

47. FOCUS ON: particles used without verbs

The particles of many phrasal verbs, especially phrasal verbs that relate to physical movement, are frequently used alone with a form of *be*. This is very common in conversation when the verb has already been stated at least once and does not need to be repeated:

Customer: Have you **run out** of coffee? Store clerk: We're **out** of regular coffee, but we're not **out** of instant.

Marsha: When do you have to move out of your apartment?

Nancy: I have to **be out** by next Wednesday.

Jim: Did you **turn** the air conditioner **on**? Bob:

No, it **was on** when I came in.

Mother: Has your sister woken up yet?

Susie: No, she's **still not up**.

Using the particle without a verb is also common when a phrasal verb can be understood from the context. Sometimes, only one verb is obvious:

Ra u l: **Are you through** ?

Todd: No, I won't **be through** until after 4:00.

If this conversation occurred at a place of employment, the phrasal verb could only be **get through**. But often, in a particular situation, more than one verb might be understood, but to the speakers it is not important or necessary to be specific about which one:

Carlos: **Is Karen in**?

Paul: No. she **isn't**.

If this conversation occurred in an office building, several verbs might be understood: **come in, go in, get in, (be) let in**.

Infinitive				
	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
brush up	brush up & brushes up	brushing up	brushed up	brushed up

1. brush up (on) p.v. When you **brush up** or **brush up** on something, you study or practice a skill or subject you used to know but have forgotten or partly forgotten.

*It's been a long time since I studied algebra, but I'm going to need it if I go back to school to study for my master's degree, so I'd better **brush up**.*

*Frank's going to Peru next month, so he's been **brushing up** on his Spanish.*

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
come in	come in & comes in	coming in	came in	come in

1. come in/into p.v. When people or things enter a place, room, house, and so on that you are in, they **come in** or **come into** it. **Go out** is the opposite of **come in**.

*Welcome to my house. Please **come in**.*

*The burglar **came into** the house through the back door.*

2. come in p.v. When a train, bus, airplane, or ship **comes in**, it arrives. **Get in** is similar to **come in**.

*Do you know when the train from Kankakee **comes in**?*

*David's plane hasn't **come in** yet.*

3. come in p.v. When people arrive at the place where they work, they **come in**. **Get in** is similar to **come in**.

*The manager is angry with Linda because she **comes in** late every day.*

*I called to tell the boss that I was sick and wouldn't be **coming in**.*

4. come in p.v. When something that a store will sell **comes in**, it is delivered to the store.

*Let's go shopping at Macy's tomorrow; the summer clothes have **come in**.*

*I couldn't buy that new book I wanted; it hasn't **come in** yet.*

5. come in p.v. When a thing or skill **comes in** handy, it is something useful that you like to have available when you need it.

*When I travel, I always take a small sewing kit with me; it really **comes in** handy if a button falls off.*

*I don't know how to speak Japanese, but knowing how to say the numbers and "please" and "thank you" when I was in Japan sure **came in** handy.*

cut back

cut back & cuts back back	cutting back	cut back	cut
--	---------------------	-----------------	------------

1. cut back (on) p.v. When you **cut back**, or **cut back** on the amount of money you spend, you spend less.

*The President said he was against **cutting back** on spending for education.*

*My father said that we're spending too much and have to **cut back**.*

cutback n. A **cutback** is a reduction in the amount of money you spend on something.

*The people who work on the air force base are worried that they'll lose their jobs because of military spending **cutbacks**.*

2. cut back (on) p.v. When you **cut back** or **cut back** on something that you consume, you use it less. When you **cut back** or **cut back** on something that you do, you do it less. **Cut down** is similar to **cut back**.

*Mark hasn't been able to quit smoking, but he has **cut back** a bit.*

*You're getting a little overweight; maybe you should **cut back** on sweets.*

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
move in	move in & moves in	moving in	moved in	moved in

1. move in/into p.v. When you **move in** or **move into** a place, you bring your furniture and other personal possessions into a place where you will live. **Move out** is the opposite of **move in/into**.

*The landlord said we could **move** right **in** if we want to.*

*Erik's **moving into** a bigger apartment next week.*

2. move... in/into p.v. When you **move** people **in** or **move** them **into** a place, you bring their furniture and other personal possessions into a place where they will live. When you **move** things **in** or **move** them **into** a place, you take them in. **Move out** is the opposite of **move in/into**.

*The movers **moved** me **in** in less than two hours.*

***Moving** all this furniture **into** a fifth-floor apartment isn't going to be easy.*

3. move in (with) p.v. When you **move in** or **move in** with people, you bring your furniture and other personal possessions into a place where you will live.

*Bill moved out of his house for a while when he separated from his wife, but yesterday he **moved back in**.*

*My Aunt Kathy might **move in** with her son and his family.*

move out

	move out & moves out	moving out	moved out	moved
	out			

1. move out (of) p.v. When you **move out** or **move out** of a place, you take your furniture and other personal possessions out of a place where you lived. **Move in/into** is the opposite of **move out**.

*Could you help me **move out**? I have to be out by the end of the month.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Baker **moved out** of their big house and into a smaller place after their children grew up.*

1. move... out (of) p.v. When you **move** people **out** or **move** them **out** of a place, you take their furniture and other personal possessions out of a place where they lived. When you **move** things **out** or **move** them **out** of a place, you take them out. **Move in/into** is the opposite of **move out**.

*One of our roommates wasn't paying his rent, so we **moved** his stuff out while he was at work.*

*The company had a sale to try to **move** some merchandise **out** of the warehouse.*

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
pull out	pull out & pulls out	pulling out	pulled out	pulled out

1. pull out (of) *p.v.* When a car, truck, or other vehicle **pulls out** or **pulls out** of a parking space, it leaves the place where it was parked and starts driving in the street. When the drivers of cars, trucks, or other vehicles **pull out** or **pull out** of a parking space, they leave the place where they were parked and start driving in the street.

*The accident happened when the **Ford pulled out** in front of the Chevy.*

*You should fasten your seat belt before you **pull out** of the parking space.*

2. pull out (of) *p.v.* When you **pull out** or **pull out** of an agreement or arrangement, you leave it because you decide that you do not want to participate any longer.

*The French company reconsidered its agreement to build a plant in Canada and decided to **pull out**.*

*I wish I **hadn't pulled out** of that business deal. Now everyone who stayed in is making a lot of money.*

3. pull... out (of) *p.v.* When soldiers leave a combat zone or an area where combat is likely, they **pull out** or are **pulled out**. **Go in** is the opposite of **pull out**.

*When Sergeant Jones saw the enemy soldiers getting closer, he ordered his men to **pull out**.*

*General Johnston **pulled** all the troops **out** of the occupied territory.*

pullout *n.* When soldiers leave a combat zone or an area where combat is likely, a **pullout** takes place.

*General Johnston ordered an immediate **pullout** of all troops in the occupied territory.*

put in

put in & puts in	putting in	put in	put in
------------------	------------	--------	--------

1. put ...in/into *p.v.* When you **put** something **in** or **put** something **into** a container, storage place, or building, you place it inside. **Take out** is the opposite of **put in/into**.

*Please **put** your clothes **in** the closet.*

*The clerk **put** the bottle **into** the bag and gave me a receipt.*

2. put... in/into *p.v.* When you **put** money **in** or **put** money **into** a bank or an account at a bank, you deposit the money. **Put in/into** is the opposite of **take out**.

*I'm going to the bank today. How much money do you think I should **put in**?*

*We **put** \$ 10,000 **into** our savings account.*

3. put... in/into *p.v.* When you **put** people **in** or **put** them **into** a prison, hospital, school, or other institution, you take them there or require them to go there.

*Jake got **put in** jail for twenty years. Marvin should be **put into** a mental institution.*

4. put... in/into p.v. When you **put** time or effort **in** or **put** time or effort **into** something, you spend time and work hard to accomplish it.

At the Christmas party, the manager thanked his employees for all the work they had put in.

I put a lot of time into becoming a doctor.

5. put... in/into p.v. When you **put** money **in** or **put** money **into** something, you contribute money to help pay for something or as an investment you hope will return a profit.

When the check came for dinner, we each put \$25 in.

I've already put \$100,000 into this business. I hope it starts making money soon.

6. put ...in p.v. When you construct or install something in a building, you **put it in**.

We're having new carpeting put in next week.

Erik and Nancy are thinking about putting in central air conditioning.

7. put... in p.v. When you cause people to be in a situation, position, or condition, you **put** them **in** that situation, position, or condition.

You've put Jim in a very awkward situation.

Margaret Cummings was put in charge of the sales department.

Infinitive

	present tense	•ing form	past tense	past participle
run out	run out & runs out	running out	ran out	run out

1. run out (of) p.v. When people or things **run out** or **run out** of a place, room, building, and so on, they leave it very quickly. **Run in/into** is the opposite of **run out**.

There's Sofia across the street — run out and ask her to come over here.

When I opened the door, the dog ran out of the house.

2. run out (of) p.v. When you do not have any more of something because you have used, consumed, or sold all of it, you **run out** or **run out** of it.

I'm sorry I can't give you sugar for your coffee — I've run out.

Sam was late to work this morning because he ran out of gas.

3. run out p.v. When something is completely used, consumed, or sold, it **runs out**.

I played poker last night, and for a while I was ahead by \$3,000. But then my luck ran out, and I ended up losing it all.

My brother is too lazy to look for a job. He asks me for money, and when the money runs out he comes back for more.

EXERCISE 47a — Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

1. We have a lot of shopping to do, but the store closes in twenty minutes, so let's try to finish before we _____ of time.

2. Michael _____ a lot of time _____ getting his pilot's license.
 3. The government threatened to _____ of the cease-fire agreement after the latest terrorist bombing.
 4. This little flashlight on my key chain _____ handy when it's dark outside.
 5. I haven't stopped drinking completely, but I have _____ way _____.
 6. When Timmy's mother saw him outside throwing rocks at cars, she _____ and stopped him.
 7. We bought a house in Milwaukee, and we're _____ it next month.
 8. Instead of spending all your money, maybe you should _____ some of it _____ the bank.
 9. I'm starting a new job as a secretary next week, so I need to _____ on my typing.
 10. After my mother died, I asked my father to _____ with me.
 11. I'll be waiting for you at the station when your train _____.
 12. All these problems are _____ me _____ a bad mood.
 13. How much money are you going to _____ this investment fund?
 14. We're very busy at work, so my boss asked me to _____ early tomorrow.
 15. I need to find a new place to live soon. I have to _____ of the place I'm in now by the end of the month.
 16. These computers are being sold at 15 percent off the regular price for three days only, so hurry before time _____.
-

17. Linda hired a carpenter to _____ some shelves _____ her son's room.
18. We lost the key for the front door, so everyone's been _____ through the back door all day.
19. Since Jim lost his job, we've had to _____ a lot on our spending.
20. The troops were _____ of Vietnam and sent back to the United States.
21. I bought a new bed for Susie, so I'm going to _____ her old bed _____ of her room and into her brother's room.
22. After my surgery, I was _____ the intensive care unit.
23. The store clerk says the new computer I want is supposed to _____ tomorrow.
24. My couch is huge — there's no way I can _____ it _____ my new place without help.
25. Erik _____ too much salt _____ the soup, and now it tastes terrible.
26. Safe drivers always look both ways before they _____ and drive away.

EXERCISE 47b — Write answers to the questions using phrasal verbs and nouns from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

1. Tom is going to live with his Uncle John. What is Tom going to do?
2. The government is spending less on the military. What is the government doing?
3. In Question 2, what would you call this reduction in military spending?
4. I can't figure out where the mosquitoes are entering my house. What can't I figure out?
5. My plane didn't arrive on time. What didn't my plane do?
6. Bob's taking all his furniture out of his old apartment. What is Bob doing?
7. You spent all your money, and now you're broke. What did you do?
8. Nancy's truck was parked, but now she's driving it into the street. What is Nancy doing?

9. Sarah shouldn't have built a pool in such a small backyard. What shouldn't Sarah have done?
10. Daniela hasn't studied Italian since high school, but she's been studying it again lately because she's going to Italy soon. What is Daniela doing?
11. Charles might change his mind and decide not to participate in a business deal. What might Charles do?
12. Your dentist told you that you should eat less candy. What did your dentist tell you?
13. Ned is going to arrive at work late tomorrow. What is Ned going to do?
14. Jane is working very hard to learn Chinese. What is Jane doing?
15. The basketball game ended before Jim's team could score enough points to win it. Why didn't Jim's team win the game?
16. Joe hasn't placed his clothes in the washing machine. What hasn't Joe done?
17. Tom asked Sally when she was taking her furniture into her new apartment. What did Tom ask Sally?
18. Bill deposits \$1,000 every month in his checking account. What does Bill do every month?

EXERCISE 47c, Review — Complete the sentences with these phrasal verbs from previous sections. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense. To check their meanings, review the section number given after each one.

bump into, 46	get down, 42	kick out, 43	stop off, 43
con into, 46	get in/into, 42	make for, 46	talk into, 46
con out of, 46	get out, 42	rip off, 44	talk out of, 46
freak out, 46	get up, 42	shut up, 43	try on, 43

1. Alfonso must have _____ thirty pairs of pants before picking one out.
2. Bob got _____ of the bar after he started a fight.
3. You can't trust Marvin at all. He _____ everyone he does business with.
4. I can't reach those books on the top shelf. Would you _____ them _____ for me, please?
5. That sneaky real estate agent _____ me _____ selling her my house for a lot less than it was worth.
6. My parents live between my job and my home, so sometimes on the way home from work I _____
_____ for a visit.
7. Sam's wife didn't want to go camping with him, but he finally _____ her _____ it.

8. My father-in-law was _____ \$800 by a house painter who took the money but never came back to start painting the house.
9. When I was a child, my mother was on drugs and my father was in jail. That situation didn't _____ a very happy childhood.
10. Carlos _____ the table, and a glass of wine fell on the floor.
11. All you ever do is talk, talk, talk. Will you please _____?
12. It sure was hot yesterday. It must have _____ to 100 degrees.
13. Our daughter has decided to get her nose pierced, and there's no way we can _____ her _____ it.
14. I found my old army uniform in the attic, and I can still _____ it even though it's twenty-five years old.
15. My teacher caught me cheating on the test today, and he said he's going to call my parents tomorrow to tell them. How am I going to _____ of this mess?
16. I saw a guy today who looked exactly like my dead brother. It really _____ me _____.