

SAMPLE UNIT

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a Good Turn of Phrase

Advanced Practice in Phrasal Verbs
and Prepositional Phrases



Express Publishing

1 Read the dialogue and match the verbs in bold to the definitions below.



Gary: Have you **1) got round to** writing that report for the Board Meeting?

Jeff: Not yet, I'm afraid. I was going to do it last Saturday, but I took the chance to **2) lie in** instead. Don't worry, though — I'll **3) grind away at** it this weekend and it'll be ready for you by Monday.

Gary: Sorry, Jeff. We can't **4) hang around** on this one. I have to **5) go over** the report with the Chairman tomorrow, so I need it by five o'clock today at the latest. I have to **6) insist on** that.

Jeff: But I can't possibly write a whole report by five o'clock!

Gary: Could you do a summary? I don't need to **7) go into** details with the Chairman — just the main points and the conclusions.

Jeff: Yes, that might actually **be better**. It'll be a long report and he couldn't **8) take in** the whole thing in just a short session **anyway**.

Gary: No, I'm sure he won't **9) object to** a summary. When can I have **that**?

Jeff: I'll start writing it **now** and **10) print it out** for you after lunch.

- ☐ **a** stay in bed later than normal
- ☐ **b** work hard at sth difficult/unpleasant
- ☐ **c** demand sth, not accept anything less/different
- ☐ **d** disapprove of sth
- ☐ **e** find time to do sth
- ☐ **f** fully understand sth
- ☐ **g** read/discuss sth (*usu. main points*) again
- ☐ **h** examine/discuss sth in detail
- ☐ **i** print sth (*usu. computer file*) onto paper
- ☐ **j** wait, doing nothing

2 Fill in each gap with a suitable expression from the list, using the correct tense/form.

grind away, insist on, lie in, object to, print out

- 1 I don't often get up early on Sunday mornings. I usually and read the papers.
- 2 This new job isn't very interesting, but I'll at it until I find something better.
- 3 I'll your insurance policy and fax it to you.
- 4 I strongly people smoking when I'm eating.
- 5 I am not satisfied with the product I bought and I a full refund of the purchase price.

3 Replace the underlined expressions with phrasal verbs from the list, using the correct tense/form.

get round to, go into, go over, hang around, take in

Have you **1)** found the time for filling in your tax forms yet? Do you have problems **2)** fully understanding all the new rules and regulations? Why not let The Tax Helpline help you? We'll **3)** review your finances with you, then our expert accountants will **4)** investigate all the details. Don't **5)** wait! Call The Tax Helpline now on 0818 420 6374.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

4 Use each word in bold to make a new sentence similar in meaning to the original. Do not change the word in bold.

- 1 The patient was in so much pain that he couldn't understand what the doctor was saying. **(take)**
- 2 The management demands that all workers follow safety procedures. **(insists)**
- 3 We can't wait here all day — if he doesn't arrive soon, I'm going home. **(hang)**
- 4 I haven't found time to read the report yet. **(round)**
- 5 I don't want to explain the exact arrangements now — I'll send you a detailed schedule later. **(into)**

5 Read the dialogue and match the words in bold to the definitions below.

Detective: Sorry to **1) impose on** you, sir, but I wonder if you could help me. It's **2) in connection with** a burglary which took place last night.

Jim: Of course. How can I help you?

Detective: Well, to **3) start off**, perhaps you could look at this picture and say whether you've seen this man before.

Jim: No, I don't know him ... he looks a rough type, though, judging by his appearance.

Detective: He's a con man, sir. He got into the flat above you by pretending he'd come to read the gas meter. Old Mrs Simpson was completely **4) taken in**.

Jim: How awful!

Detective: It seems he **5) kept up** the pretence for almost an hour while he searched the flat. He stole the money she'd **6) put by** and **7) slipped away** while she was making him a cup of tea. He was seen being **8) picked up** by an accomplice in a white car.

Jim: How much did he steal?

Detective: **9) In excess of** £500. Incidentally, sir, a reward is being offered for any information which **10) leads to** an arrest.

Jim: Well, of course I'll help in any way I can, reward or not. Poor old Mrs Simpson ...

- a** ☐ save sth (*usu. money*) over a period of time
- b** ☐ result in sth
- c** ☐ give sb a ride in a vehicle
- d** ☐ continue, maintain sth
- e** ☐ concerning, with regard to
- f** ☐ more than
- g** ☐ begin a procedure/series of actions
- h** ☐ leave quietly without being noticed
- i** ☐ deceive, trick sb
- j** ☐ take impolite advantage of sb's kindness

6 Fill in each gap with a suitable expression from the list.

imposed on, in connection with, keep up, puts by, start off

- Mr Halford £2 every week to pay for the television licence.
- I'm going to my training schedule — now I've got fit, I want to stay that way.

- John the Smiths by arriving without warning and staying with them for three weeks.
- John was arrested the theft of the company's funds.
- We'll today's prayer meeting with a hymn.

7 Replace each word/phrase in bold with a suitable expression from the list, using the correct tense/form.

in excess of, lead to, pick ... up, slip away, take in

- I'm not really interested in this **job** but I hope it may **result in** a better one.
- What a boring party! Let's **leave quietly** and go to the cinema **instead**.
- Tony was completely **fooled** — he thought that the magician had really sawn the lady in half!
- Of **course** I'll give you a lift to London. I'll **collect** you at six o'clock.
- The Margham mine produces **more than** a million tons of ore a year.

8 Use each word in bold to make a new sentence similar in meaning to the original. Do not change the word in bold.

- Many parents disapprove of violent scenes in TV programmes for children. **(object)**
- I still haven't found the time to fix the broken lock on the back door. **(got)**
- I was very upset and didn't want to speak to anyone, so I left quietly and went home. **(slipped)**
- Please make an appointment to see Mr Miller with regard to your application. **(connection)**
- The Headmaster demands punctuality and politeness on the part of all students. **(insists)**
- If we're going to get to Birmingham by lunchtime, I'd better collect you at eight. **(up)**
- I'm afraid I'm so tired that I can't fully understand what you're saying. **(in)**
- More than 10,000 people were left homeless after the earthquake. **(excess)**

9 Study the tables, then underline the correct prepositions in the sentences below.

go ahead	<i>proceed (with sth)</i>
go away	1 <i>leave for a time</i> ; 2 <i>disappear/fade</i>
go over *	1 <i>review</i> ; 2 <i>spend/total more than a certain limit</i>
go over to *	<i>visit sb at home</i>
go through	<i>(e.g. a law/proposal) be approved</i>
go through *	<i>read sth and check it carefully</i>
go under	<i>(usu. a business) fail, be bankrupt</i>
go under *	<i>(be able to) pass beneath sth</i>

take * down	<i>make a note of sth (e.g. what sb says)</i>
take * in	1 <i>fully understand sth</i> ; 2 <i>(usu. passive) deceive sb</i> ; 3 <i>make clothing narrower (≠ let out)</i>
take * out	1 <i>arrange to get sth (e.g. from a bank)</i> ; 2 <i>remove sth from a fixed position</i>
take * up	1 <i>use/occupy (time/space/attention)</i> ; 2 <i>shorten clothing (≠ let down)</i> ; 3 <i>begin a new duty/job/hobby/etc</i> ; 4 <i>accept an offer/invitation</i>

- I had a really bad cold last winter. It took ages to go **away/out**.
- I lost so much weight over the summer I had to have all my clothes taken **in/up**.
- In the autumn, certain birds go **away/ahead** to other countries to spend the winter in a warmer climate.
- I didn't know you'd taken **up/in** Chinese. I thought you were going to learn French.
- The new law should go **through/over** Parliament without problems.
- The first hour at work is always taken **out/up** with correspondence.
- I can't take **down/in** all that information now. I'll have to think **about** it for a while.
- Let's go **over/under** the arrangements again, just to make **sure** we haven't forgotten anything.
- I'm going on holiday on Friday, but I'd like to take you **in/up** on your invitation when I get back.
- The load on the truck was too high for it to go **under/through** the bridge.

10 Choose the correct answer — A, B, C or D.

- The paper got tangled in the printer. You'll have to print your essay again.
A down C to
B out D in

- Jane went the plans for the wedding.
A ahead with C away to
B away from D under
- The travel agent advised me to take baggage insurance.
A in C up
B down D out
- I'm going Jill's to invite her to the party.
A over C through
B ahead with D over to
- Let's go the accounts together — we must find the missing money.
A away C through
B under D ahead
- This skirt was really long, but I had it taken 10 cm and now it's fashionable again.
A in C down
B up D out

11 Replace each word/phrase in bold with a suitable expression to make a new sentence similar in meaning to the original.

- Liz is going to take her final exams soon, so she's **working hard at** her studies now.
.....
- The fans **waited at** the stage door, hoping to catch sight of their idol.
.....
- Smoking when one is young can **result in** health problems later in life.
.....
- I can probably afford a new car now — I've been **saving** £50 a month for it.
.....
- Many small businesses **fail** within their first year of trading.
.....
- You should **make a note of** the main points of the lecture.
.....
- We live in different countries but we **maintain** our friendship by means of regular phone calls.
.....
- The dentist says that he'll have to **remove** two of my daughter's teeth.
.....
- We're looking for a two-bedroomed flat but we're not prepared to **spend more than** £80,000.
.....
- I was completely **deceived** by Lou. I thought he was really ill with all that groaning!
.....

12 Complete each sentence with *at, by, for, in, on or out of*.

- I'm not liberty to say anything about our agreement until the contracts are signed.
- arrival at the hotel, guests should go to the reception desk, where they will be given their key.
- David and Sue should get along well because they have a lot common with each other.
- I know all of my friends' phone numbers heart.
- Jane didn't know certain what time the plane was due to land.
- Mary's behaviour in class has never been good, but now it has got completely hand.

13 Underline the correct alternative in each sentence.

- I felt that Peter was **on the level/in the level** when he said he hadn't taken the money.
- The local council is **over pressure/under pressure** from residents to improve public facilities in the area.
- Learning to drive may seem quite straightforward but **at fact/in fact** it can take some people years to learn.
- One at one/One by one** the naughty schoolboys were called into the headmaster's office.
- The defendant claimed that he had acted **in self-defence/by self-defence** when he hit the policeman.
- The students taking the exam were told to stop writing **at the sound/with the sound** of the bell.

14 Use each word in bold to make a new sentence similar in meaning to the original. Do not change the word in bold.

- Tom **was not given permission** to divulge the contents of the secret document to us. (**liberty**)
- Both sides in the conflict are being urged to find a peaceful solution. (**pressure**)
- The salesman made us all sorts of promises, but I wasn't convinced he was being honest. (**level**)
- Acting so as to protect yourself is the only excuse for violent behaviour. (**self-defence**)
- The tourists in the group were asked to collect their tickets individually rather than all together. (**one**)

- The economic situation in the country has now got completely beyond control. (**hand**)
- We can't know without a doubt that the burglar won't come back. (**certain**)
- The reason she is my friend is that we have a lot of shared interests. (**common**)

15 a) Underline the most suitable preposition in each of the expressions.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 (take) delight in/with (doing) sth | 6 sympathise for/with sb |
| 2 engrossed in/into sth (e.g. a book) | 7 sensitive at/to sth |
| 3 shelter sb from/of sth | 8 in/on connection for/with sth |
| 4 adequate for/in sb/sth | 9 short of/with sth (e.g. money) |
| 5 to account for/of sth | 10 consist in/of sth |

b) Use each word in bold to make a new sentence similar in meaning to the original. Do not change the word in bold.

- The man is being questioned concerning a number of burglaries in the area. (**connection**)
- I don't have a well-paid job, but my salary is enough for my needs. (**adequate**)
- He's a cruel little boy, because he takes pleasure in upsetting the other children. (**delights**)
- An elephant's diet is made up of the leaves and branches of various trees. (**consists**)
- James couldn't explain the fact that the stolen money was found in his desk. (**account**)
- Tracy didn't notice the time because she was concentrating on her book. (**engrossed**)
- We all felt sorry for Mrs Brown after the sad loss of her husband. (**sympathised**)
- Mary needs to be more easy-going — she's far too easily offended by criticism. (**sensitive**)
- The town is built around the narrow bay which once protected ships from storms at sea. (**sheltered**)

- 10 There are many people in the world who don't have enough food to eat. (short)
.....

16 Choose the correct answer — A, B, C or D.

- 1 The new students were told to report to the school secretary
A for certain C on arrival
B on the level D in self-defence
- 2 Sally isn't working late today., she's leaving at three o'clock.
A For certain C In common
B In fact D At liberty
- 3 The dogs were trained to come of the bell.
A at the sound C in common
B on the level D on arrival
- 4 Lorraine had learnt the poem so well she knew it
A out of hand C in fact
B by heart D for certain
- 5 The money I've saved should the holiday I've planned.
A be sensitive to C account for
B be short of D be adequate for
- 6 Marcia took great announcing her engagement.
A connection with C delight in
B engrossed in D shelter from
- 7 It was a long film, but I the action from beginning to end.
A was engrossed in C was sensitive to
B was short of D sympathised with
- 8 A basic tool kit may nothing more than a saw, a hammer and a screwdriver.
A account for C be adequate for
B be sensitive to D consist of
- 9 There was a sudden shower, but we found a shop doorway to the rain.
A shelter us from C be short of
B delight in D be engrossed in
- 10 The spokesman said he was not to release any further information.
A on arrival C at liberty
B on the level D for certain

17 Use the word in bold to complete each new sentence with a similar meaning to the original. Use two to five words. Do not change the word in bold.

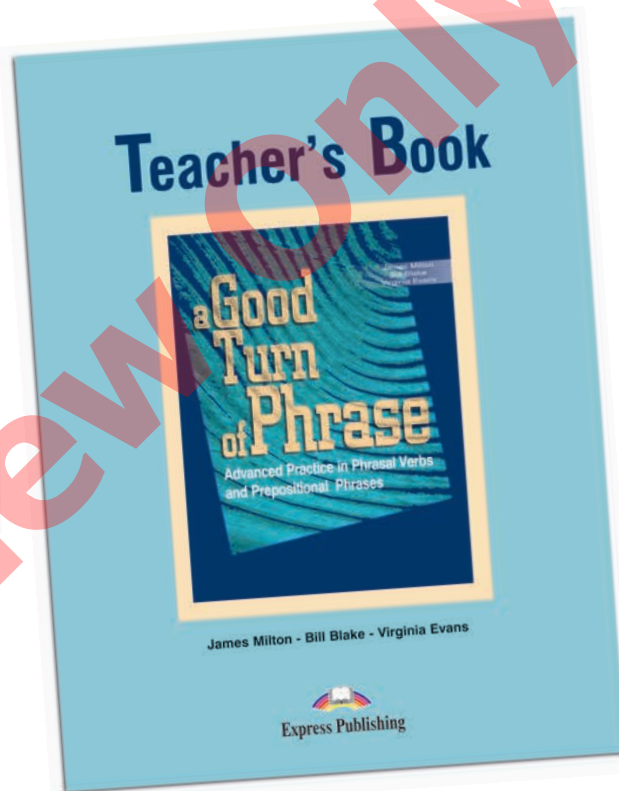
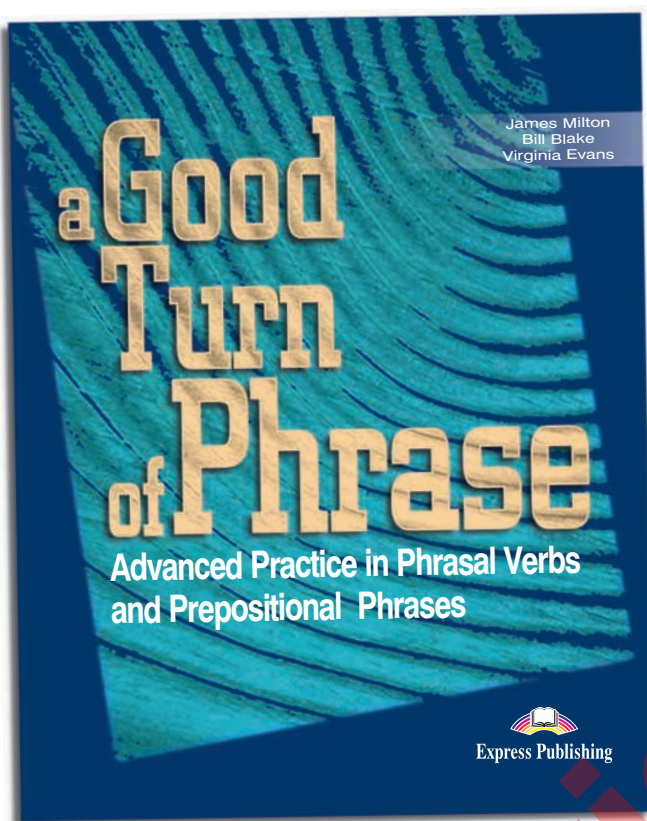
- 1 The police wanted to talk to John on the subject of his stolen car. (connection)
The police wanted to talk to John his stolen car.
- 2 Tim was totally fascinated by the film and he didn't hear the phone ring. (engrossed)
Tim was he didn't hear the phone ring.
- 3 There are some nasty people around who get great pleasure from seeing others fail. (delight)
There are some nasty people others fail.
- 4 I understand your problem, but I am unable to do anything to help you. (sympathise)
I , but I am unable to do anything to help you.
- 5 A seismometer is affected by the slightest movement of the earth's crust. (sensitive)
A seismometer movement of the earth's crust.
- 6 Dave asked Phil to lend him £20 until payday since he didn't have much cash. (short)
Dave asked Phil to lend him £20 until payday cash.
- 7 Passengers must complete immigration formalities when they arrive at their destination. (arrival)
Passengers must complete immigration their destination.
- 8 These caves protected Stone Age people from the weather and wild animals. (sheltered)
These caves the weather and wild animals.



1 Complete the sentences using the words in bold.

- 1 Mr Green is proud of his beautiful garden. (**prides**)
Mr Green garden.
- 2 She wasn't the least bit surprised to hear that she had been fired. (**surprise**)
It that she had been fired.
- 3 You can try to open it with that key, but it won't work. (**point**)
There's no it with that key.
- 4 It is said that Mozart wrote this symphony. (**credited**)
Mozart has been symphony.
- 5 Many people will do anything to get rich. (**lengths**)
Many people will to get rich.
- 6 Harold and his wife appear to have no similarities. (**common**)
Harold and his wife appear with each other.
- 7 Many ecologists have said they are worried about the new problem. (**concern**)
Many ecologists about the new problem.
- 8 During the storm the river overflowed. (**burst**)
The river during the storm.
- 9 The youth of today don't appreciate anything. (**granted**)
Young people these days.
- 10 Bill, not Jim, was driving the van when it crashed. (**driven**)
The van not Jim, when it crashed.
- 11 Your brother looks like Elvis Presley. (**bears**)
Your brother Elvis Presley.
- 12 He isn't capable of doing the job. (**competent**)
He isn't the job.
- 13 Young people today don't play many board games. (**popular**)
Board games are not very today.
- 14 Even though he hadn't been invited to the party, John took advantage of our hospitality and came. (**imposed**)
John by coming to the party uninvited.
- 15 The letter has nothing to do with you. (**concern**)
The letter yours.
- 16 When I was a student, I never had enough money. (**short**)
I was always as a student.
- 17 The outdoor life doesn't suit me. (**cut**)
I am not the outdoor life.
- 18 It was arranged for postgraduate students to use the computer room whenever they needed to. (**disposal**)
The computer room of postgraduate students.
- 19 It was quite a surprise to me when I failed the exam. (**aback**)
I was rather the exam.
- 20 I don't have a timetable and don't know what time the bus will come. (**knowing**)
Without a timetable, I've what time the bus will come.
- 21 Everyone came to the party apart from Karen. (**exception**)
Everyone came to the party, Karen.
- 22 The defendant refused to answer questions without his lawyer. (**insisted**)
The defendant present before answering any questions.
- 23 It isn't my fault that the bus is late. (**blame**)
I am not the bus's late arrival.
- 24 Jack didn't explain his absence the previous day. (**explanation**)
Jack his absence the previous day.
- 25 The company would benefit from upgrading its computers. (**interests**)
It would be in to upgrade its computers.
- 26 I don't mind if you go out. (**objection**)
I have out.
- 27 More mathematics teachers are needed in schools. (**demand**)
There is mathematics teachers in schools.
- 28 Somebody is building some new flats in the town centre. (**construction**)
Some new flats in the town centre.

- 29 I never suspected that he was lying. (**occur**)
It didn't that he was lying.
- 30 The bad weather ruined their holiday plans. (**paid**)
The bad weather their holiday plans.
- 31 I didn't know what to say when I saw the damage to my car. (**loss**)
I was when I saw the damage to my car.
- 32 It surprised me to see Gill covered in mud. (**sight**)
I was surprised covered in mud.
- 33 Very few people responded to the police appeal for information. (**response**)
There was police appeal for information.
- 34 I don't mind if you bring Julie to the party. (**objection**)
I have no Julie to the party.
- 35 His doctor told him to reduce the number of cigarettes he smoked. (**cut**)
His doctor told him to cigarettes.
- 36 Jane said some nice things about my new hairstyle. (**complimented**)
Jane my new hairstyle.
- 37 The book doesn't give me the impression of being very optimistic. (**come**)
The book doesn't very optimistic.
- 38 The students approved of their new teacher. (**met**)
The new teacher students' approval.
- 39 We have to learn to accept our limitations. (**terms**)
We have to our limitations.
- 40 It is completely prohibited to take alcoholic drinks into the stadium. (**total**)
There is a alcoholic drinks in the stadium.
- 41 I can't be the only person who believes that there is life on other planets. (**alone**)
I can't be there is life on other planets.
- 42 If we get him an expensive toy we'll be wasting our money. (**waste**)
It would be to buy him an expensive toy.
- 43 His handwriting is illegible. (**sense**)
I can't his handwriting at all.
- 44 Roy wore a hat, foolishly hoping that his friends wouldn't notice his new haircut. (**vain**)
Roy wore a hat in the wouldn't notice his new haircut.
- 45 Nobody passed the exam except for Sally. (**exception**)
Everyone failed the exam, Sally.
- 46 No late applications for the post will be considered. (**take**)
They will not any late applications for the post.
- 47 There was flooding in many areas due to the heavy rain. (**resulted**)
The heavy rain many areas.
- 48 Very few people came to my party. (**hardly**)
There was my party.
- 49 You hurt her feelings when you said she was fat. (**offence**)
She when you said she was fat.
- 50 Not many young people are fond of ballroom dancing nowadays. (**popular**)
Ballroom dancing young people nowadays.
- 51 A lot of people want to buy computers these days. (**demand**)
There is computers these days.
- 52 We knew Mary had painted the graffiti on the wall. (**responsible**)
We knew Mary the graffiti on the wall.
- 53 All those who think the excursion is a good idea should say so. (**favour**)
Everyone who is the excursion should say so.
- 54 The play wasn't as good as I'd been led to believe. (**short**)
The play expectations.
- 55 He probably won't know the answer, but you might as well ask. (**harm**)
Although he probably won't know the answer, asking.



A Good Turn of Phrase consists of sixteen units, each presenting and practising English phrasal verbs and prepositional phrases in current use. Phrasal verbs and prepositional phrases are presented in context, then they are tested in such activities as “key-word” transformation, multiple choice, gap filling and word matching. Unit 16 contains supplementary exercises offering students further practice with phrasal verbs and prepositions. The **Teacher's Book** contains the answers to the exercises as well as three tests, each of which has two alternative versions.

A Good Turn of Phrase is aimed at students at post-intermediate and advanced levels. It can be used in the classroom or for self-study to help learners use the English language successfully.