Phrasal Verbs

Some verbs are **two part** verbs (see Clauses, Sentences and Phrases). They consist of a **verb**and a **particle**:

* grow + up
>> The children are growing up.

Often this gives the verb a **new meaning**:

* take + after
>> She takes after her mother
= She looks like her mother, or She behaves like her mother.
* count + on
>> I know I can count on you
= I know I can trust you, or I know I can believe you.

Some **transitive**two part verbs have **only one**pattern:

**N (subject) + V + p + N (object)**

*[Note: N = noun; V = verb; p = particle]*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| N (Subject) |  Verb | Particle |  N (Object) |
| SheIMy father | takescan countcomes | afteronfrom | her motheryouMadrid |

Some transitive two part verbs (see Clauses, Sentences and Phrases) are **phrasal verbs**. Phrasal verbs have **two different patterns**:

• The usual pattern is: **N + V + N + p**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| N (Subject) | Verb | (N) Object | Particle |
| SheHeWe | gaveknockedwill be leaving | the moneythe glassour friends and neighbours | backoverbehind |

• But sometimes these verbs have the pattern: **N (subject) + V + p + N (object)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| N (Subject) | Verb | Particle | N (Object) |
| SheHeWe | gaveknockedwill be leaving | backoverbehind | the moneythe glassour friends and neighbours |

When the object is a **personal pronoun**,these verbs always have the pattern:

**N + V +N + p:**

* ~~She gave back it~~
>> She gave it back
* ~~He knocked over it~~
 >> knocked it over
* ~~We will be leaving behind them~~
>> We will be leaving them behind

• Phrasal verbs are nearly always made up of a **transitive verb**and a **particle**. **Common verbs**with their most frequent particles are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| bring: | about, along, back, forward, in, off, out, round, up |
| buy: | out, up |
| call: | off, up |
| carry: | off, out |
| cut: | back, down, off, out, up |
| give: | away, back, off |
| hand: | back, down, in, on out, over, round |
| knock: | down, out, over |
| leave: | behind, out |
| let: | down, in, off, out |
| pass: | down, over, round |
| point: | out |
| push: | about, around, over |
| put: | across, away, down, forward, off, on, out, through, together, up |
| read: | out |
| set: | apart, aside, back, down |
| shut: | away, in, off, out |
| take: | apart, away, back, down, in, on, up, over |
| think: | over, through, up |
|   |   |