *to get a better understanding of something*, and the other, *to get involved*. Can you a) identify them and b) write two sentences of your own for each?

Examples of Phrasal Verbs

- to hang st up (line 9) to place something on or over an object so that it remains in that position
 - I hung my clothes up on the terrace so they could dry faster.
 - We don't know where to hang up the picture of Auntie May.
- to let st out (line 18) to emit something, but often with the meaning of permitting that something to escape
 - He let out a fart.
 - She didn't want to let out the fact that she was an undercover cop.
- to figure st out (line 28) to understand something or to find a solution after some effort
 - Can you help me? I'm trying to figure out how to solve Rubik's cube.
 - Einstein couldn't figure out how to deal with quantum mechanics.
- to eat away at st (line 29) to erode, often a negative meaning attached to something consuming or destroying a different thing little by little
 - Her whining is eating away at my patience.
 - Some companies & powerful people are dedicated to eating away at human rights to give them even greater power and wealth.