

41. FOCUS ON: two-word phrasal verbs with the particle in that require into when used with an object

We have seen in Sections 9 and 23 that some two-word phrasal verbs require a second particle when they are transitive, which makes them three-word phrasal verbs. Many phrasal verbs with the particle *in* have a meaning that relates to *entering or penetrating*. When what is being entered or penetrated is named, these verbs become transitive; however, this is not done by adding a second particle but by changing *in* to *into*. Another way to look at it is to consider *intro* two particles, *in* and *to*, written as one word:

*The thief **broke in**.*

*The thieves **broke into** the jewelry store.*

But this is true only for meanings of the phrasal verb that relate to entering or penetrating, not for all meanings. Some meanings with *in* have no *into* version (and are included in this section), and some meanings with *into* have no *in* version (and are not included in this section). Moreover, sometimes *into* is optional, and the verb can be used transitively with either *in* or *into*.

We see also in this section that there is often a phrasal verb with an opposite meaning with *in* and *into* corresponding to *out* and *out of*:

*I **sneaked in**.*

*I **sneaked out**.*

*I **sneaked into** the house.*

*I **sneaked out of** the house.*

Infinitive				
	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
break in	break in & breaks in	breaking in	broke in	broken in

1. break in/into p.v. When you **break in** or **break into** a place, you enter illegally using force or deception.

*A thief broke **in** and stole my TV.*

*When I saw the smashed glass in the street, I knew my car had been **broken into**.*

break-in n. A **break-in** is an illegal entry into a place using force or deception.

*The police investigated a **break-in** at the liquor store.*

2. break... in p.v. When you **break in** a new mechanical device or a car, you use it slowly and carefully until you are sure it ready for heavier use. When you **break in** a pair of shoes, you wear them only occasionally and for a short time until they are comfortable. When you **break in** people at a new job, you train and supervise them and give them less than the normal amount of work until they are ready for something more difficult.

*I don't want to wear these boots on the expedition. I haven't **broken them in** yet.*

*We're **breaking in** a new secretary, so things have been a bit confused at our office lately.*

broken in *part.adj.* After you **break in** a new mechanical device or a car, a pair of shoes, or people at a new job, they are **broken in**.

*I don't want to wear those shoes to the dance. They're not **broken in***

yet.

check in

check in & checks in

checking in

checked in

checked in

1. check in/into *p.v.* When you arrive at a hotel and arrange for a room, you **check in** or **check into** the hotel.

*After I arrive in Denver, I'll go straight to my hotel and **check in**.*

*Jim **checked into** the hotel while I called home to check on the kids.*

2. check... in *p.v.* When you arrive at an airport and give your ticket to an agent and receive a boarding pass, you **check in**.

*You should **check in** at least two hours before your flight.*

*You can wait over there in the lobby while I **check you in**.*

check-in *n.* The counter at an airport where you give your ticket to an agent and receive a boarding pass is the **check-in** or the **check-in** counter. The process of **checking in** is **check-in**.

*Before your flight you have to go to the **check-in** counter.*

3. check... in *p.v.* When you give your luggage to an airline agent so that it will be carried in the baggage compartment rather than the passenger compartment, you **check it in**.

*That bag is too big for carry-on — you'll have to **check it in**.*

checked in *part.adj.* Luggage that has been **checked in** or passengers that have **checked in** are **checked in**.

*Now that we're **checked in**, we can wait in the boarding lounge.*

4. check in (with) *p.v.* When you visit or call people briefly and regularly because you want to get or receive important information from them or to make sure that a situation you are both interested in is satisfactory, you **check in** or **check in** with them.

*After surgery, you'll need to **check in** once in a while to make sure the bone is healing properly.*

*If Hank doesn't **check in** with his parole officer every week, the police will arrest him.*

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
Check out	check out & checks out	checking out	checked out	checked out

1. check out (of) *p.v.* When you pay your bill, return your key, and leave a hotel, you **check out** or **check out** of the hotel.

*There's always a long line of people waiting to **check out** at that time of the morning.*

*Mrs. Gorcia **checked out** of her hotel and took a taxi to the airport.*

checked out *part.adj.* After you have paid your bill, returned your key, and left a hotel, you are **checked out**.

*Okay, we're **checked out**; now let's get a taxi and go to the airport.*

checkout *n.* The time before which you must **check out** of a hotel in order to avoid paying for another day is the **checkout** time.

*We can sleep late tomorrow; **checkout** time isn't until 1:00 P.M.*

1. check... out *p.v.* When you **check** a place or thing **out**, you inspect it carefully or learn more about it.

*That new Mexican restaurant is great — you should **check** it **out**.*

*Hey George, **check out** that car Toad is driving. When did he buy it?*

3. check ... out *p.v.* When you **check** people **out**, you investigate them in order to learn more about them. If you say that people **check out**, you mean that the information they have given you about themselves, such as their education and work experience, has been investigated and found to be accurate.

*Applicants for child care jobs should be thoroughly **checked out**.*

*Before you give that guy money to invest, you should **check** him **out**.*

*Frank didn't get the job he wanted with the CIA. Some things on his resume didn't **check out**.*

4. check out *p.v.* When you **check out** at a store, you bring the items you want to buy to the cashier and pay for them.

*The store's closing in a few minutes. We'd better **check out**.*

*Look at this line. It's going to take forever to **check out**.*

checkout *n.* The **checkout** or the **checkout** counter is where you pay for items in a store.

*You get the bathroom stuff, I'll get the groceries, and we'll meet at the **checkout** counter.*

Infinitive	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
go in	go in & goes in	going in	went in	gone in

1. **go in/into** *p.v.* When you **go in** or **go into** a place, building, room, and so on, you enter it.

*It's getting too dark to play tennis. Let's **go in**.*

*Frank **went into** the kitchen to get a cup of coffee.*

2. **go in** *p.v.* When something **goes in** or **goes into** a place, container, enclosure, and so on, it belongs there, fits there, or can be put there.

*That dish **goes in** the cabinet next to the stove.*

*All those clothes will never **go in** this small suitcase.*

3. **go in** *p.v.* When soldiers enter combat or an area where combat is likely, they **go in**. **Pull out** is the opposite of **go in**.

*The National Guard was ordered to **go in** and stop the riot.*

*The marine shouted, "We're **going in**!" as he jumped from the landing craft.*

let in

let in & lets in	letting in	let in	let in
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1. **let ...in/into** *p.v.* When you **let** people or things **in** or **let** people or things **into** a place, building, room, and so on, you allow them to enter by giving them permission to enter or by opening a door, gate, and so on.

*When the guests arrived, the butler opened the door to **let them in**.*

*The guard wouldn't **let me into** the stadium because I had forgotten my ticket.*

2. **let... in/into** *p.v.* When an opening, such as a window, door, hole, crack, and so on, allows something to enter, it **lets** it **in**.

*That small window doesn't **let in** enough light to read by.*

*The hole in the screen is **letting** the mosquitoes **into** the house.*

plug in

plug in & plugs in	plugging in	plugged in	plugged in
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1. **plug ...in/into** *p.v.* When you connect an electrical device to an electrical outlet, you **plug** it **in** or **plug** it **into** the outlet. When you connect any cord or cable to a socket designed to receive it, you **plug** it **in** or **plug** it **into** the socket.

*I **plugged** my 110-volt TV **into** a 220-volt outlet and ruined it.*

*This phone isn't broken; you just forgot to **plug** the phone cord*

***in**.*

- plugged in** *part.adj.* When an electrical device is connected to an electrical outlet, it is **plugged in**.

*Be careful with that iron — it's **plugged in**.*

Infinitive				
	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
sneak in	sneak in & sneaks in	sneaking in	sneaked in	sneaked in

1. sneak in/into p.v. When you enter a place without anyone seeing or hearing you, you **sneak in** or **sneak into** the place.

*When I was a kid I used to **sneak into** the movie theater through the emergency exit.*

*If you don't have a ticket for the game, you'll have to **sneak in**.*

sneak out

sneak out & sneaks out	sneaking out	sneaked out
sneaked out		

1. sneak out (of) p.v. When you leave a place without anyone seeing or hearing you, you **sneak out** or **sneak out** of the place.

*Susie's father told her to stay upstairs in her room, but she **sneaked out** through the window.*

*The principal caught me **sneaking out** of my chemistry class.*

EXERCISE 41 a — Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

- Close the door! You're _____ the bugs _____.
- One of the students _____ and stole the answers for the final exam.
- My grandfather always _____ a new car by not driving it over 50 miles per hour until it had gone 1,000 miles.
- Mark told me he bought a large-screen TV. Let's go to his house and _____ it _____.
- My laptop computer is in this bag, so I think it would be better to keep it with me on the flight than to _____ it _____.
- These speakers _____ sockets in the back of the stereo.
- Are you sure this is the right key for this lock? It won't _____.
- When I'm away on a business trip, I always _____ with my office every morning. 318
- I was late for class, so I waited until the teacher wasn't looking and _____.
- The soldiers were ordered to _____ and capture the enemy position.
- I don't trust that guy my daughter wants to marry. I'm going to _____ him _____.
- Dinner is being served. Let's _____ the dining room.
- There's a crack in the basement wall that's _____ water.
- At the supermarket you can _____ in the express line only if you have fewer than 15 items.
- We'll _____ the Grand Hotel on Wednesday.
- After a week at the hotel, we'll _____ and go home.
- Any burglar who tries to _____ my house is going to get a big surprise — I've got three big dogs that aren't very friendly.
- I _____ only 15 minutes before my flight time, and I almost missed the plane.

EXERCISE 41 b — Write answers to the questions using phrasal verbs, participle adjectives, and nouns from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

1. Janice entered the house quietly so that no one would hear her. What did Janice do?
2. Lydia unlocked the door so that her brother could enter the house. What did Lydia do?
3. Ms. Cummings paid her hotel bill and left. What did Ms. Cummings do?
4. In Question 3, Ms. Cummings had to leave the hotel before noon so that she would not have to pay for another day. What is noon at the hotel?
5. The window of Nancy's house was broken, and her jewelry, TV, and computer were gone. What happened to Nancy's house?
6. In Question 5, what happened at Nancy's house?
7. When I arrive at the airport, I'll give my ticket to the agent, and she'll give me a boarding pass. What will I do at the airport?
8. In Question 7, where will I go in the airport?
9. The room is full of cigarette smoke, and Karen doesn't want to enter it. What doesn't Karen want to do?
10. I saw an interesting house with a "for sale" sign on Pine Street as I was driving home. Tomorrow I'll stop and learn more about it. What will I do to the house tomorrow?
11. When Erik flies to Colorado to go skiing, he always gives his skis to the airline agent so that they will be put in the baggage compartment. What does Erik always do with his skis?
12. In Question 11, how would you describe Erik's skis after he gives them to the airline agent?
13. You opened the window quietly, when no one was looking, and left your house. What did you do?
14. Mr. Baker hasn't arrived at his hotel and arranged for a room yet. What hasn't Mr. Baker done yet?
15. Hank bought a new CD player and connected the plug to the outlet. What did Hank do?
16. In Question 15, how would you describe Hank's new CD player?
17. Before Ned was hired for his job in a nursing home, the human resources manager at the nursing home called his previous employer and asked questions about Ned. What was done to Ned?
18. My feet are killing me. It wasn't very smart to wear new hiking boots that aren't soft and comfortable. Why are my feet killing me?

EXERCISE 41 c — Write seven original sentences using phrasal verbs from this section.

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

EXERCISE 41 d, 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.

blow off, 40	help out, 33	start out, 20
come on, 37	leave over, 37	straighten out, 39
fill up, 39	let down, 37	take over, 39
get off on, 40	live with, 35	talk to, 37
go away, 40	narrow down, 35	
hang out, 37	put down, 36	

1. I hope you like spaghetti, because so much was _____ after the party that we're going to be eating it for a week.
2. My son has promised me a hundred times that he'll stay out of trouble and work harder in school, but he always _____ me _____.
3. I want to watch the news. It's going to _____ as soon as this game is over.
4. Even though you don't like your brother, you shouldn't _____ him _____ in front of his children.
5. Today _____ cold and rainy, but now the sun is out, and it's a lot warmer.
6. I can't drive because of my broken leg, but Carmen said she'd _____ me _____ if I need anything.
7. I've got an appointment to get my teeth cleaned tomorrow at 4:00, but if you want to go to the beach, I can _____ my appointment _____.
8. The company was considering eight cities for the new factory, but they've _____ it _____ to three.
9. A lot of the employees are confused about the new contract. We should ask management to have a meeting so that we can _____ everything _____.
10. Lydia is going to _____ for Judy during her maternity leave.
11. Her husband said he wasn't going to stop smoking and that she would just have to learn to _____ it.

12. The commercial on TV said that if you _____ your car's gas tank _____ with their gas, you'd get better mileage and a cleaner engine.

13. We're planning to _____ _____ for a few weeks. Would you mind watering our plants until we return?

14. David put a pool table and a pinball machine in his basement. It's a great place to _____
_____ and relax.

15. Can you believe how rude that guy was to me? Nobody has ever _____ _____ me like that before.

16. Bob is very kind and generous. He _____ _____ _____ helping other people.