

45. FOCUS ON: phrasal verbs with the verb *turn*

Many phrasal verbs are based on the verb *turn*. In most cases, phrasal verbs with *turn* involve two options and a change from one option to the other or, when it is possible, a move closer to one option and farther away from the other. In other words, choosing either A or B or, when it is possible to be somewhere between A and B, moving closer to A and farther away from B, or vice versa.

Infinitive	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
turn down	turn down & turns down	turning down	turned down	turned down

1. turn ...down p.v. When you **turn down** an electrical or mechanical device, you change the controls to decrease the level of what it is producing or doing. **Turn up** is the opposite of **turn down**.

*Could you **turn** the radio **down**? I'm trying to sleep.*

*If it gets too cold, I'll **turn down** the air conditioner.*

2. turn ... down p.v. When you deny a request, you **turn down** the request or **turn down** the person who has made the request.

*I asked Nancy to go to the dance with me, but she **turned me down**.*

*My request for a pay raise was **turned down**.*

*Getting **turned down** every time I apply for a job is getting me down.*

turn in

turn in & turns in	turning in	turned in	turned in
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1. turn ... in (to) p.v. When you inform the police that certain people have committed crimes or tell the police where they are, you **turn them in** or **turn them in** to the police.

*The escaped prisoner got tired of running and **turned himself in**.*

*When Jake told me that he had murdered Luis, I knew I had to **turn him in** to the police.*

2. turn ... in (to) p.v. When you return something that was given to you by a person in authority, you **turn that thing in** or **turn it in** to a person in authority. **Hand in** is similar to **turn in**.

*The police officer was ordered to **turn in** her badge after she was caught taking a bribe.*

*The delivery truck drivers have to **turn** their keys **in** to the dispatcher before they go home.*

3. turn ... in (to) p.v. When you complete a test, report, or project and you give it to the person who assigned the work to you, you **turn it in** or **turn it in** to the person who assigned the work. **Hand in** is similar to **turn in**.

Melan'ie asked her teacher if she could **turn** her project **in** late.
I have to finish this report and **turn it in** to the sales manager by tomorrow.

4. turn in p.v. When you go to bed, you **turn in**.

I'm really tired; I'm going to **turn in** early.

It's getting late; I'm **turning in**.

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
turn into	turn into & turns into	turning into	turned into	turned into

1. turn into p.v. When something **turns into** something else, it becomes that thing.

It was cold and rainy this morning, but it **turned into** a nice day.

It's amazing that this small seed can **turn into** a huge tree.

2. turn ...into p.v. When you **turn** something **into** something else, you change it into that thing.

The Youngs are thinking **of turning** their house in the country **into** a hotel.

The children **turned** the big box **into** a playhouse.

turn off

turn off & turns off	turning off	turned off	turned off
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1. turn ... off p.v. When you **turn off** an electrical or mechanical device, you change the controls to stop it from producing or doing something. Turn **on** is the opposite of **turn off**. **Switch off** and **shut off** are similar to **turn off**.

Would you **turn** the light **off**? I want to go to bed.

When I'm driving and have to wait for a long freight train to pass, I always **turn** my car **off**.

turned off part.adj. After you have changed the controls of an electrical or mechanical device to stop it from producing or doing something, it is **turned off**. **Turned on** is the opposite of **turned off**. **Switched off** and **shut off** are similar to **turned off**.

I can't see anything — the lights are **turned off**.

2. turn ... off p.v. [informal] Something that **turns** you **off** offends you and causes you to lose interest in something or someone. Something about a person of the opposite sex that **turns** you **off** causes you to lose sexual or romantic interest in that person. **Turn on** is the opposite of **turn off**.

When I met Dan I thought he was a nice guy, but his racist comments **turned** me **off**.

I got **turned off** when she lit a cigarette.

turned off part.adj. When something about a person of the opposite sex causes you to lose sexual or romantic interest in that person, you are **turned off**. **Turned on** is the opposite of **turned off**.

What's wrong with Nicole? She was having a good time with Frank a little while ago, but now she seems kind **of turned off**.

turnoff *n.* Something that offends you and causes you to lose interest in something or someone is a **turnoff**. Something about a person of the opposite sex that causes you to lose sexual or romantic interest in that person is a **turnoff**. A **turn-on** is the opposite of a **turnoff**.

*I don't like tattoos. To me they're a real **turnoff**.*

3. turn off *p.v.* When you **turn off** a road or path that you are traveling on, you leave it and start to travel on another road or path. When a road or path leaves another road or path and travels in a different direction, it **turns off**,

*Be careful you don't **turn off** the main road — you'll get lost.*

*The path to the cabin **turns off** just after the big tree stump.*

turnoff *n.* A road or path that leaves another road or path and travels in a different direction is a **turnoff**.

*We're lost — I think we should have taken that **turnoff** we passed a few miles back.*

Infinitive				
	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
turn on	turn on & turns on	turning on	turned on	turned on

1. turn ... on *p.v.* When you **turn on** an electrical or mechanical device, you change the controls to make it start producing or doing something. **Turn off** is the opposite of **turn on**. **Switch on** is the same as **turn on**.

*Can you **turn on** the light **on** please? It's dark in here.*

*This October has been so warm that I haven't **turned on** the heat **on** once yet.*

turned on *part.adj.* After you have changed the controls of an electrical or mechanical device to make it start producing or doing something, it is **turned on**. **Turned off** is the opposite of **turned on**. **Switched on** is similar to **turned on**.

*Be careful of the stove — it's **turned on**.*

2. turn ... on *p.v. [informal]* Something that **turns you on** pleases you and causes you to gain interest in something or someone. Something about a person of the opposite sex that **turns you on** causes you to become sexually or romantically interested in that person. **Turn off** is the opposite of **turn on**.

*When I saw this house from the outside, I didn't think I would buy it, but the beautiful woodwork inside really **turned me on**.*

*Erik's blue eyes **turn on** his wife.*

turned on *part.adj.* When something about a person of the opposite sex causes you to become sexually or romantically interested in that person, you are **turned on**. **Turned off** is the opposite of **turned on**.

*Paul was really **turned on** after seeing all the beautiful women in the Victoria's Secret catalog.*

turn-on *n.* Something that pleases you and causes you to gain interest in something or someone is a **turn-on**. Something about a person of the opposite sex that causes you to become sexually or romantically interested in that person is a **turn-on**. A **turnoff** is the opposite of a **turn-on**.

*I bought my wife an ankle bracelet for Valentines Day; I think they're a **turn-on**.*

3. turn on *p.v.* When people or animals that you had good relations with **turn on** you, they stop being friendly and try to hurt you.

Lydia used to be my friend, but now she's telling people terrible things about me.

*I wonder why she **turned on** me like that?*

*Wild animals don't make good pets. They can be friendly one minute and **turn on** you the next.*

4. turn... on (to) *p.v. [informal]* When you **turn** people **on** to something, you tell them about something you think they will like or something that will help them.

*Maria **turned** me **on** to a great Colombian restaurant.*

*This was a good book. Thanks for **turning** me **on** to it.*

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
turn out	turn out & turns out	turning out	turned out	turned out

1. turn out *p.v. [usually followed by "to be" plus an adjective, an infinitive verb plus a noun, or a complete sentence]* When things or people **turn out** to be a certain way, it is discovered or considered that they are that way. When things or people **turn out** to be something, it is discovered or considered that they are that thing. When you say that it **turns out** (that) or **turned out** (that) and then make a statement of fact, you mean that this information, which is contrary to what you believed or expected, was discovered to be true.

*I didn't think I would like my brother's new wife, but she **turned out** to be very nice.*

*Before I met Rusty's son, Danny, I assumed he had red hair like his father, but Danny **turned out** to have black hair.*

*I thought Sam bought a Mercedes-Benz, but it **turns out** that he bought a BMW.*

*I thought Sam bought a Mercedes-Benz, but it **turned out** that he bought a BMW.*

2. turn out *p.v.* When something **turns out**, it becomes what you want it to become. When something **turns out** a certain way, it becomes that way.

*Did the pictures you took at the wedding **turn out**?*

*The pictures **turned out** perfectly.*

*Your plan was excellent, but it didn't **turn out** well.*

3. turn... out *p.v.* When people, companies, factories, workshops, and so on, **turn out** something, they manufacture it or produce it.

*This new factory will **turn out** 50,000 units per year.*

*High schools in America are **turning out** people who can barely read.*

4. turn out (for) *p.v.* When people **turn out** or **turn out** for an event, they attend or participate in the event. When people **turn out** to do something, they go to a place to do it.

*Are you nuts? How many people do you think would **turn out** for an outdoor concert in the middle of winter?*

*Thousands of people **turned out** to see the Pope when he visited.*

turnout *n.* The number of people who attend or participate in an event is the **turnout**.

*Voter **turnout** for the election was only around 30 percent.*

Infinitive

	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
turn over	turn over & turns over	turning over	turned over	turned over

1. turn ... over *p.v.* When you **turn** something **over**, you move it so that the side that was on the bottom is on the top, and vice versa. When something **turns over**, it moves so that the side that was on the bottom is on the top, and vice versa.

*When one side of the steak is cooked, **turn** it **over** and cook the other side.*

*The driver was killed when his car **turned over**.*

2. turn ... over (to) *p.v.* When you give something to someone because that person demands or requires it or because you are not its rightful owner, you **turn it over** or **turn it over** to that person. **Hand over** is similar to **turn over**.

*The detective always **turns** the evidence from the crime scene **over** to the lab for analysis.*

*After the thieves are captured, the stolen items will be **turned over** to the rightful owners.*

3. turn ... over (to) *p.v.* When the police or other authorities are looking for people and you take these people or transfer control of them to the police or authorities, you **turn them over** or **turn them over** to the police or authorities.

*I caught a burglar in my basement, and I **turned** him **over** to the police.*

*The local police chief was relieved to **turn** the terrorist **over** to the FBI.*

4. turn over *p.v.* When employees of a company leave their jobs and are replaced by new employees, they **turn over**.

*Conditions at the factory were so bad that employees **turned over** at a high rate.*

*We have a very stable work force in our plant. Employees **turn over** very slowly.*

turnover *n.* The rate at which employees of a company leave and are replaced by new employees is the **turnover**.

*The new personnel manager said her top priority would be reducing the high **turnover**.*

5. turn over *p.v.* When a business **turns over** something that it sells, it continually sells it and replaces it with new merchandise.

We're **turning over** forty cases of bananas a week in this supermarket.

Snownobles and skis **turn over** very slowly in the summer.

turnover *n.* How much money a business has made in a certain time period is its **turnover**.

The company's annual **turnover** increased by 36 percent compared to the previous year.

Infinitive				
	present tense	-ing form	past tense	past participle
turn up	turn up & turns up	turning up	turned up	turned up

1. turn ...up *p.v.* When you **turn up** an electrical or mechanical device, you change the controls to increase the level of what it is producing or doing. **Turn down** is the opposite of turn up.

Will you **turn up** the TV? I can't hear it.

It was freezing in here last night, so I **turned up** the beat.

2. turn... up *p.v.* When you **turn up** something, you find it or learn of it as a result of an investigation or search. When something **turns up**, it is found or is learned of as a result of an investigation or search.

The police **turned up** enough evidence to convict Jake of murder.

Despite a thorough search, the murder weapon still hasn't **turned up**.

3. turn up *p.v.* When people or things **turn up** at a place, they appear there. **Show up** is similar to **turn up**.

It's hard to plan a picnic when I don't know how many people will **turn up**.

Every few years my worthless brother **turns up** at my door asking for money.

EXERCISE 45a — Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense.

- I thought going camping would be a lot of fun, but it sure didn't _____ that way.
- It's 2:30 in the morning — don't you think you ought to _____ soon?
- Heather was sort of interested in Tom, but his childish behavior _____ her _____.
- The store manager said that she usually _____ only twenty or twenty-five units per month.
- Jake thought Hank was his best friend, but Hank _____ Jake and now they're enemies.
- All the medical students must _____ their lab equipment _____ before leaving the lab.
- Any spies caught behind enemy lines will be _____ to the military for questioning.
- The investigation _____ evidence of corruption in City Hall.
- This old house looks pretty bad now, but with enough time and money, you could _____ it _____ something really nice.

10. I want to watch TV; please _____ it _____.
11. The volume is too low; please _____ it _____.
12. Now the volume is too high; please _____ it _____.
13. There's nothing good on TV; please _____ it _____.
14. The first thing I noticed when I met my wife for the first time was her beautiful smile; it really

_____ me _____.

15. Employees _____ at a very high rate in this industry.
16. Not many people are likely to _____ for the parade in this miserable weather.
17. The boy was given a reward for _____ the bag of money that he found in the street.
18. To get to Uncle John's house, you have to _____ the main road after you cross the bridge and drive north for three miles.
19. Mark knows a lot about wine. He's _____ me _____ to some excellent wines from California.
20. My supervisor _____ my request to be transferred to San Diego.
21. The first few chapters of this novel were a little boring, but now that I'm near the end, it's _____ to be a pretty good book.
22. Please _____ the carpet _____. I want to read the label on the back.

23. A huge crowd is expected to _____ at the airport to welcome the returning Stanley Cup champions.
24. This company has been _____ first-rate merchandise for a hundred years.
25. I told the teacher that I'd been in the hospital and wouldn't be able to _____ my project on time.
26. We've had one problem after another — this is _____ to be a bad day.
27. When Jake told his mother that he had murdered someone, she told him he had to _____ himself _____.

EXERCISE 45b — 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. Caterpillars become butterflies. What do caterpillars do?
2. Dan appeared at his uncle's funeral. What did Dan do?
3. Frank was thinking of asking Jane for a date, but when he saw her smoking one cigarette after another, he changed his mind. What did Jane's smoking do to Frank?
4. In Question 3, what does Frank think smoking is?
5. In Question 3, how did Frank feel when he saw Jane smoking?
6. Whenever my wife wears my favorite perfume, I feel romantic. What does the perfume do to me?
7. In Question 6, what do I think the perfume is?
8. In Question 6, how do I feel whenever my wife wears my favorite perfume?
9. You're changing the controls of the heater to make it warmer. What are you doing?
10. The rate at which old employees are replaced with new employees in my company is very low. What is very low at my company?
11. This factory manufactures 25,000 cars every year. What does the factory do?

12. Nicole didn't change the controls of her radio to make it louder. What didn't Nicole do?
13. The detective asked every bank employee a lot of questions about the missing money, but she hasn't discovered anything. What hasn't the detective done?
14. After the gas station went out of business, it was bought and changed into a Chinese restaurant. What happened to the gas station?
15. Sally wanted to dye her hair red, but it became orange. What did Sally's hair do?
16. Karen's father asked her if he could borrow enough money to pay his property taxes, and Karen couldn't say no to him. What couldn't Karen do?
17. Todd's company will probably make \$4 million this year. What will Todd's company probably do this year?
18. Ned hasn't given his paper to his teacher. What hasn't Ned done?
19. Lydia knows that her brother robbed a bank, but she's not going to tell the police. What isn't Lydia going to do to her brother?
20. So many people attended the political rally that there wasn't enough room in the auditorium. Why wasn't there enough room at the political rally?
21. In Question 20, the number of people who attended the rally was large. What was large?
22. David was too lazy to wash the rug, so he put the dirty side on the bottom and the clean side on the top. What did David do to the rug?

EXERCISE 45c — Write eight original sentences using phrasal verbs from this section.

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

EXERCISE 45d, 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.

beat up, 44	get by, 42	get over, 42	lock up, 44
carry away, 44	get down, 42	get up, 42	run up, 43
get back, 42	get in/into, 42	gross out, 43	stop off, 43
get behind, 42	get out, 42	head toward, 43	try on, 43

1. I lost a very expensive gold watch, and I'll be very surprised if I ever _____ it _____.
2. I had dinner with some friends, and we _____ a \$500 tab.
3. Have you _____ to see your parents in Alaska lately?
4. I should have _____ these pants _____ before buying them — they're too small.
5. Carlos was hitting his brother Alex, so Alex said to Carlos, "_____ of here!"
6. I called my brother in Miami and told him that I was leaving Boston at 8:40 in the morning and that I
 should _____ there around 1:00 in the afternoon.
7. I wish you'd chew with your mouth closed — you're _____ me _____.
8. Our flight won't _____ Santa Fe until after midnight.
9. After I leave Texas, I'm going to _____ Mississippi.
10. Karen's expecting me for dinner tonight at her house way out in the suburbs, but my car is in the
 shop. I don't know how I'm going to _____ there.
11. The night manager has to leave early tonight, so I'm going to _____ for him.
12. Hank had a fight with a guy in a bar and got _____ pretty badly.
13. I had a bad day at work, so I _____ at a bar for a drink before going home.
14. Sofia is having a lot of trouble in her history class and is _____ further and further _____.
15. After her husband died, she had a hard time _____ it.
16. You can use my credit card to buy a few things, but don't get _____.