

34. FOCUS ON: pronunciation of two-and three-word phrasal verbs, 2

As we saw in Sections 5 and 6, phrasal verbs are sometimes accented on the verb and sometimes accented on the particle. It might seem difficult to know whether to accent the verb or the particle since it depends on whether the phrasal verb is separable or nonseparable, transitive or intransitive, or a two- or three-word phrasal verb; however, it boils down to this: always accent the particle after the verb unless the phrasal verb is a nonseparable, transitive, two-word phrasal verb — then accent the verb. Remember that some verbs can be both transitive and intransitive:

Nonseparable, two-word, intransitive

stick ROUND

float ROUND

Nonseparable, two-word, transitive

STICK to

STAND for

STICK around

FLOAT round

Nonseparable, three-word, transitive

lead UP to

Separable, two-word, transitive

take BACK

do OVER

Separable, three-word, transitive

put UP to

Initive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
do over	do over & does over	doing over	did over	done over

1. **do ... over** p.v. When you **do** something **over**, you do it again in order to improve it or to correct mistakes.

This is all wrong — it'll have to be **done over**.

I got a bad grade on my paper, but the teacher said I could **do** it **over**.

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past
float				
float around & floats around		floating around	floated around	floated

1. **float around** p.v. [usually continuous] When something **is floating around** a place, it is there somewhere, though you are not sure exactly where.

/ don't know where the stapler is, but it's **floating around** here somewhere.

The new schedule was **floating around** the office yesterday.

2. **float around** p.v. When a rumor or some information is **floating around**, it is being repeated and discussed among a group of people or within a place.

There's a rumor **floating around** that the factory's going to be closed. Something about a change of management has been **floating around lately**. Have you heard anything?

lead up to

lead up to & leads up to up to	leading up to	led up to	led
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1. **lead up to** p.v. When one or more actions, events, or situations **lead up to** a final action, event, or situation, they precede and cause or partially cause it.

Several minor battles **led up to** a full-scale war. The detective said, "Jake didn't shoot Hank for no reason — something **led up to** it."

2. **lead up to** p.v. When you **lead up to** something when you are speaking or writing, you gradually move toward an important point by saying or writing information that will support that point.

In his speech, the President didn't immediately announce that he would run for a second term; he **led up to** it by recalling the accomplishments of his first term.

I've been listening to you talk for thirty minutes. What's your point? What are you **leading up to**?

put up to

put up to & puts up to up to	putting up to	put up to	put
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1. **put... up to** p.v. When you persuade or pressure people to do something that is illegal, dangerous, foolish, or unwise, you **put them up to** it.

/ didn't think it was a good idea to demand a raise, but my wife **put me up to** it.

When Jake was arrested for shooting Hank, he said Raquel had put him **up to** it by threatening to tell the police about his other crimes.

stand for

stand for & stands for stood for	standing for	stood for
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1. **stand for** p.v. When abbreviations, acronyms, or symbols represent longer words or groups of words, they **stand for** them.

The "DC" in Washington, DC, **stands for** "District of Columbia."

"Scuba" stands **for** "self-contained underwater breathing apparatus."

2. stand for p.v. When people or objects support, represent, or are identified with ideas, values, or beliefs, they **stand for** them.

This flag **stands for** freedom. He was a great man who **stood for** equal rights and opportunity for all people.

3. stand for p.v. When you will not **stand for** something that you think is illegal, improper, or unjust, you will not tolerate it or allow it to happen.

Cruelty to animals is one thing I will **never stand for**.

I told my son I wouldn't **stand for** that kind of language in this house.

Infinitive

present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
stick around			
stick around & sticks around	sticking around	stuck around	stuck around

1. stick around p.v. [informal] When you **stick around**, you stay where you are.

Can you **stick around?** We're going to have lunch in an hour.

Don't go yet — **stick around** until Sarah gets here; she'd love to see you.

stick to

stick to & sticks to	sticking to	stuck to	stuck to
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1. stick to p.v. When one thing **sticks to** another, it remains attached to it.

The magnet sticks **to** the chalkboard because there's metal underneath.

I used the wrong glue, and the tiles didn't **stick to** the floor.

2. stick to p.v. When you are speaking or writing and you **stick to** a certain subject, you talk or write about that subject only.

The teacher said, "Do this paper over and **stick to** the point — don't talk about 100 other things that aren't important."

In his news conference, the President **stuck to** the new tax legislation, but the reporters kept asking about the latest scandal.

3. stick to p.v. When you **stick to** a certain belief, claim, policy, habit, plan, type of work, and so on, you continue as before, without change. **Stick with** is similar to **stick to**.

Jake claimed he was innocent of Hank's murder. He **stuck to** his alibi that he had been at the racetrack when the murder occurred.

After the audition, the director told me I was a terrible actor and that I should **stick to** singing.

4. stick... to p.v. [informal] When you stick it to people, you deliberately try to tease, annoy, or embarrass them with an accusation, provocative statement, or difficult question.

Sam thinks the new manager is an idiot, and he likes to **stick it to** him.

One woman at the shareholders' meeting really **stuck it to** the president of the company.

She asked why he deserved a \$19 million bonus even though the company had lost money that year and 4,000 workers had been laid off.

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
take back	take back & takes back	taking back	took back	taken back

1. take... back (to) p.v. When you **take** something **back** or **take** something **back** to a place, you take it to where it was before.

If you're finished working on the car, don't leave your tools here; **take** them **back** to the garage.

Do you usually **take** the shopping carts **back** after you've put your groceries in *your car*?

2. take... back (to) p.v. When you take something that you have bought to the place where you bought it and ask to have it repaired, to exchange it for something else, or for the money you paid for it, you **take** it **back** or **take** it **back** to the place where you bought it.

/ have to **take back** these pants that I bought yesterday because the zipper's already broken.

That new TV that Nancy bought was a piece of junk; she **took** it **back** to the store and demanded her money back.

3. take... back (from) p.v. When you **take** something **back** or **take** something **back** from someone else, you accept it from the person you gave, sold, or lent it to.

The guy at the store said he wouldn't **take** my answering machine **back** because I had bought it on sale.

The lady I bought this Persian rug from said she would be happy to **take** it **back** from me if I changed my mind.

4. take ... back (to) p.v. When you **take back** something that you have borrowed or **take back** something that you have borrowed to the person or place that you borrowed it from, you return it.

Lydia borrowed this book from the library six months ago, and she still hasn't **taken** it **back**.

I need to **take** Jim's lawn mower **back** to him.

5. take... back (to) p.v. When you **take** people **back** or **take** people **back** to a place where they were before, you go with them to that place.

Our son was home from college for the summer, and we're **taking** him **back** tomorrow.

Mike got sick again, so we **took** him **back** to the hospital.

6. take ... back p.v. When you **take back** something that you have said, you admit that what you said was untrue, unfair, or rude.

That's not true! You **take** that **back** right now!

I'm sorry, that was very rude of me. I **take** it **back**.

7. take ... back (to) p.v. When something reminds you of a place where you were in the past or of something you experienced in the past, it **takes** you **back** or **takes** you **back** to a time in the past.

Looking through my high school year book sure **takes** me **back**.

My grandfather found his old uniform in the attic, and he said it **took** him **back** to when he was stationed in England during the war.

EXERCISE 34a — Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

1. After being embarrassed last night, I'm going to _____ a policy of minding my own business.
2. Have you seen the manual for this program? It's _____ the office somewhere, but I can't find it.
3. It's too bad you can't _____. I was just about to barbecue some chicken.
4. Look at these old pictures. They sure _____ me _____.
5. In my history class we studied the events that _____ World War II.
6. Rosa tried to return her engagement ring to her fiancé, but he wouldn't _____ it _____.
7. The lawyer told his client to _____ the facts when she testifies.
8. The escaped prisoner was _____ to prison.
9. It's not like Erik to do such a terrible thing. I think someone _____ him _____ it.
10. I hate it when it's so humid that your clothes _____ your skin.
11. "UAE" _____ for United Arab Emirates.
12. I felt terrible about what I said, and I _____ it _____ immediately.
13. One of the guys at work is a real baseball nut from Chicago, so we love to _____ it _____ him about how bad the Cubs are.
14. I don't have Linda's electric drill anymore; I _____ it _____ yesterday.
15. When people see our company's logo, they know it _____ quality at a fair price.
16. The tailor didn't do what I wanted him to do with this dress. I'm going to _____ it _____ to him.
17. The restaurant manager told the bartender that she would not _____ drinking on the job.
18. Mark did such a bad job painting his house that he had to get a professional house painter to _____ it _____.
19. As soon as the company president mentioned the decrease in sales and the need to reduce labor costs, we knew what he was _____.
20. Don't leave these dirty dishes here; _____ them _____ to the kitchen.
21. Don't pay any attention to that rumor—it's been _____ for three years.

EXERCISE 34b — Review the explanation at the beginning of this section of how two- and three-word phrasal verbs are pronounced. Then, say each sentence in Exercise 34a aloud and circle the verb or particle that is accented.

EXERCISE 34c — Write answers to the questions using phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

1. Janice said I was a cheapskate, but she later admitted that it wasn't true. What did Janice do?
2. A number of situations and events helped to cause the Civil War. What did those situations and events do?
3. You've rewritten this story four times, and you're still not happy with it. What have you done to the story four times?
4. When I opened the box of cereal, it was full of bugs, so I returned it to the store. What did I do to the box of cereal?
5. Bill has a system for picking good stocks, and he always uses it. What does Bill do with his system?

6. Mr. Tucker's fifteen-year-old daughter wants to get a tattoo, but he absolutely will not allow it.

What won't Mr. Tucker do?

7. Visiting his old high school brought back a lot of memories. What did visiting his old high school do to him? 262

8. Carlos came to my house and stayed for a while. What did Carlos do after he came to my house?

9. People in my office have been reading the latest issue of **Time** magazine and then giving it to someone else. What has the magazine been doing?

10. She asked me what "Ph.D." represents. What did she ask me?

11. I felt ridiculous dressing as a pink dinosaur for my nephew's birthday party, but my brother persuaded me to do it. What did my brother do?

EXERCISE 34d, 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.

bite off, 27	fall behind, 33	plan ahead, 25	shake up, 24
catch on, 33	get together, 26	print out, 24	stay out, 23
come about, 33	goof around, 33	pull off, 33	stop over, 24
come out, 32	let in on, 26	put together, 26	wear off, 27

1. I asked Sam how his job interview _____, and he said it went great.

2. I asked my history teacher what led up to the American Revolution, and he said the war _____ as a result of several factors.

3. After the tranquilizer _____, the elephant will wake up.

4. The new owners of the company said they planned to _____ things _____.

5. When you're an adult, you can't just think about today; you have to _____.

6. Tonight I'm going to _____ with some friends and watch the game.

7. Mark has a rich father, so Mark doesn't work; he just _____ most of time.

8. The finance minister _____ a plan to revive the nation's economy.

9. That's a pretty big project. Are you sure you haven't _____ more than you can chew?

10. The new system at the warehouse was a disaster, and we _____ in filling orders.

11. I didn't sleep at all last night — I _____ dancing until dawn, and I'm really beat.

12. People have been talking about picture phones for years, but they've never _____.

13. The boss _____ me _____ the new strategy.

14. If you're not busy, would you like to _____ for a while? We could watch TV or play cards.

15. The crooks tried to steal a 747 by pretending to be pilots, but they couldn't _____ it _____.

16. I finished my letter, but I can't _____ it _____ because I'm out of toner.