PRAKTISCHE LEKTION

Phrasal Verbs

Lektionskategorie: Mësimet në gjuhë angleze

> Understand verb plus particle combinations, the difference between separable and inseparable types, and where pronouns must go. Includes everyday examples and the formal single-word alternatives.

Phrasal Verbs

A **phrasal verb** is a verb combined with a particle — a preposition or adverb — that together mean something different from the verb alone. *Look* means to direct your eyes; *look after* means to take care of; *look up* means to search for information. They are everywhere in spoken English, and avoiding them makes speech sound stiff.

Learning objectives

- Recognise a phrasal verb and understand why its meaning is not literal.
- Distinguish separable from inseparable types.
- Place object pronouns correctly.
- Choose between a phrasal verb and its formal equivalent.

The structure

Type	Structure	Example
Verb + particle, no object	intransitive	*The plane **took off**.*
Verb + particle + object	transitive, often separable	*She **turned on** the light.*
Verb + preposition + object	inseparable	*I'm **looking after** the children.*
Verb + particle + preposition	three-part, inseparable	*I **look forward to** your reply.*

Separable phrasal verbs

With these, a noun object can go either before or after the particle:

- *Turn **on** the light.* ✓
- *Turn the light **on**.* ✓

But a **pronoun** object must go in the middle. This is the rule learners break most often:

- *Turn **it** on.* ✓
- *Turn on it.* ✗

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Common separable verbs: *turn on/off, put on, take off, pick up, throw away, fill in, give up, look up, switch on, try on, work out, bring up, call off, put off.*

Inseparable phrasal verbs

These never split, even with a pronoun:

- *I'm looking after **them**. ✓* — not *looking them after*
- *She takes after **her mother**.*
- *We ran into **him** yesterday.*

Common inseparable verbs: *look after, look for, take after, run into, get over, deal with, come across, look forward to, get on with, put up with.*

Everyday phrasal verbs by topic

Topic	Verb	Meaning	Example
Daily routine	get up	rise from bed	*I **get up** at seven.*
Daily routine	put on	dress in	*She **put on** her coat.*
Technology	turn on / off	start / stop a device	***Turn off** the TV.*
Study	look up	find information	***Look up** the word.*
Study	give up	stop trying	*Don't **give up**.*
Social	get on with	have a good relationship	*I **get on with** my colleagues.*
Travel	check in	register at a hotel	*We **checked in** at noon.*
Problems	deal with	handle	*She **dealt with** the complaint.*
Plans	call off	cancel	*They **called off** the match.*
Plans	put off	postpone	*We **put off** the meeting.*

Formal alternatives

Phrasal verbs belong to everyday English. In formal or academic writing, a single Latin-based verb is often preferred.

Phrasal verb	Formal equivalent
put off	postpone
call off	cancel
find out	discover
go on	continue
set up	establish
carry out	conduct, perform

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Phrasal verb	Formal equivalent
look into	investigate
bring about	cause

One verb, several meanings

The same combination can mean different things, so context decides:

- *take off* — remove clothing / leave the ground / become successful
- *make up* — invent a story / become friends again / apply cosmetics
- *pick up* — lift / collect someone / learn informally

Common mistakes

Mistake	Correct	Why
Turn on it.	**Turn it on.**	pronouns go in the middle
I'm looking them after.	**I'm looking after them.**	inseparable verb
I look forward to hear from you.	**I look forward to hearing from you.**	*to* here is a preposition, so *-ing* follows
She takes to her mother.	**She takes after her mother.**	wrong particle
Using phrasal verbs in a formal report	use the single-word equivalent	register

Learning tips

1. Learn phrasal verbs in full sentences, never as isolated pairs — the particle only makes sense in context.
2. Group them by topic (travel, technology, relationships) rather than alphabetically.
3. Test yourself with pronouns: if you can say *turn it on*, you know the verb is separable.

Summary checklist

- Does the combination have a non-literal meaning?
- Is it separable or inseparable?
- If the object is a pronoun, is it in the right place?
- Is a phrasal verb appropriate for this register?

Shpjegim në gjuhën shqipe

Rregulli i anglishtes, i shpjeguar në shqip

Një **phrasal verb** është një folje e bashkuar me një grimcë — parafjalë ose ndajfolje — që së bashku kanë një kuptim **të ndryshëm** nga folja e vetme. *Look* do të thotë «shikoj», por *look after* do të thotë «kujdesem për» dhe *look up* «kërkoj një informacion».

Ato ndahen në dy grupe. Te **foljet e ndashme**, kundrinori i shprehur me emër mund të qëndrojë ose para ose pas grimcës: *Turn on the light* dhe *Turn the light on* janë të dyja të sakta. Por nëse kundrinori është **përemër**, ai duhet të qëndrojë detyrimisht **në mes**:

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*Turn **it** on*, kurrë *Turn on it*.

Te **foljet e pandashme** grimca nuk shkëputet kurrë, as edhe me përemër: *I'm looking after **them***.

Ka edhe folje me tri pjesë, të cilat janë gjithmonë të pandashme: *look forward to*, *get on with*, *put up with*.

Në ligjërimin zyrtar shpesh preferohet një folje e vetme me rrënjë latine: *put off* zëvendësohet me *postpone*, *find out* me *discover*.

Ekuivalenti në gjuhën shqipe

Shqipja nuk ka phrasal verbs. Atë që anglishtja e shpreh me folje plus grimcë, shqipja e shpreh me një **folje të vetme** ose me një folje plus parafjalë të ngulitur.

Anglisht	Shqip	Vërejtje
get up	zgjohem, ngrihem	folje e vetme
look after	kujdesem për	folje + parafjalë
look for	kërkoj	folje e vetme
look up	kërkoj në fjalor	shprehje
turn on / off	ndez / fik	folje krejt të ndryshme
give up	dorëzohem, heq dorë	folje e vetme
put off	shtyj	folje e vetme
find out	zbuloj, marr vesh	folje e vetme
get on with	shkoj mirë me	shprehje

Vini re se *turn on* dhe *turn off* përkthehen me dy folje krejt të ndryshme, *ndez* dhe *fik*. Kjo e tregon qartë se grimca nuk është parafjalë e zakonshme, por pjesë e kuptimit.

Ku ndryshojnë dy gjuhët

- **Struktura.** Meqë shqipja nuk e ka këtë ndërtim, folësit e shqipes priren ta përkthejnë grimcën fjalë për fjalë, gjë që jep rezultate të pakuptueshme.
- **Vendi i përemrit.** Shqipja e vendos përemrin para foljes (*e ndez*); anglishtja e vendos midis foljes dhe grimcës (*turn it on*). Ky është gabimi më i shpeshtë.
- **Regjistri.** Në shqip folja e vetme është neutrale. Në anglisht folja e vetme është **formale**, kurse phrasal verb-i është i zakonshëm në bisedë. Prandaj shmangia e tyre e bën anglishten të tingëllojë të ngurtë.

Gabime të zakonshme të folësve të shqipes

Gabimi	E saktë	Pse
Turn on it.	**Turn it on.**	përemri shkon në mes
I'm looking them after.	**I'm looking after them.**	folje e pandashme
I look forward to hear from you.	**I look forward to hearing from you.**	*to* këtu është parafjalë

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Gabimi	E saktë	Pse
I search my keys.	**I'm looking for my keys.**	përkthim i drejtpërdrejtë i *kërkoj*

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