

The most useful phrasal verbs





Welcome

A phrasal verb is a verb that is made up of a main verb together with an adverb or a preposition, or both. Typically, their meaning is not obvious from the meanings of the individual words themselves.

There are many phrasal verbs in English and each one has a different meaning. The majority of them are slang and occur most frequently in spoken language. This eBook will help you master the most useful phrasal verbs so you can use English as naturally as a native speaker.



Chào bạn!

Cum đông từ (Phrasal verbs) là sư kết hợp giữa một động từ chính và một trang từ (adverb) hoặc một giới từ (preposition), hoặc là cả hai. Thông thường, ngữ nghĩa của cụm động từ rất khó đoán và dựa vào nghĩa của đông từ và giới từ tao thành nó.

Trong tiếng Anh, có vô vàn các cum đông từ mang ý nghĩa hoàn toàn khác nhau. Phần lớn, chúng đều là tiếng lóng và thường xuất hiện trong các cuộc đối thoại hằng ngày của người bản ngữ. Quyển eBook này giúp bạn nắm vững ý nghĩa và cách sử dụng các cụm động từ thông dung nhất để có thể dùng tiếng Anh tự nhiên như người bản ngữ.







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Act

1. Act on

- Take action as a result of advice, information, etc.
- Hành động dựa trên lời khuyên hoặc thông tin nào đó.
- E.g. I'm acting on the advice of my lawyers.

2. Act out

- (To) perform a ceremony or show how something happened, as if performing a play.
- Biểu diễn một nghi thức, diễn tả việc gì đó đã xảy ra như thế nào hoặc trình diễn một vở kịch.
- E.g. She acted out the scene in the classroom.





Act

3. Act up

a. (To) behave badly.

Cư xử không tốt

E.g. The kids started acting up.

b. (To) not work as it should.

Không hoạt động được như bình thường

E.g. How long has your ankle been acting up?



Add

4. Add up

- a. To seem reasonable; to make sense.
- Làm cho hợp lí
- E.g. His story just doesn't add up.
- b. (To) increase gradually until there is a large amount.
- Tăng dần cho đến khi có một trữ lượng lớn
- E.g. When you're feeding a family of six, the bills soon add up.
- c. To calculate the total of two or more numbers or amounts.
- Tính toán tổng số lượng của một thứ gì đó
- E.g. Add up all the money I owe you.







Add

5. Add on

- (To) include an extra thing or amount in something.
- Thêm vào số lượng hoặc một thứ gì đó
- E.g. a. A service charge of 15% was added on to the bill.b. We've added on a couple of rooms to the house.

6. Add in

- (To) include something as part of something else.
- bao gồm một phần của thứ gì đó
- E.g. a. We need to add in some information about his family background.b. Remember to add in the cost of drinks.

Agree

7. Agree with

- a. Have the same opinion as some else.
- 💌 Đồng tình với ai đó
- E.g. I agree with you. I think she deserves the award too.
- b. Affect usually used in the negative to show that something has had a negative effect, especially if it makes you feel bad.
- Ánh hưởng, thường dùng theo ý tiêu cực, cho thấy ảnh hưởng của một điều gì đó khiến bạn thấy khó chịu.
- E.g. I feel terrible- that food didn't agree with my stomach.





Agree

8. Agree to (something)

- (To) accept something.
- Chấp nhận một điều gì đó
- E.g. a. Both sides in the conflict have agreed to the terms of the peace treaty.
 - b. They are unlikely to agree to these plans unless the cost is reduced.

9. Agree on

- (To) accept a proposal or idea in accord with others; to reach a consensus.
- Chấp nhận một lời đề nghị hoặc ý tưởng trên hợp đồng với người khác, tìm kiếm sự đồng thuận
- E.g. a. The union and the company have finally agreed on the terms of the new contract.
 - b. Bob and Sheila are both so busy that they can't agree on a date for the party.

Ask

10. Ask after

- (To) say that you would like to know how somebody is, what they are doing, etc.
- 💌 🛮 Hỏi thăm về tình trạng của ai đó, muốn biết họ đang làm gì...
- E.g. a. She always asks after you in her letters.b. I met Bob and he asked after you.

11. Ask around

- (To) ask several people for information or advice.
- Hỏi thông tin hoặc thăm dò ý kiến từ những người xung quanh
- E.g. a. I don't know of any vacancies in the company but I'll ask around.b. I asked around, but nobody had seen him for days.







12. Ask (someone) in

- (To) invite someone into a place.
- Mời một người vào nơi nào đó.
- E.g. a. We asked them into the house.
 - b. We met our friends in the hallway and asked them in.

13. Ask out

- (To) invite somebody to go out with you, especially as a way of starting a romantic relationship.
- Mời ai đó ra ngoài cùng bạn, thường dùng cho những tình huống hẹn hò
- E.g. a. He's too shy to ask her out.b. Bill still hasn't asked me out—maybe he doesn't have romantic feelings for me after all.





*QUIZ 1: Check your understanding with these comprehension questions

1. My boy ____ when his teacher left the room.

- a) acted like
- b) acted up
- c) acted on
- d) acted upon

2. She ____ the advice of her doctor to reduce stress.

- a) acted up
- b) acted like
- c) acted on
- d) acted in

3. How much the groceries ______ to?

- a) add in
- **b)** add up
- c) add on
- **d)** add

4. I don't believe them. Their story doesn't add!

- a) in
- **b)** on
- **c)** up
- d) forward

Answers >



*QUIZ 1: Check your understanding with these comprehension questions

5. She's waiting for him to ask her ____.

- a) in
- **b)** on
- c) up to
- **d)** out

6. Larry asked after you, so I told him_____.

- a) your age
- **b)** you're fine
- c) where you went
- **d)** your job

7. Living near the sea must agree with me. Since moving here, I've____.

- a) hardly ever been sick
- **b)** often been sick
- c) felt annoyed
- d) constantly been sick

8. You should _____ the costs of the tickets, the popcorn, and soda.

- a) add on
- **b)** add up
- c) add in
- d) add over

Answers >

14. Back away (from somebody/ something)

- (To) move away backwards from somebody/
 something that is frightening or unpleasant; (to) avoid
 doing something that is unpleasant.
- Lùi lại phía sau để tránh khỏi một ai đó hoặc thứ gì đó vì hoảng sợ hoặc không thoải mái, tránh làm một việc gì đó bản thân không thích hoặc chán ghét.
- E.g. a. When he saw the dog, he backed away.
 - b. The photo showed a woman backing away from a man with a gun.





15. Back down

- (To) take back a demand, an opinion, etc. that other people are strongly opposed to; to admit defeat.
- Rút lại lời đề nghị hoặc ý kiến bị người khác phản đối kịch liệt, thừa nhận thất bại
- E.g. a. Local authorities backed down on their plans to demolish the cinema.b. She refused to back down on a point of principle.

16. Go back over

- (To) go back over something means to repeat it or discuss it again for the second time.
- Lặp lại hoặc đề cập lại một vấn đề nào đó lần thứ 2
- E.g. a. Good teachers go back over what they taught in a lesson at least twice before moving to the next topic. b. Can we go back over the safety steps again before jumping out of the plane?



17. Back out

- (To) decide not to do something you agreed to do; to not keep a promise.
- Quyết định không làm một việc mà bạn đã đồng ý trước đó, không giữ lời hứa
- E.g. a. I promised to help and I'm not backing out now.
 - b. We're hoping that no one will back out of the deal.

18. Back somebody up

- To provide a person with support publicly.
- Giúp đỡ, hỗ trợ hoặc ủng hộ ai đó
- E.g. a. I'll back you up if they don't believe you.
 - b. Do you remember that time you had to back Tony up when he got in a fight?



19. Back into

Most commonly used when talking about driving a car. It means to move backward into a space (such as a garage) or to move backward and hitting an object.

Hành động đỗ xe ô tô bằng số lùi vào bãi xe, hoặc lùi xe và đụng vào vật gì đó

E.g. a. Don't back your car into anyone.

b. He prefers to back his car into the garage.





20. Back something up

- (To) prepare a second copy of a file, program, etc. that can be used if the main one fails or needs extra support.
- chuẩn bị một bản sao của tệp hoặc chương trình trên máy tính để dự phòng khi gặp sự cố xảy ra
- E.g. a. By all means, back it up to a floppy or CD-ROM, but keep your backup in a safe place.
 - b. Users can download the tracks to one computer and back them up on two other PCs.



21. Break away

- a. Escape from captivity.
- Trốn khỏi nơi giam giữ
- The prisoner broke away from his guards.
- b. To leave a political party, state, etc., especially to form a new one.
- Rời khỏi một Đảng phái hoặc vùng nào đó để kiến tao ra một thứ mới
- The people of the province wished to break away and form a new state.
- c. To move away from a crowd or group, especially in a race.
- vượt ra khỏi một nhóm hoặc đám đông nào đó, đặc biệt là trong các cuộc đua
- She broke away from the pack and opened up a two-second lead.

WALL STREET ENGLISH



22. Break with

- If someone breaks with the past or with tradition, they start doing things in a completely new way.
- Bỏ hết tất cả những gì liên quan đến quá khứ hoặc từ bỏ một phong tục nào đó để thực hiện mọi thứ theo hướng hoàn toàn mới
- E.g. a. He broke with the party on the issue of Europe.b. Some women broke with tradition by going to study abroad.





23. Break down

- a. A machine or a vehicle stops working because of a fault.
- Máy móc hoặc động cơ ngừng hoạt động vì một lỗi nào đó.
- E.g. The telephone system has broken down.
- b. (to) fail.
- Dùng để chỉ sự thất bại
- E.g. Negotiations between the two sides have broken down.
- c. Lose control of one's emotions.
- Mất bình tĩnh, không thể khống chế cảm xúc
- E.g. The parents broke down when they heard the bad news.

24. Break (something) down

- Divide into smaller or simpler parts.
- Chia thành nhiều phần nhỏ hơn hoặc đơn giản hơn
- E.g. a. The lesson will be easier to learn if you break it down into small sections.
 - b. Each tutorial is broken down into more manageable units.

25. Break free

- (To) escape from an unpleasant person or situation that controls your life.
- Thoát khỏi một ai đó hoặc tình huống nào đó đang kiểm soát cuộc đời bạn
- E.g. a. She'll never be happy until she breaks free of her family.
 - b. Only at the end of the 18th century did the science of nutrition begin to break free of the old theories



26. Break in/into

- **Enter by force in order to steal something.**
- Đột nhập vào nơi nào đó để trộm cắp hoặc vì mục đích bất chính
- E.g. a. I saw a man outside the shop trying to break in.
 b. The burglars broke into the house at around midnight.

27. Break in on

- Interrupt unexpectedly.
- 💌 🛮 Bị cắt ngang đột ngột
- E.g. a. An operator suddenly broke in on our telephone conversation.b. The doctor's voice broke in on her thoughts.







28. Break off

- (To) stop speaking or stop doing something for a time.
- Ngừng nói hoặc làm một việc gì đó trong một khoảng thời gian
- E.g. a. He broke off in the middle of a sentence.b. It has been decided to break off diplomatic relations with that country.

29. Break out

- (Of war, fighting or other unpleasant events) to start suddenly.
- Đột ngột bắt đầu một trận tranh cãi, cuộc chiến hoặc những sự kiện không may, ngoài dự liệu
- E.g. a. Cholera has broken out in the city.b. Wars can break out at any time.



30. Break out of something

(To) escape from a place or situation

Thoát khỏi một nơi hoặc tình huống nào đó

E.g. The prisoner broke out of prison.





31. Break through

- a. (To) make new and important discoveries.
- Có những khám phá mới mẻ và quan trọng
- E.g. Scientists think they are beginning to break through in the fight against cancer.
- b. (To) make a way through something using force.
- Dùng bạo lực để tìm ra lối thoát
- E.g. Demonstrators broke through the police cordon.
- c. (To) succeed in dealing with an attitude that somebody has and the difficulties it creates.
- Thành công ứng phó với thái độ hoặc khó khăn do ai đó gây ra
- E.g. He had finally managed to break through her shyness.





32. Break up

- a. (To) separate into smaller pieces.
- Chia thành nhiều phần nhỏ
- E.g. Pablo had to use a spade to break up the soil.
- b. (To) come to an end (a marriage or relationship).
- Kết thúc một mối quan hệ hoặc cuộc hôn nhân
- E.g. After her marriage broke up, Caroline went to live in London.
- c. (To) go away in different directions.
- 💌 🛮 Đi theo những hướng khác nhau
- E.g. The meeting broke up at eleven o'clock.





*Quiz 2: Check your understanding with these comprehension questions

1. My car ____ on the highway today.

- a) broke
- **b)** broke down
- c) broke up
- **d)** broke away

2. "Break out" means____.

- a) do something in a certain way or following certain procedures
- **b)** start (war, conflict)
- c) affect
- **d)** divide something into pieces

3. The government backed ____ of the deal when faced with serious opposition.

- a) in
- **b)** off
- c) out
- **d)** of

4. We need a _____ plan just in case!

- a) back-off
- **b)** back-on
- c) back-up
- d) back-out

Answers >



*Quiz 2: Check your understanding with these comprehension questions

5. Someone is ____.
I heard a window being smashed. Call 911!

- a) breaking up
- **b)** breaking of
- c) breaking down
- **d)** breaking in

6. When Prince
Charles _____ with
Princess Diana,
nobody imagined he
would marry again.

- a) broke up
- **b)** broke in
- c) broke out
- d) breaking out

7. 'Back away' means...

- **a)** Select or choose one from a group
- **b)** Retreat or go backwards
- **c)** Pass a quality or characteristic to people
- **d)** Meet someone by chance

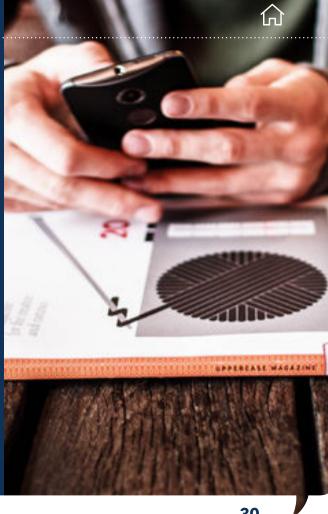
8. (to) break out of" means...

- a) Escape
- **b)** Employ
- c) Add more details
- d) Delete

Answers >

33. Call up

- a. Phone someone.
- Gọi điện thoại cho ai đó
- E.g. The secretary called up all the area managers to arrange a meeting.
- b. Summon someone for military service.
- Kêu gọi ai đó phục vụ cho quân đội
- E.g. My father was called up to active duty as soon as the war broke out.







34. Call after

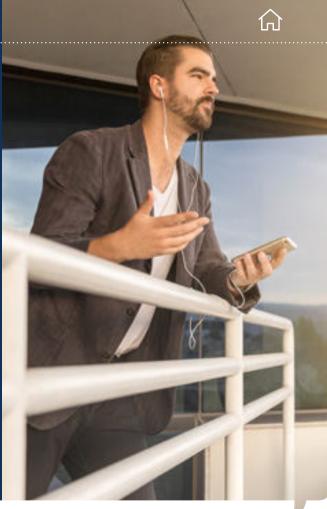
- Give a child the same name as someone else.
- Đặt tên đứa trẻ theo tên một người nào đó
- E.g. a. His name is Charles. He's called that after his grandfather.b. She was called Sofi, after her grandmother.

35. Call at

- Stop at a place briefly (harbour, port, station...).
- Các phương tiện giao thông dừng lại ở nơi nào đó (cảng, bến tàu, trạm tàu điện...) trong khoảng thời gian ngắn.
- E.g. a. The train calls at Newbridge and Glenville on the way to the capital.
 b. This boat calls at Didcot and Reading.

36. Call back

- (To) telephone somebody again or to telephone somebody who telephoned you earlier.
- Gọi điện thoại lại cho ai đó
- E.g. a. She said she'd call back.
 - b. I'm waiting for someone to call me back with a price.







37. Call for

- a. Go somewhere to get someone.
- 🔻 🏻 Đến nơi để rước ai đó
- E.g. I'll call for you at 8 o'clock. Make sure you're ready!
- b. Demand that something be done.
- Yêu cầu phải thực hiện xong một việc gì đó
- E.g. The opposition has called for an investigation into the misuse of public funds.
- c. Be required or necessary.
- Được yêu cầu hoặc cần thiết
- E.g. The job calls for excellent computer skills.

37. Call for

- d. Be an appropriate occasion for something.
- Thích hợp với một dịp nào đó
- E.g. The happy announcement calls for champagne.

38. Call forth

- (To) produce a particular reaction.
- 💌 🛮 Hành động dẫn đến phản ứng đặc biệt của người khác
- E.g. a. His speech called forth an angry response.
 - b. That song calls forth sad memories.





39. Call in

- a. To telephone a place, especially the place where you work.
- Gọi điện thoại đến một nơi nào đó, thường là nơi bạn làm việc
- E.g. Several people have called in sick today.
- b. To ask for the services of somebody.
- Goi ai đó đến để cung cấp dịch vụ tính phí
- E.g. The dishwasher has stopped working. I don't know whether to call in an electrician or a plumber.
- c. To order or ask for the return of something.
- Yêu cầu lấy lại một vật gì đó
- E.g. Cars with serious faults have been called in by the manufacturers.



40. Call in (on)

- (To) visit someone for a short time.
- Thăm ai đó trong khoảng thời gian ngắn
- E.g. a. I'm going to call in on my parents on my way home from work this evening.b. I thought we might call in on your mother on our way I've got some magazines for her.

41. Call off

- (To) cancel something; to decide that something will not happen.
- Hủy bỏ một việc nào đó
- E.g. a. They have called off their engagementb. The game was called off because of bad weather.

Call

42. Call upon

- (To) formally invite or ask someone to speak.
- Mời hoặc đề nghị ai đó phát biểu một cách trịnh trọng
- E.g. a. I now call upon the chairman to address the meeting. b. You could be called upon to make a short speech.





- 💌 🛮 La to, kêu gọi người khác đến trong trường hợp khẩn cấp
- E.g. a. The child disappeared from the playground. His mother called out his name but he didn't answer.
 - b. My husband came running when he heard me call out for help.





Call

44. Call round

- **Go to a place to see someone.**
- Đến nơi để gặp ai đó
- E.g. a. The nurse said she would call round this afternoon to check on my mother.
 - b. Peter said that he would call round some time this afternoon.





Carry

45. Carry over

(To) delay something until a later time.

Trì hoãn làm việc nào đó

E.g. a. The match had to be carried over until Sunday.b. With regards to holidays, can we carry over days from one year to the next?

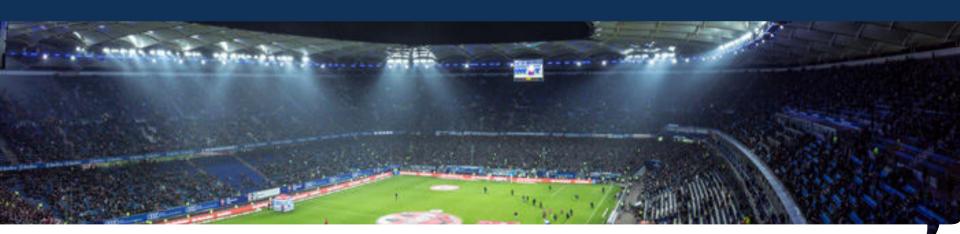
46. Carry on

To continue doing something.

Tiếp tục thực hiện việc gì đó

E.g. a. Carry on with your work while I'm away.

b. Charlie carried on gardening despite the rain.



Carry

47. Carry out

- (To) do something that you have said you will do or have been asked to do; to do and complete a task.
- Thực hiện công việc được yêu cầu hoặc hoàn thành một nhiệm vụ nào đó
- E.g. a. Extensive tests have been carried out on the patient.
 - b. The plan was carried out to perfection.

48. Carry off

- (To) win something, to succeed in doing something that most people would find difficult.
- Thắng lợi hoặc thành công trong những công việc người khác cảm thấy khó khăn
- E.g. a. He carried off most of the prizes.
 - b. She's had her hair cut really short, but she can carry it off.





49. Come about

- (To) happen, especially by chance.
- Xảy ra việc gì đó bất ngờ
- E.g. a. Can you tell me how the accident came about?b. How did such a complicated situation come about?

50. Come across

- Find by chance, encounter; to make a particular impression.
- 💌 🏻 Tình cờ bắt gặp, tạo ấn tượng đặc biệt
- E.g. a. She comes across well in interviews.
 - b. I came across children sleeping under the bridge.





51. Come along

- a. Go somewhere with someone.
- Đi với ai đó đến một địa điểm cụ thể
- E.g. I wanted to watch the parade and Alex decided to come along with me.
- b. Arrive or appear.
- Đến hoặc xuất hiện ở nơi nào đó
- E.g. Tony needs a job. If an opportunity comes along he's determined to seize it.
- c. Improve or make progress.
- Cải thiện hoặc tạo lập thành tích
- E.g. How's your mother coming along since she broke her leg?

52. Come apart

- **Separate into pieces.**
- Phân thành từng mảnh nhỏ
- E.g. a. I need to get my glasses repaired. They came apart when they fell off the table.
 - b. My whole life had come apart at the seams.

53. Come before

- **Be more important.**
- Trở nên quan trọng hơn, được xem trọng hơn
- E.g. a. She always says that her family comes before her career.
 - b. The case comes before the court next week.







54. Come by

- To get, especially something that is difficult to obtain or find.
- 💌 🏻 Đạt được một điều gì đó mà bình thường rất khó nắm bắt
- E.g. a. Jobs are hard to come by these days.b. How did you come by such a beautiful location to build your house?

55. Come down with

- (To) get an illness that is not very serious.
- 💌 🛮 Bị bệnh nhưng không quá nghiêm trọng
- E.g. a. I think I'm coming down with flu.b. Thomas came down with chickenpox at the weekend.

56. Come forward

- **Present oneself; volunteer.**
- Tự đề cử, tình nguyện
- E.g. a. The police have asked any witnesses to come forward.
 - b. Several people came forward with information.

57. Come out

- Become known, to say publicly whether you agree or disagree with something.
- Dược biết đến, công khai ủng hộ hoặc không ủng hộ điều gì đó
- E.g. a. The truth will come out sooner or later. It's just a matter of time.b. He came out against the plan.





58. Come to

- **Regain consciousness.**
- Lấy lại ý thức
- E.g. a. She fainted when the news was announced but she came to quite quickly.
 - b. Has he come to yet?

59. Come up against

- Be faced with or opposed by.
- Đối mặt với vấn đề
- E.g. a. The plan to demolish the old theatre came up against a lot of criticism.
 - b. We expect to come up against a lot of opposition to the plan.





60. Come up with

Produce an idea or plan.

Nghĩ ra một ý tưởng hoặc kế hoạch mới

E.g. Sacha came up with a great idea for the party.



*Quiz 3: Check your understanding with these comprehension questions

1. The meeting has been called ____ because the manager's ill.

- a) off
- **b)** in
- c) out
- **d)** after

2. "Call after" means

- **a)** Provoke someone by being annoying or behaving badly
- **b)** Name someone after somebody else
- c) Make someone angry

3. They were tired but decided to carry ____ until they'd finished.

- a) off
- **b)** out
- c) on
- d) in

4. The meeting carried ____ into the afternoon.

- a) away
- **b)** of
- c) over
- d) Down

Answers >



*Quiz 3: Check your understanding with these comprehension questions

5. "Carry out" means...

- a) Perform a task
- **b)** Make someone give something to you
- c) Invest heavily in or throw a lot of money of something
- **d)** Forgive someone

6. I came	
some old	photos
when I wa	as tidying
my bedro	om.

- a) for
- **b)** into
- **c)** on
- d) across

7. Max can't go to		
work. He has		
with the flu		
again.		

- a) come under
- b) come down
- c) come upon
- d) come up

8. At the meeting several staff members came ____ with some ridiculous suggestions to

increase turnover.

- a) down
- **b)** over
- c) up
- **d)** in

Answers >



Answer key

Quiz 1	Quiz 2	Quiz 3
1. B	1. B	1. A
2. C	2. B	2. B
3. B	3. C	3. C
4. C	4. C	4. C
5. D	5. D	5. A
6. B	6. A	6. D
7. A	7. B	7. B
8. B	8. A	8. C
≺ Back to questions	≺ Back to questions	∠ Back to questions



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