

# English Phrasal Verbs

1. He looked at the picture.	He looked at it.	*He looked it at.
2. He looked for the picture.	He looked for it.	*He looked it for.
3. He looked up the picture.	*He looked up it.	He looked it up.
4. He looked over the picture.	He looked over it.	He looked it over.
5. He looked over the balcony.	He looked over it.	*He looked it over.
6. He picked out his meal.	*He picked out it.	He picked it out.
7. He picked up his sister.	*He picked up her.	He picked her up.
8. He picked at his meal.	He picked at it.	*He picked it at.
9. He picked on his sister.	He picked on her.	*He picked her on.
10. He took on the job.	*He took on it.	He took it on.
11. He took in his boss.	*He took in him.	He took him in.
12. He took off his jacket.	*He took off it.	He took it off.
13. He took to the job.	He took to it.	*He took it to.
14. He ran over the dog.	He ran over it.	He ran it over.
15. He looked out the window.	*He looked out it.	*He looked it out.
16. He took out his pocketknife.	*He took out it.	He took it out.
17. He drank up his coffee.	*He drank up it.	He drank it up.
18. He drank down his coffee.	*He drank down it.	He drank it down.
19. He wrote the paragraph over.	*He wrote over it.	He wrote it over.
20. He wrote over the paragraph.	He wrote over it.	*He wrote it over.

A peculiar construction in English is the so-called *phrasal verb*, which is a discontinuous morpheme composed of two parts: a **verb** and a **particle**. These particles often have the same form as prepositions, but behave quite differently from them.

Above are a few examples of sentences containing phrasal verbs and prepositional phrases. Distinguish one from the other and give your reasons for doing so. What generalizations can be made about each? Comment on any interesting phenomena.