COMMON PHRASAL VERBS FOR EXAMS AND GENERAL USE

#	Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example (Formal/Academic/Work Context)	Example (General/Conversational Context)
1	**Account for**	To explain the reason for; to make up a particular amount	Increased costs **account for** the drop in profits.	You need to **account for** all the money you spent on the trip.
2	**Add up**	To make sense; to calculate the total	His explanation didn't **add up**; the data contradicted it.	Can you **add up** these numbers for me?
3	**Ask for**	To request something	The report **asks for** immediate action on the findings.	If you need help, don't hesitate to **ask for** it.
4	**Back up**	To support; to make a copy of (data)	Please **back up** your claims with solid evidence.	Make sure you **back up** your important files regularly.
5	**Blow up**	To explode; to inflate; to enlarge (a photo)	The experiment **blew up** unexpectedly due to a chemical reaction.	Can you **blow up** these balloons for the party?
6	**Break down**	To stop functioning (machine); to lose control emotionally; to analyze	The negotiating team had to **break down** the complex proposal into smaller parts.	My car **broke down** on the way to work this morning.
7	**Break into**	To enter forcibly; to start doing something new	The company plans to **break into** the European market next year.	Someone tried to **break into** our house last night.
8	**Break off**	To end (a relationship, discussion, agreement)	They decided to **break off** diplomatic relations.	He suddenly **broke off** their engagement.
9	**Break out**	To start suddenly (war, fire, disease); to escape	A fire **broke out** in the laboratory overnight.	Several prisoners **broke out** of the local jail.
10	**Break up**	To end a relationship; to disperse (a crowd); finish school term	Police were called to **break up** the fight.	School **breaks up** for the summer holidays next week.
11	**Bring about**	To cause something to happen	The new policy is intended to **bring about** significant change.	Technology has **brought about** many changes in communication.
12	**Bring back**	To return something; to reintroduce	The museum decided to **bring back** the popular exhibit.	Visiting my old school **brought back** a lot of memories.
13	**Bring down**	To cause to fall; to reduce	The government aims to **bring down** inflation rates.	Scandals helped to **bring down** the previous administration.
14	**Bring up**	To raise (a child); to mention (a topic)	Please don't **bring up** that sensitive subject during the meeting.	My grandparents **brought me up** after my parents passed away.
15	**Call back**	To return a phone call	I'll ask Mr. Abera to **call you back** when he returns.	I missed your call earlier; I'll **call** you **back** later.
16	**Call for**	To require; to demand; to publicly ask for	The situation **calls for** immediate intervention.	The recipe **calls for** two cups of flour.
17	**Call off**	To cancel	They had to **call off** the conference due to the storm.	Let's **call off** the picnic; it looks like rain.
18	**Calm down**	To become less angry, upset, or excited	The mediator tried to help both parties **calm down**.	Take a deep breath and try to **calm down**.
19	**Carry on**	To continue doing something	Despite the difficulties, the team decided to **carry on** with the project.	Please **carry on** with your work while I take this call.
20	**Carry out**	To perform or complete a task or plan	The researchers will **carry out** a series of experiments.	The soldiers were ordered to **carry out** the mission.
21	**Catch up (with)**	To reach the same level or point as someone else	I need to **catch up on** my reading for this course.	Go ahead, I'll **catch up with** you later.
22	**Check in**	To register at a hotel or airport	Passengers should **check in** at least two hours before departure.	We need to **check in** at the hotel before 3 PM.
23	**Check out**	To leave a hotel; to investigate; to borrow (library)	Please **check out** of your room by noon.	Let's **check out** that new restaurant downtown.
24	**Cheer up**	To become happier or make someone happier	We tried to **cheer her up** after she received the bad news.	**Cheer up**! Things will get better soon.
25	**Clean up**	To make tidy; to stop illegal/immoral behavior	The committee was tasked to **clean up** the department's finances.	Can you help me **clean up** the kitchen after dinner?
26	**Come across**	To find or meet by chance	I **came across** an interesting article while researching.	I **came across** an old friend at the market yesterday.
27	**Come back**	To return	We expect the manager to **come back** from her trip next week.	What time did you **come back** home last night?
28	**Come**	To become sick with (an	Several students **came down with** the	I think I'm **coming down with** a

	down with	illness)	flu during exam week.	cold.
29	**Come up with**	To think of or produce (an idea, plan, solution)	The team needs to **come up with** a new marketing strategy.	She **came up with** a great idea for the party theme.
30	**Count on**	To rely on or depend on	You can **count on** our team to deliver the results.	I knew I could **count on** you to help me move.
31	**Cut back (on)**	To reduce (spending, consumption)	The company had to **cut back on** non-essential expenditures.	I need to **cut back on** sugary drinks.
32	**Cut down (on)**	To reduce the amount of	We need to **cut down on** paper usage in the office.	The doctor told him to **cut down on** salt.
33	**Cut off**	To stop the supply of; to interrupt; to disconnect	The storm **cut off** power to the entire region.	He **cut me off** in the middle of my sentence.
34	**Deal with**	To handle, manage, or cope with (a problem, person)	Customer service representatives must **deal with** complaints effectively.	How do you **deal with** stress before exams?
35	**Do without**	To manage without having something	Due to budget cuts, we'll have to **do without** new equipment this year.	We ran out of milk, so we'll have to **do without** it for breakfast.
36	**Dress up**	To wear formal or smart clothes	Attendees are expected to **dress up** for the awards ceremony.	Let's **dress up** and go out for a nice dinner tonight.
37	**Drop by/in**	To visit informally or briefly	Feel free to **drop by** my office if you have any questions.	I might **drop in** on my aunt on my way home.
38	**Drop off**	To deliver someone/something; to fall asleep	Can you **drop off** this report at the main office?	I must have **dropped off** while watching the movie.
39	**Drop out (of)**	To stop participating (school, race, competition)	He **dropped out of** university after his first year.	Several runners **dropped out of** the marathon due to the heat.
40	**Eat out**	To eat at a restaurant	The team decided to **eat out** to celebrate the project's completion.	We usually **eat out** on Friday nights.
41	**End up**	To finally be in a particular place or situation	If we don't plan carefully, we could **end up** over budget.	We got lost and **ended up** on the wrong side of town.
42	**Fall apart**	To break into pieces; to fail; to become emotional	The old book **fell apart** in my hands.	Their relationship started to **fall apart** after the argument.
43	**Fall behind**	To fail to keep up with	If you miss classes, you might **fall behind** in your studies.	He **fell behind** the other runners early in the race.
44	**Fall for**	To be deceived by; to fall in love with	Investors should be wary not to **fall for** pyramid schemes.	He **fell for** her the moment he saw her.
45	**Fall out (with)**	To argue with someone and stop being friends	The business partners **fell out over** financial disagreements.	My sister and I **fell out** last week, but we've made up now.
46	**Fall through**	To fail to happen or be completed (plans, deals)	Our funding application **fell through** at the last minute.	Our plans to go camping **fell through** because of the rain.
47	**Figure out**	To understand or solve something	Researchers are trying to **figure out** the cause of the disease.	Can you help me **figure out** how this gadget works?
48	**Fill in**	To complete (a form); to substitute for someone	Please **fill in** this application form completely.	Could you **fill in** for me at the meeting tomorrow?
49	**Fill out**	To complete (a form)	Applicants must **fill out** all sections of the questionnaire.	You need to **fill out** a registration card.
50	**Find out**	To discover information	We need to **find out** the deadline for the submission.	I need to **find out** what time the train leaves.
51	**Focus on**	To concentrate on	This seminar will **focus on** effective communication strategies.	Try to **focus on** your homework and ignore the distractions.
52	**Get along (with)**	To have a friendly relationship with	It's important for team members to **get along** with each other.	Do you **get along** well with your new neighbors?
53	**Get away**	To escape; to go on vacation	The suspect managed to **get away** from the police.	We hope to **get away** for a few days next month.
54	**Get back**	To return; to receive something again	When do you expect to **get back** from your business trip?	Can I **get** my book **back** when you're finished with it?
55	**Get by**	To manage to survive or live with difficulty	With the current low salary, it's hard to **get by**.	We don't have much money, but we manage to **get by**.
56	**Get in/into**	To enter (a car, building, etc.)	Please **get in** the car; we're leaving now.	How did the mouse **get into** the house?
57	**Get off**	To leave (a bus, train, plane); to finish work	We need to **get off** at the next station.	What time do you usually **get off** work?
58	**Get on**	To board (a bus, train, plane); to manage or progress	You need a ticket before you can **get on** the bus.	How are you **getting on** with your new project?

59	**Get out (of)**	To leave or escape; to avoid doing something	Please **get out of** the building immediately during a fire drill.	He tried to **get out of** washing the dishes.
60	**Get over**	To recover from (illness, disappointment, relationship)	It took her a long time to **get over** the flu.	He's still trying to **get over** his breakup.
61	**Get rid of**	To eliminate or dispose of	The company needs to **get rid of** inefficient processes.	Let's **get rid of** these old clothes we never wear.
62	**Get together**	To meet socially	The research group plans to **get together** next week to discuss progress.	Let's **get together** for coffee sometime soon.
63	**Get up**	To rise from bed; to stand up	I usually **get up** at 6 AM for my studies.	Please **get up**; the teacher is here.
64	**Give away**	To reveal (a secret); to give something for free	Be careful not to **give away** the surprise ending of the report.	They decided to **give away** free samples at the store opening.
65	**Give back**	To return something to its owner	You must **give back** the library books by the due date.	Don't forget to **give** me **back** my pen when you're done.
66	**Give in**	To surrender; to yield	After hours of negotiation, they finally **gave in** on a few points.	The children kept asking for ice cream until their parents **gave in**.
67	**Give up**	To stop trying; to quit (a habit)	Don't **give up** on your research; persistence is key.	He decided to **give up** smoking for his health.
68	**Go ahead**	To proceed; to start	Please **go ahead** with the presentation.	"**Go ahead**, you can use my phone," she said.
69	**Go away**	To leave a place	The manager asked the disruptive person to **go away**.	I wish this headache would **go away**.
70	**Go back**	To return to a place	After the conference, she will **go back** to her university.	Let's **go back** home; it's getting late.
71	**Go down**	To decrease; to sink; to happen	Prices are expected to **go down** after the holidays.	The ship **went down** during the storm.
72	**Go off**	To explode (bomb); to ring (alarm); to spoil (food)	The alarm clock **went off** at 5 AM.	The milk **went off** because it was left out of the fridge.
73	**Go on**	To continue; to happen	Please **go on** with your explanation.	What's **going on** here? Why is everyone shouting?
74	**Go out**	To leave home for entertainment; to stop burning (fire/light); to date	They often **go out** for dinner on weekends.	The lights suddenly **went out** during the storm.
75	**Go over**	To review or examine	Let's **go over** the main points of the report one more time.	Could you **go over** my essay for any mistakes?
76	**Go through**	To experience difficulty; to examine carefully	The company **went through** a difficult period last year.	I need to **go through** these documents before the meeting.
77	**Go up**	To increase; to be built	The demand for renewable energy is expected to **go up**.	A new office building is **going up** downtown.
78	**Grow up**	To become an adult	She **grew up** in a small village in the countryside.	What do you want to be when you **grow up**?
79	**Hand in**	To submit (homework, report)	Students must **hand in** their assignments by Friday.	Please **hand in** your keys when you check out.
80	**Hand out**	To distribute	The teacher will **hand out** the exam papers now.	Volunteers were **handing out** flyers for the event.
81	**Hang on**	To wait	**Hang on** a moment, I need to check my notes.	**Hang on**, I'll be ready in five minutes.
82	**Hang up**	To end a phone call; to hang clothes	He **hung up** before I could explain the situation.	Please **hang up** your coat in the closet.
83	**Hold on**	To wait (especially on the phone)	Please **hold on** while I transfer your call.	**Hold on** tight, the bus is about to move!
84	**Hurry up**	To do something more quickly	We need to **hurry up** if we want to finish the report on time.	**Hurry up**, or we'll miss the train!
85	**Keep on**	To continue doing something	Despite the setbacks, they decided to **keep on** working.	Just **keep on** trying; you'll succeed eventually.
86	**Keep up (with)**	To maintain the same pace or level	It's challenging to **keep up with** the rapid advancements in technology.	He walks so fast, it's hard to **keep up with** him.
87	**Let down**	To disappoint	The team felt they had **let down** their supporters.	I promised I'd be there, and I don't want to **let** you **down**.
88	**Log in/on**	To access a computer system or account	You need a username and password to **log in** to the portal.	I can't **log on** to my email account.

89	**Log out/off**	To exit a computer system or account	Remember to **log out** of your account when using a public computer.	Don't forget to **log off** before you leave.
90	**Look after**	To take care of	She has to **look after** her younger siblings after school.	Could you **look after** my cat while I'm away?
91	**Look for**	To search for; to seek	The company is **looking for** candidates with strong analytical skills.	I'm **looking for** my keys; have you seen them?
92	**Look forward to**	To anticipate with pleasure (+ noun or -ing form)	We **look forward to** receiving your proposal.	I'm really **looking forward to** the holiday weekend.
93	**Look into**	To investigate or examine	The committee will **look into** the matter further.	The police are **looking into** the cause of the accident.
94	**Look out**	To be careful	**Look out**! There's a car coming!	You should **look out** for pickpockets in crowded areas.
95	**Look up**	To search for information (in a dictionary, online); to improve	You can **look up** unfamiliar terms in the glossary.	Things are finally starting to **look up** for their business.
96	**Make out**	To discern or understand; to manage to see or hear; (informal: kiss)	I couldn't quite **make out** what he was saying over the noise.	Can you **make out** the sign in the distance?
97	**Make up**	To invent (a story); to reconcile; to compensate for; constitute	He **made up** an excuse for being late to the meeting.	They argued last night, but they **made up** this morning.
98	**Mix up**	To confuse	I always **mix up** their names because they look so similar.	The documents got **mixed up** on my desk.
99	**Pass away**	To die (euphemism)	Her grandfather **passed away** peacefully last year.	We were sad to hear that our old neighbor **passed away**.
100	**Pass out**	To faint; to distribute	He **passed out** from the heat during the ceremony.	The teacher **passed out** the worksheets to the students.
101	**Pick up**	To collect; to lift; to learn quickly; to answer the phone	Can you **pick up** the report from the printing office?	Could you **pick** that book **up** off the floor for me?
102	**Point out**	To indicate or draw attention to	The report **points out** several areas needing improvement.	He **pointed out** an error in my calculations.
103	**Put away**	To put something in its proper place; to save money	Please **put away** the equipment after use.	It's important to **put away** some money each month for emergencies.
104	**Put down**	To insult; to write down; to suppress; to euthanize	It's unprofessional to **put down** colleagues in front of others.	Can you **put down** your contact details here?
105	**Put off**	To postpone; to discourage	The meeting has been **put off** until next Tuesday.	The bad smell **put** me **off** my food.
106	**Put on**	To wear clothes; to gain weight; to organize an event	Please **put on** your safety goggles before entering the lab.	He's **put on** a few kilos since Christmas.
107	**Put out**	To extinguish (fire); to inconvenience	Firefighters worked hard to **put out** the blaze.	Would it **put** you **out** if I stayed an extra night?
108	**Put through**	To connect someone by phone	Could you **put** me **through** to the sales department, please?	Hold on, I'll **put** you **through** now.
109	**Put up with**	To tolerate or endure	Staff should not have to **put up with** abusive behavior.	I don't know how she **puts up with** his constant complaining.
110	**Run into**	To meet someone by chance	I **ran into** Professor Evans at the conference yesterday.	Guess who I **ran into** at the supermarket!
111	**Run out (of)**	To exhaust the supply of something	We've **run out of** printer paper; we need to order more.	Oh no, we've **run out of** milk!
112	**Set off**	To start a journey; to trigger (an alarm, bomb)	They plan to **set off** early to avoid traffic.	Opening the door **set off** the security alarm.
113	**Set up**	To establish (a business, system); to arrange (a meeting)	They **set up** a new company specializing in software development.	Can we **set up** a meeting for next week?
114	**Show up**	To arrive or appear	All participants are expected to **show up** on time for the workshop.	He promised he'd come, but he didn't **show up**.
115	**Shut down**	To close a business; to turn off a machine	The factory had to **shut down** due to lack of orders.	Remember to **shut down** your computer properly.
116	**Take after**	To resemble (a parent or relative)	He **takes after** his father in his love for music.	She really **takes after** her mother, doesn't she?
117	**Take off**	To remove (clothing); to leave the ground (aircraft); become successful	Please **take off** your shoes before entering the house.	The plane is scheduled to **take off** in 20 minutes.

118	**Take over**	To assume control of	The new manager will **take over** the department next month.	The larger company plans to **take over** its smaller rival.
119	**Take up**	To start (a hobby); to occupy (space, time)	She decided to **take up** photography as a new hobby.	This new project will **take up** a lot of my time.
120	**Turn down**	To reject (an offer, request); to reduce volume/heat	He had to **turn down** the job offer because the salary was too low.	Could you please **turn down** the music? It's too loud.