

20. FOCUS ON: phrasal verbs followed by the **-ing** form

Some phrasal verbs can be followed by the **-ing** form of verbs:

He **ended up** staying home.

She **lies** around doing, nothing.

The **-ing** form can be negative:

He **ended up** not going anywhere.

She **lies around** not doing anything.

Nouns and pronouns can come between the phrasal verb and the **-ing** form:

The doctor **went around** the hospital visiting his patients.

Jim **hangs around** Janice hoping she'll fall in love with him.

Prepositional phrases can come between the phrasal verb and the **-ing** form:

My luggage **ended up** on the wrong flight going to the wrong city.

I **started out** at the bottom working in the mailroom.

Other adverbs and adverbial expressions can come between the phrasal verb and the **-ing** form:

Bill **goes around** constantly looking for bargains.

She **stayed up** late watching TV.

I **went around** all day not knowing I had spinach in my teeth.

He **ended up** here asking for money.

Infinitive				
	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
end up	end up & ends up	ending up	ended up	ended up

- 1. end up p.v.** When people **end up** doing something or **end up** a certain way, it is the result of a series of decisions, actions, or unplanned and unexpected occurrences. **End up** is similar to **wind up**.

A hurricane was approaching Florida, so we **ended up** coming home from our vacation early.

Judy has never gone skydiving before, so she'll probably **end up** in the hospital with two broken legs.

- 2. end up p.v.** When people or things **end up** in a place, this place is where their journey ends even though the outcome may have been unplanned or unexpected.

How did London Bridge **end up** in Arizona?

The taxi driver didn't understand me, and we **ended up** in Newark instead of New York.

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Infinitive				
	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle

go around**go around & goes around****going around****gone around****gone around**

1. **go around** p.v. When people or things follow a circular path and return to the same place, they **go around**.

The horse has **gone around** the track three times.

It took seven days to **go around** the island.

2. **go around** p.v. When people or things follow an indirect or curved path in order to avoid an obstacle or to change direction, they **go around** or **go around** the obstacle.

Heather **went around** the curve too fast, and she ended up in the ditch.

There was some broken glass in the street, but I **went around** it.

3. **go around** p.v. When an object spins or turns, it **goes around**.

The disk drives in computers **go around** very fast.

The children have to stay on the merry-go-round until it stops **going around**.

4. **go around** p.v. When you **go around** a place, you visit various parts of it.

The president **went around** the state giving the same speech at every stop.

The exterminator is **going around** the house looking for rats.

5. **go around** p.v. When you **go around** in a certain condition or **go around** doing something, you go to various places and allow other people see you.

I was so embarrassed — I **went around** all day with my zipper open.

Are you going to **go around** all day wearing that stupid hat?

6. **go around** p.v. When you **go around** doing something, you go to various places and deliberately do something that may bother or upset other people.

The new manager **goes around** telling everyone how to do their jobs.

Don't **go around** sticking your nose in other people's business.

7. **go around** p.v. When something **goes around**, it spreads to various parts of a larger place.

A rumor **went around** that the plant was going to close.

He probably has the flu; it's been **going around**.

8. **go around** p.v. When something is being distributed to a group of people and there is enough for everyone, there is enough to **go around**.

There wasn't enough food to **go around**, and some of the famine victims got nothing.

Don't make the pieces of wedding cake too big, otherwise there won't be enough to **go around**.

Infinitiv

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
Go off	go off & goes off	going off	went off	gone off

1. **go off** p.v. When a gun **goes off**, it fires. When a bomb **goes off**, it explodes. When an alarm or alarm clock **goes off**, it makes a loud noise.

The terrorists were killed when the bomb **went off** accidentally.

I was late for work because my alarm clock didn't **go off**.

2. **go off** p.v. When an electrical device or system **goes off**, it stops operating. **Come on** is the opposite of **go off**.

The electricity **went off at** 8:30 last night.

A thermostat makes the air conditioner **go off** if it gets below a certain temperature.

3. **go off** (with) p.v. When you **go off**, you leave a place or the people you are with and go to a different place. When you **go off** with someone, you leave a place or the people you are with and go to a different place with them.

Mark **went off** not realizing he had left his wallet at home.

At the museum Sally **went off** with her friends to see some things we weren't interested in.

4. **go off** p.v. When an event or plan **goes off** well, smoothly, without a problem, or without a hitch (a **hitch** is a problem), it happens as planned.

The drug bust **went off** without a hitch.

The invasion didn't **go off** the way the general planned it.

5. **go off** p.v. When a road, trail, path, and so on, **goes off**, it leaves the main road, trail, or path, and goes in a different direction.

This trail that **goes off** to the left will take you to the campground.

We didn't know which way to go — one path **went off** to the left, the other to the right.

go on

go on & goes on

going on

went on

gone on

1. **go on** p.v. When an electrical device or system **goes on**, it begins to operate.

A thermostat makes the air conditioner **go on** if it gets above a certain temperature. The lights **goes on** automatically if someone walks near the door.

2. **go on** p.v. When something **goes on**, it happens. "What's **going on**?" is a common informal greeting.

Tell me what **went on** at the party last night. If you see anything illegal **going on**, call the police immediately.

3. **go on** p.v. When people go on, they continue doing something. Sometimes, **on** is repeated for emphasis.

/ asked her to be quiet, but she **went right on** singing.

Just **go on** with what you're doing. I'll wait until you're finished.

I told him to stop talking, but he **went on and on and on and on**.

4. **go on** p.v. When an event or activity **goes on**, it continues.

The party **went on** until dawn. I hate long meetings that **go on** for hours.

5. **go on** p.v. When you **go on** information, you are able to continue an investigation or other project because you have this information.

The detective said he needs more to **go on** and asked the public for information.

The auto company won't recall 75,000 cars because of one accident. That's just not enough to **go on**.

6. **go on** p.v. When you **go on** a diet, you start a plan to lose weight.

I **go on** a diet every January.

I have to **go on** a diet; my high school reunion is in two months.

7. **go on** p.v. When you say "Go on" to people, you are encouraging them to do something.

Yes, caviar is fish eggs, but it's good — **go on**, try it.

Oh, **go on** — don't be afraid.

Infinitive			
present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
hang around			
hang around & hangs around	hanging around	hung around	hung around

1. **hang around** p.v. [informal] When you **hang around** or **hang around** doing something, you stay in a place without a purpose for being there or because you are waiting for someone or something.

I had to **hang around** for three hours waiting for the bus.

Bob's been **hanging around** the house all day. Doesn't he have anything to do?

2. **hang around** p.v. [informal] When people stay in a place instead of leaving, they **hang around**.

What's the hurry? **Hang around** for a while, and when I finish my homework we can watch TV.

Do you have to go or can you **hang around** for a while?

3. **hang around** p.v. [informal] When you **hang around** people, you spend a lot of time with them. When you **hang around** a place, you spend a lot of time there.

Erik's mother is worried. She doesn't like the guys he's **hanging around** with.

Jim and Bill were good friends. They always **hung around** when they were kids.

Infinitive			
present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
lie around			
lie around & lies around	lying around	lay around	lain around

1. **lie around** p.v. When you **lie around** or **lie around** doing something, you recline and relax and do not do anything important.

Today is my day off, so don't ask me to do any work. I'm just going to **lie around**.

All my sister ever does is **lie around** watching soap operas.

2. **lie around** p.v. [always continuous] When something is **lying around**, it is disorganized and no one is using it or paying attention to it.

Jake is a slob. There are empty beer cans and old newspapers **lying around** all over his house.

We need to do something about all that junk **lying around** in the backyard.

start out

start out & starts out	starting out	started out	started out
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1. **start out** p.v. When you begin something, you **start out**. **Start out** is used to discuss how the end of something was different from its beginning.

The stock market **started out** in positive territory but closed 200 points lower.

Nancy **started out** as a secretary, thinking she might have a future with this company, but she doesn't feel that way anymore.

stay up

stay up & stays up	staying up	stayed up	stayed up
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1. **stay up** p.v. When something **stays up**, it remains in a place that is higher than ground level.

That shelf won't **stay up** if you put all those books on it.

The astronauts **stayed up** for 241 days.

2. **stay up** p.v. When you **stay up**, you go to bed later than you normally do.

Judy's tired because she **stayed up** until dawn studying for a chemistry test.

Don't **stay up** late — tomorrow's a school day.

EXERCISE 20a — Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

1. This is a dangerous neighborhood — so stay with me and don't _____ by yourself.
2. Yesterday at work Leticia _____ showing everyone her engagement ring.
3. Wedding ceremonies in some countries can _____ for days.
4. The bomb will _____ at exactly 6:00.
5. Where are you going? Why don't you _____ until Jim comes home and then we can order a pizza.
6. The driver took a wrong turn, and we _____ in the middle of nowhere.
7. On Sundays my husband usually _____ on the couch watching football games.
8. My lazy son _____ the house all day not lifting a finger to help with anything.
9. She's going to _____ at her new job working only part-time, but later she'll switch to full-time.
10. Buy lots of champagne for the party; you want to be sure there's enough to _____.
11. Bill likes to go to bed early — he can't _____ past 8:00 P.M.
12. Rosa wanted to study medicine in college, but she _____ studying law instead.
13. The paleontologist was amazed to find dinosaur eggs just _____ in the desert.
14. I can't believe you _____ town wearing those dirty clothes all day.
15. I'm sorry I missed the party. Did anything exciting _____?
16. I'm nervous about the wedding. I hope it _____ the way we planned it.
17. A rumor is _____ the school about two of the teachers.
18. It's normal for the power to _____ during a thunderstorm.
19. If that poster doesn't _____ with tape, we'll have to use thumb tacks instead.
20. In the morning Dr. Smith usually _____ the hospital visiting his patients.
21. Jim is usually a good boy, but when he _____ with Jake he gets in trouble.
22. He was trying to _____ a slow truck when he had the accident.
23. I _____ a diet two weeks ago, and so far I haven't lost an ounce.
24. In the past no one believed that the earth _____ the sun.
25. If you're leaving, what are you waiting for? _____, leave!
26. How can I make such an important decision with so little information? I need more to _____.
27. I'm surprised that the heat _____ last night — it's only September.
28. Miguel's new race car is really fast. Yesterday he _____ the track in record time.
29. After you cross the bridge, you'll see a gravel road that _____ a lake and heads toward the mountains.
30. I don't want to retire. I'm going to _____ working as long as I can.

EXERCISE 20b — Write answers to the questions using phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

1. You're going to spend the day on the sofa watching TV. What are you going to do all day?
2. Lydia walked to various places in her new house making decorating plans. What did Lydia do in her new house?
3. The letter was supposed to go to Austria, but it finally arrived in Australia. What happened to the letter?

4. The electricity stops working everyday at 2:00. What does the electricity do?
5. Joe called and asked what was happening. What did Joe ask?
6. Bob goes to every office at work telling awful jokes. What does Bob do at work?
7. Janice didn't go to bed all night. What did Janice do?
8. Dan stays in his house all day. He doesn't go anywhere or do anything. What does Dan do all day?
9. You were late to work because your alarm clock didn't ring this morning. What didn't your alarm clock do this morning?
10. Jerry went to many places wearing a Hawaiian shirt. What did Jerry do?
11. When it gets dark the street lights begin to operate automatically. What do the lights do?
12. I bought only twenty-five hot dogs for the party, but thirty people showed up, so some people didn't get a hot dog. Why didn't some people get a hot dog?
13. There are a lot of potholes in the street, and I have to avoid them while I'm driving. What do I have to do while I'm driving?
14. I couldn't decide between the red car and the blue car, but I finally decided on the red car. What did I finally do?
15. Mr. Watson is the brains of this company. If he left we couldn't continue. What couldn't we do without Mr. Watson?
16. Jane began the project thinking it would take only a few weeks. What did Jane do?

EXERCISE 20c — Write original sentences using these phrasal verbs from this section

and previous sections followed by the -ing form. The first number after the verb is the section; the second number is the meaning. It is only that meaning that can be followed by the -ing form. Try to make some of the sentences similar to those in the FOCUS section.

break down, 5/3	go on, 20/3	start out, 20/1
come over, 17/1,2,3	hang around, 20/1	stay up, 20/2
end up, 20/1	lie around, 20/1	take off, 1/7
go around, 20/4,5,6	show up, 1/1	wind up, 14/2
go off, 20/3	stand around, 18/11	

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____

10. _____
 11. _____
 12. _____
 13. _____
 14. _____
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EXERCISE 20d, 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.

aim at, 19	call off, 13	go about, 17	rip up, 17
blow away, 15	cool off, 19	go back, 19	screw out of, 3
break out, 9	dry out, 15	hear of, 8	see a bout, 7
bring over, 19	give up, 9	pay for, 4	work up, 9

1. My teacher made a mistake when he corrected my test and _____ me _____ ten points.
2. You'd better wear a jacket — it has _____ outside.
3. Her letter made me so mad that I _____ it _____.
4. You don't need to rake the leaves; the wind will _____ them _____.
5. We knew we didn't have any hope of winning the battle, so we _____.
6. You can't run ten miles on the first day of your exercise program. You have to _____ to it.
7. Michael didn't see the red light and hit a gasoline truck. He _____ his mistake with his life.
8. Sam asked me if I knew someone named Francisco, and I said I had never _____ him.
9. My family has been in Massachusetts since the seventeenth century. They _____ on the *Mayflower*.
10. Our trip to Miami was _____ because of the hurricane.
11. I'm going to _____ the dentist _____ getting my teeth whitened.
12. Do you know how to _____ getting a passport?
13. This rug is wet; let's take it outside to _____ in the sun.
14. The new restrictions on cigarette advertising are _____ reducing the level of teenage smoking.
15. They _____ of prison by tunneling under the prison wall.
16. We don't have enough plates for the party, so I called Maria and asked her to _____ some _____.