

Phrasal Verbs About Communication

LOOK!

Phrasal verbs often include another preposition if they take an object.



LOOK!

Be aware that many of these phrasal verbs also have other meanings.

Phrasal Verb Mix and Match

Connect each of the phrasal verbs below with the correct definition.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1) ask for | a) to interrupt somebody who is speaking |
| 2) bring up | b) to demand publicly |
| 3) butt in/into | c) to understand the meaning or implication of what is being said |
| 4) call for | d) to solicit or request something |
| 5) call out (on/for) | e) to give a particular impression of something |
| 6) catch on | f) to mention something in a conversation or discussion |
| 7) come across (as) | g) to change the subject in a conversation or discussion |
| 8) hang up | h) to criticise, confront, or challenge an opinion or action |
| 9) move on (to) | i) to propose something |
| 10) open up | j) to raise the volume of one's voice |
| 11) point out | k) to end a telephone conversation |
| 12) put forward | l) to rebuke, reprimand, scold |
| 13) speak out (about) | m) to share one's feelings or opinions |
| 14) speak up | n) to publicly assert one's opinion in protest against something |
| 15) talk down to | o) to draw attention to something in particular |
| 16) talk over | p) to convince |
| 17) tell off (for) | q) to speak to people in a way that indicates they are inferior |
| 18) win over | r) to discuss something in detail |

LET'S PLAY BINGO!



Phrasal Verbs About Communication



ask for bring up butt in call for call out catch on come across hang up move on
open up point out put forward speak out speak up talk down to talk over tell off win over

Insert the phrasal verbs that fit best into the gaps in the sentences below.
You will need to conjugate them appropriately.

- 1) It's really embarrassing if you have to _____ when two people are arguing about something.
- 2) It took him a long time before he was ready to _____ and talk about the accident.
- 3) I was on the telephone speaking to my mother for nearly an hour before I _____ and made lunch.
- 4) The waiter approached our table and I _____ a bottle of water and a cucumber sandwich.
- 5) The leader of the opposition has _____ an investigation into the government's handling of the crisis.
- 6) Several members of the committee have _____ about the mismanagement of public funds.
- 7) She _____ as a little cold at first but she is actually a very nice person when you get to know her.
- 8) The people at the back of the room could not hear the spokeswoman and asked her to _____.
- 9) They spoke for nearly an hour about the budget before _____ to another subject.
- 10) He is obsessed about football and always _____ it _____ in any conversation you have with him.
- 11) She was trying to hint that we should leave but I was a little slow to _____.
- 12) My mother _____ me _____ for playing so close to the river.
- 13) His secretary _____ him _____ for bullying the workers and using sexist language in the office.
- 14) The new candidate for this month's election is trying her hardest to _____ the voters but it is not looking very promising for her.
- 15) I was getting ready to go to work when my daughter _____ that it was Sunday and the factory was closed.
- 16) They had some problems in their marriage but they sat down and _____ it all _____ until they found a solution.
- 17) During the meeting, several of the participants _____ the notion that a small fund should be established for the Christmas party.
- 18) I don't like the new boss. He seems to think he is better than us and really _____ everybody.



Fluid English and Language Dynamics

Insert the phrasal verbs that fit best into the gaps in the story below.

You will need to conjugate the verbs appropriately.

ask for bring up butt in call for call out catch on come across hang up move on
open up point out put forward speak out speak up talk down to talk over tell off win over

It is so common nowadays for English native speakers to _____ the topic of the deterioration of the English language due to social media, but the truth of the matter is, it is not so much a decline in standards as it is another stage in its growth. However, the battle with English Language purists is always ongoing and trying to _____ them _____ to the idea that change in a language is a good thing, is foolhardy to say the least. And while they are very vocal sometimes in _____ better standards in the use of English it is still just as well to remind them that people probably complained about how they may have used the language when they were younger themselves.

Words such as the verb "downsize" or the adjective "shambolic," among others born in the 1970s, were frowned on although nobody would raise an eyebrow nowadays. And many children were _____ by their teachers for ending a question with a preposition and using "who" instead of "whom." All of these additions from the 70s are quite commonplace at present, as are those tiny grammatical adjustments. In fact, beginning a question with a preposition or using "whom" can make the speaker _____ as rather pompous to a lot of people nowadays. As such, the way we speak and the vocabulary we use can be a reflection of our moment in time as well as also being able to reveal the history of technological change and how it affects language.

When we finish a phone call, we no longer literally "_____ " our telephones so much as swipe downwards on the tactile screen or press a button. But nonetheless we still use the expression referring to when the telephones were suspended from a wall and people would have to replace the receivers after using them. So, sometimes the language lags behind technological advances, as in the case of the telephone. However, when somebody starts to use a completely new phrase spontaneously, such is the nature of language that people usually _____ pretty quickly as to what is meant. For example, the first time I heard that somebody had "friended" somebody on Facebook, I knew straight away what was meant without having to "google" it or, God forbid, look it up in a dictionary.

However, after saying all of the above, perhaps there are things that people say and do online that should be _____ by English language purists (often unfairly called "grammar Nazis"). How many times do we see "to, two" and "too" being used as the same word? And what about the ongoing battle between "you're" and "your?" And if that wasn't enough, the purists also have to endure a lack of distinction between "there, they're" and "their." So, don't be surprised to read something like "Your to ready too believe anything there telling you!" Mind you, perhaps we should be _____ on the decline in educational standards rather than blaming social media, although it has to be said that it is far more common on these platforms.

Another thing to consider is the danger of _____ people's grammatical and linguistic flaws. Some people actually exaggerate their speech, grammatical errors and lexical peculiarities in an effort to reinforce an identity that they perhaps perceive as forced on them or even under threat in some way. _____ a person who prefers to say "Is you talking to me?" may be seen by some as justified in the name of correct English usage, but it can also project an image of snobbery or even racism. It can also intimidate people and prevent some from _____ and communicating their feelings and opinions freely in conversation. Few people want to talk to anybody who is going to _____ mid flow and correct their speech every time a grammatical "law" is broken. Apart from being an obstacle to conversation, it's just plain rude.

Seeing and hearing the evolution of a language as it happens, may seem boring to some of us but many academics are happy to _____ the finer points of linguistic change in the most minute of details. Some academics in the UK have _____ the idea of forming a Royal Academy of English much like they have in France and Spain but this notion has never really been that popular as of late. _____ control over what has become an international lingua franca, due in some part to its flexibility as opposed to the UK's imperialist history, is not the best of ideas. Surely it is time we _____ from this argument as to whether the mass media, or social media, or even foreign influence, is a bad thing in the English language. If we are not sure what somebody is saying, it is not hard to ask them to _____. Most of us can live with that, and those that cannot may just have to learn to live with it or just shut up.

There are some other phrasal verbs, highlighted in blue, in the article. What do you think they mean?

Royal Academy of English Debate



Read the memo below and then read your personality card. After that, attend the meeting and debate what the board should do next regarding the issue at hand. Each person should spend at least 1 minute stating their opinion and a further 5 minutes debating what should be done once everybody has had their say. A vote must be taken at the end of the meeting.



OXBRIDGE UNIVERSITY



To: Heads of departments
From: Head Office
Date: 09/04/20
Re: Royal Academy of English

Esteemed colleagues,

As you are all aware, there is a growing movement for a Royal English Academy and there are rumours that Buckingham Palace is not opposed to the idea. Many institutions are also behind the idea despite opposition from some quarters. As such, not a few among us have wondered whether our university should be at the forefront of such a regulatory body.

For this to come to pass, we would all need to be of one mind on the necessity of setting up an institution of this nature. All considerations should be aired before any serious proposal could be put forward and any wrinkles in ideological consistency ought to be ironed out to present a unified front to any prospective benefactor or, likewise, to any potential rival.

As such, I would like us all to come together as a body this Friday to discuss the merits of such an institution and to find out if this would be conducive to the public good or even beneficial to our mother tongue. This gathering will take place in the main conference hall a fortnight from today.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts on this matter.

Warmest regards

Gladys Friday

Gladys Friday
Principal

Indicate whether the statements below are true or false.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. The British Royal Family do not want a Royal Academy of English. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Several people at the university want to help form a Royal Academy. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. It is not necessary for everybody to agree before making an official proposal. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The meeting is two weeks from today. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |



Phrasal Verbs About Communication



ask for bring up butt in call for call out catch on come across hang up move on
open up point out put forward speak out speak up talk down to talk over tell off win over



Insert the phrasal verbs that fit best into the gaps in the story below.
You will need to conjugate the verbs appropriately.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.

IN PAIRS CREATE A GAP-FILL EXERCISE FOR THE 18 PHRASAL VERBS IN THE BOX AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE.

Royal Academy Debate – Personality Cards

You are a senior lecturer in English literature at the university. You think that establishing a Royal Academy of English would be a disaster for the language. The reason English has the largest vocabulary of any other language on the planet is because of its dynamic. The very fact the language regulates itself through its speakers is wonderful.

You are an English teacher at the university. You believe that establishing a Royal Academy of English would be a very bad idea. You think this would be detrimental to the role of English as a lingua franca. The reason so many people use English nowadays on the international stage is because of its flexible nature. You have seen beginners go from no English to functional in a very short time.

You are a senior lecturer in British history at the university. You think that establishing a Royal Academy of English is an awful idea. As far as you can see, it is the very fact that English was left to create itself after the Norman invasion of 1066 that makes it such a unique language. The mixture of Anglo Saxon, Old Norse, Norman French, Latin and Celtic languages is close to perfect for you.

You are a senior lecturer in IT at the university. You think that establishing a Royal Academy of English is a ridiculous idea. The English language has grown even more since the beginning of the digital revolution. You think that if a Royal Academy is established, Chinese will become the most influential language on the planet. You once tried to learn Chinese. You are still traumatised by the experience.

You are a senior lecturer in media studies at the university. You think that establishing a Royal Academy of English would be a dangerous turn in the wrong direction. You think that this demand for a Royal Academy is a desire to return to British Imperialism. Your Grandparents were from India and have told you terrible stories about the history of that country.

You are a senior lecturer in English philology at the university. You believe that the establishment of a Royal Academy of English is long overdue. You are horrified at how English has become corrupted lately. Sometimes you have trouble understanding what people are saying. You cannot help correcting people when they make mistakes while speaking.

You are an English teacher at the university. You believe that the establishment of a Royal Academy of English is a fine idea. Over the years, you have noticed that many of your students speak better English than the native speakers in the surrounding area. Your students often ask you why it is so difficult to understand the local people and you are too embarrassed to tell them the truth

You are a senior lecturer in British history at the university. You believe that the establishment of a Royal Academy of English is the best idea you have heard in a long time. You strongly believe that the real reason for the deterioration of the English language is the influence from abroad. You think that England should leave the United Kingdom and put up a large wall on the borders with Wales and Scotland.

You are a senior lecturer in journalism at the university. You believe that the establishment of a Royal Academy of English is an excellent idea. You are fed up with how bad the level of English is among your students. You get angry when you see how people write in today's newspaper columns. You also think that there should be a basic English test for students who want to join the university.

You are a senior lecturer in philosophy at the university. You believe that the establishment of a Royal Academy of English is a very good idea. You strongly believe that the deterioration of a country's culture starts with its language. You get very angry when you hear how people talk, nowadays. You think social media should be completely banned.

CHOOSE ONE OF THE PERSONALITY CARDS ABOVE AND THEN USE THIS AS YOUR MOTIVATION DURING THE ROLE-PLAY.

Phrasal Verbs Bingo Game

Cut out and place the definition slips in a cup or envelope. Cut out the bingo cards and give to the students. Take a definition slip from the cup one at a time and read the definition. Students tick off the corresponding phrasal verbs. Once a student has crossed out 5 words on a card they shout "bingo" and the round starts again with fresh cards. Repeat the process 3 times.

Definition Slips

ask for = to solicit or request something	bring up = to mention something in a conversation or discussion	butt in = to interrupt somebody who is speaking	call for = to demand publicly	call out = to criticise, confront, or challenge an opinion or action
catch on = to understand the meaning or implication of what is being said	come across = to give a particular impression of something	hang up = to end a telephone conversation	move on = to change the subject in a conversation or discussion	open up = to share one's feelings or opinions
point out = to draw attention to something in particular	put forward = to propose something	speak out = to publicly assert one's opinion in protest against something	speak up = to raise the volume of one's voice	talk down to = to speak to people in a way that indicates they are inferior
talk over = to discuss something in detail	tell off = to rebuke, reprimand, scold	win over = to convince		

Bingo Cards

ask for		bring up
	come across	
butt in		call for

move on		hang up
	open up	
catch on		put forward

speak out		speak up
	catch on	
move on		point out

point out		bring up
	talk over	
talk down to		butt in

speak up		talk over
	point out	
put forward		call for

open up		move on
	put forward	
tell off		talk over

talk down to		tell off
	speak up	
move on		ask for

tell off		come across
	talk down to	
move on		speak up

Bingo Cards

tell off		win over
	call out	
speak out		come across

win over		open up
	point out	
tell off		catch on

call for		speak out
	tell off	
talk down to		move on

put forward		win over
	butt in	
call out		speak out

come across		hang up
	move on	
ask for		put forward

catch on		win over
	bring up	
hang up		speak up

talk down to		open up
	call for	
talk over		bring up

butt in		point out
	ask for	
hang up		tell off

