

TECHNOLOGY DEPENDENCE AND RISKS: word order with phrasal verbs

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- The main grammar focus is on the word order of two-word phrasal verbs, i.e. the difference between separable two-word phrasal verbs (*look up the word / look the word up / look it up*) and inseparable two-word phrasal verbs (*run into a friend / run into her*). The lesson also looks at two-word phrasal verbs that do not take an object (*set off at three o'clock*).
- The equivalents of phrasal verbs in Spanish and Portuguese are usually single words, sometimes related to formal Latin-based words in English, e.g. *represent* instead of *stand for*. Students may therefore have difficulty understanding and remembering many phrasal verbs, and when possible use Latin-based words instead. In addition, they often have problems with word order, particularly with separable verbs and pronouns, and make mistakes such as *Can you pick up me?* ✗

ANSWERS

EXERCISE 1

Example: separable verb with noun object

- 1 The letters U.S. stand for United States. (inseparable verb + noun object)
- 2 We ran into them in the mall. (inseparable verb + pronoun object)
- 3 I am going to give up candy and cookies for a month. / I am going to give candy and cookies up for a month. (separable verb + noun object)
- 4 Everyone says my daughter takes after me. (inseparable verb + pronoun object)
- 5 This computer game is fun. Why don't you try it out? (separable verb + pronoun object)
- 6 We came across the kitten in our yard. (inseparable verb + noun object)

EXERCISE 2

Note: Encourage the students to record an object with the verbs, either just *something* as below (and as they will find it shown in dictionaries) or the object from the text, e.g. *take up* (computing and word processing).

Phrasal verb with no object

go off (line 5)
keep on (line 6)

Separable phrasal verb

take (something) up (line 1)
set (something) up (line 3)
try (something) out (line 3)
turn (something) on (line 4)
pick (something) up (line 9)
turn (something) off (line 13)

Inseparable phrasal verb

get down (to something) (line 4)
look for (something) (line 7)
get to (something) (line 9)

PERSONALIZE IT!

- Write on the board a few common phrasal verbs, e.g. *give up, get along (with), take up, try out, take after, bring up*. Check that the students know them all. Ask the students to choose four of the phrasal verbs and write a sentence about themselves using each one. They should do this individually. The students can then work in pairs to compare their sentences. Encourage them to ask each other questions, using the phrasal verbs, e.g.

A: *I was brought up in a big house in the country.*

B: *Did your parents bring you up?*

A: *Yes, but my grandparents lived with us and they helped to bring us up.*

TECHNOLOGY DEPENDENCE AND RISKS

EXERCISE 1

Write the words and phrases in the correct order. Where you can, write both possible word orders of the phrasal verbs and their objects.

the most difficult / children / Bringing / one of / up / jobs / is

Bringing up children is one of the most difficult jobs./Bringing children up is one of the most difficult jobs......

1 letters / stand / The / States / for / U.S. / United

.....

2 into / We / them / in / mall / ran / the

.....

3 I / give / for a month / up / am going to / candy and cookies

.....

4 my / says / after / daughter / me / takes / Everyone

.....

5 computer / fun / is / This / game / don't / out / it / Why / you / try ?

.....

6 yard / across / kitten / our / in / came / We / the

.....

EXERCISE 2

Read this story. Then underline the phrasal verbs and write them in the correct column in the chart below with the line number.

1 Many years ago I decided to take up computing and word processing since these skills would be
 2 useful for work. I completed a course and ordered a computer. A few days later the computer arrived
 3 and a technician came along to set it all up. Later that day I decided to try the system out, so I sat
 4 at my desk, turned the computer on and got down to some work. Boots, my cat, came and settled
 5 under the desk next to me. It was all going well until suddenly the screen went off—for no reason.
 6 I didn't really know what to do; I kept on trying to make it work by pressing different keys, but
 7 nothing happened. I found the computer packaging and looked for a manual, but of course the
 8 manual was on disk and I couldn't run it since the screen wasn't working. In the end I found the
 9 technician's number and picked the phone up. He asked me if I could get to the store, but I said that
 10 I wasn't sure how to disconnect the machine and didn't want to do any more damage. In the end, he
 11 agreed to come and check the machine at the end of the day. Finally, at about 6:30, the technician
 12 arrived. In my office, the first thing he did was to check the power for the screen—and he found that
 13 someone had turned the screen off. I was so embarrassed that I hadn't checked that, but I couldn't
 14 understand what had happened. Then I suddenly realized—the cat had stepped on the plug when
 15 she was getting under the desk! It was all her fault!

Phrasal verb with no object	Separable phrasal verb	Inseparable phrasal verb
.....	<u>take (something) up (line 1)</u>
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....