



**SOME COMMONLY USED
PHRASAL VERBS
ANSWER KEY & TEACHER'S GUIDE**

PART 1 Do you know the meaning of these?

build st up	I'm trying to build up my confidence. I get so nervous around people.
Type 2	To increase or develop st (something)
come up with st	How did you come up with that? What a brilliant idea!
Type 3	A new idea or solution surfaces to awareness
do st over	I'm sorry, but that's not good enough. Do it over.
Type 2	To do something again (because that something was lost or not good enough)
get on / along (with sb)	We get along well. I get on with my brother, but not my sister.
Type 1(optional Type 3)	To be on good terms with, to have a good harmonious relationship
put sb down	She's always putting me down Who does she think she is?
Type 2	To insult sb (somebody) or say st to make them feel inferior or useless
stand up to sb	You have to stand up to him. You can't let him bully you.
Type 3	To face an authority or powerful person and be prepared to defend yourself

PART 2 How are these different?

back sb up	Can you back me up? She won't listen if it's only me.
back down	I didn't want to back down, but I felt it was the only thing I could do.
Back sb up is to give that person support Ex: police, in a meeting Back down is to give up a previously strong position, especially when encountering a much stronger one against yours	
put st away	Put your socks away. They don't belong on the chair.
throw st away	Throw your socks away. They've got big holes in them.
Put st away is to put st into its proper location or to another place that is not here (ex: We have an exam. Put your books away.) Throw st away to dispose of st as in putting it into the garbage	
tear st off	When I tore the tag off my shirt collar, I also tore the collar.
tear st up	I left a twenty-dollar bill on the table and my cat tore it up.
'Tear' is for soft objects (paper, clothes, paper money) and 'off' is no contact. Tear st off is to tear a part (usually a smaller part) off from the complete object. 'Up' here means completely, a way to intensify the original verb. Tear st up is to tear that something into many little pieces, to destroy it.	
break st off	I have a big bar of chocolate. Would you like me to break off a piece for you?
break st up	The icebreakers come in early spring to break the ice up so we can start shipping.
Same idea as with 'tear' except 'break' is for hard objects (iron bars, bones, chocolate bars) Break st off is to break a (smaller) piece off from the complete object. Break st up is to break that object into many little pieces.	

PART 3 Speaking preparation. Choose 5 phrasal verbs from this from the above 14 possibilities to use in your speaking. Write the verbs in the box. To the right of the box write a sentence for each verb.

Make your selection based on either or both of the following:

- 1) the phrasal verb isn't very familiar to you (and you don't normally use it in your speaking)
- 2) you like the phrasal verb and want to use it more often

Students write their 5 phrasal verbs here. If you prefer a different number, such as only 3, feel free to give different instructions.

Ask the students to use the notation they have been learning. Ex: do st over (not do over)

Place students into groups of 3 and one person begins speaking. S/He continues speaking until one of the phrasal verbs in the box is used. Then another person takes over. They continue until each person has used two of the phrasal verbs in their boxes. From then on, the speaking is freer. They can speak as they like about the theme, but still occasionally using some phrasal verbs.

Some possible themes for speaking (you can offer a different one if you prefer):

- 1) alpha males
- 2) sibling rivalry
- 3) children's behaviour