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PART I Phrasal Verbs

Preface

Phrasal verbs are combinations of ordinary verbs like put, take, come, and go and particles like in, out, on, and off. They are a very important part of everyday English. Every student of English needs a basic understanding of the most common phrasal verbs and also of common nouns and adjectives made from phrasal verbs.

Most phrasal verbs are not informal, slang, or improper for educated speech or formal writing. Exactly the opposite is true — most phrasal verbs are acceptable at all levels of spoken or written English. In fact, for many of the phrasal verbs in this methodical guideline, there is no alternative to the phrasal verb — there is no other way to say it.

Some phrasal verbs are very easy to understand. For example, it is not difficult to understand sit down or come in because their meanings are obvious. But many phrasal verbs are very idiomatic. Idiomatic means that there is no way to know what the verb and particle mean together by knowing what the verb and particle mean separately. For example, every beginning-level student learns what the words call, run, off, and out mean, but that does not help the student to know that call off means cancel or that run out means use all of something.

Each section of this methodical guideline starts with an explanation of something important about phrasal verbs. Then several phrasal verbs and an explanation of each important meaning of each one are presented along with one or more example sentences for each meaning. Following that are several exercises to help you understand and remember what the phrasal verbs mean and how to use them in a sentence.
Bring

1. bring... back p.v. When you take something to another place and then bring it from that place to the place where you were before, you bring it back.

I told Tom to bring my pen right back.

2. bring... back p.v. When something that was popular or current in the past is introduced again, it is brought back.

Many schools are bringing back uniforms for children.

3. bring... back p.v. When something causes you to recall memories and emotions from the past, it brings the memories and emotions back.

Looking at these old pictures brought back wonderful memories.

Bring over

1. bring... over p.v. When people take something from one place to the place where you are, they bring it over.

I called Frank to ask if I could use his electric drill, and he brought it right over.

Bring up

1. bring ...up (to) p.v. When people bring something from a higher level or position or from south to north to where you are, they bring it up or bring it up to where you are.

Would you please go downstairs and bring up the package that was just delivered?

2. bring ... up p.v. When you introduce a new topic into a conversation, you bring it up.

Last night during dinner, Dad brought up the idea of saving money by staying home instead of taking a vacation this year.

3. bring ... up (to) p.v. When you bring up children, you care for them as they grow to adulthood. When you bring up children to believe something or to behave in a certain way, you try to teach this belief or behavior to them.

Tom was born in Canada, but he was brought up in the United States. Sally borrowed my blue sweater and brought it back yesterday.
Exercise 1. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense

1. Every few years designers try to _____ miniskirts _____.
2. I had tried to forget that awful incident, but this magazine article has _____ it all ____.
3. Linda is going to ____ her wedding pictures ____ tonight.
4. I've thought and thought, but I can't _______ _______ _______ any reason why your idea won't work.

Come

Come up with

1. come up with p.v. When you think of an idea, plan, or solution, you come up with it.
   It took me all night, but I came up with the answer.

Come down with

1. come down with p.v. When you are starting to get sick, you are coming down with something or coming down with an illness.
   I don't feel well. Maybe I'm coming down with something.

Come across

1. come across p.v. When people cross from one side of a space or distance to where you are, they come across.
   As soon as Nicole saw me, she came across the room and gave me a big hug.

2. come across p.v. When you come across people or things, you see or find them without planning or expecting to. Run across is similar to come across.
   I asked the antique dealer if she had ever come across a Windsor chair.

3. come across p.v. When something you say or do comes across a certain way, your attitude or feelings are perceived in this way by other people.
   I was just joking, but I don't think it came across that way.

Come back

1. come back (to/from) p.v. When people return to a place where you are, they come back or come back to that place or come back from the place where they were before.
   Todd went to Florida thinking it would be hot and sunny, but he came back talking about how cold and rainy it was.
2. **come back** p.v. When people, organizations, companies, or athletes overcome difficulties and become successful again, they *come back*.
   My home team **came back** from last place and won the championship.

3. **come back** p.v. When a condition, problem, situation, or activity returns or greatly increases, it *comes back*.
   I need to see the doctor. The pain in my shoulder has **come back**.

   **comeback** n. When a condition, problem, situation, or activity returns or greatly increases, it makes a **comeback**.
   Health officials are concerned that tuberculosis is making a **comeback**.

4. **come back** p.v. When a fashion or fad *comes back*, it becomes popular again.
   Miniskirts are **coming back** this year.

   **comeback** n. When people, organizations, companies, or sports teams overcome difficulties and become successful again, they **make a comeback**.
   The Bulls were down by 34 points but won the game with an 18-point lead — what a **comeback**!

   **comeback** n. When a fashion or fad becomes popular again, it makes a **comeback**.

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5. **come up** p.v. When people move toward you to a higher level or position, or from the south to the north, they **come up**.

   Why don't you **come up** and see me some time?

2. **come up** p.v. When you move to a higher social or professional position, you **come up**.

   I saw Dan driving a Mercedes. He's really **coming up** in the world.

3. **come up** p.v. When a new topic is introduced into a conversation, it *comes up*.

   I don't agree with Jim about anything, so if politics **comes up**, I just leave the room.

4. **come up** p.v. When something unexpected happens that requires further attention, it **comes up**.

   I'm sorry I can't go to your party; something important has **come up**.

5. **come up** p.v. [always continuous] When something is **coming up**, it will happen soon.

   The TV announcer told the audience what was **coming up** after the commercial.
**Come down**

*Come down* is the opposite of *come up.*

**Come through**

*come through* p.v. When you are in a place and people or things *come through* it, they pass from one side to the other side where you are.

Betty *came through* the door and sat down at our table.

2. *come through* p.v. When people travel to your town, stay for a while, and then leave, they *come through* or *come through town.*

   Aunt Sally promised she'd *come through* Milwaukee on her way to Indianapolis.

3. *come through* p.v. When important information, authorization, or permission that you have been waiting for is received, it *comes through.*

   We can buy the house — the loan finally *came through.*

4. *come through* (with) p.v. When you promise to do something or produce something and keep your promise, you *come through* or *come through* with what you promised to do or promised to produce.

   We were all surprised when Bob *came through* with front row tickets just like he said he would.

5. *come through* p.v. When you *come through* a difficult or dangerous experience, you survive it.

   My Uncle Fred saw lots of action during the war, but he *came through* without a scratch.

   *Coming through* the earthquake alive was a miracle.

6. *come through* p.v. When someone's feelings, attitudes, or opinions can be perceived by someone else, they *come through.*

   The author's hatred of the dictatorship *came through* in the novel.

**Come on**

1. *come on* p.v. When an electrical device or machine *comes on,* it begins to operate, usually automatically. *Go off* is the opposite of *come on.*

   It was so cold that the heat *came on* last night.

2. *come on* p.v. When a television or radio program *comes on,* it begins.

   Do you know when the news will *come on?*

3. *come on* p.v. When you want to encourage people to do something or when you want them to do something quickly, you *say "Come on!"

   *Come on!* I can't wait all day.

4. *come on* p.v. [informal] When you think that people have done or said something improper or unreasonable, you *say "Come on."*
Hey, **come on**! I told you not to do that again.

5. **come on** p.v. [always continuous] When you begin to feel a headache or an illness developing, you feel the headache or illness **coming on**.
   
   I might be sick tomorrow; I feel something **coming on**.

6. **come on** p.v. When you **come on** a certain way, you speak or deal with people in that way.
   
   Paul needs to learn to be more of a gentleman. He **comes on** too strong, and women don't like that.

7. **come on** (to) p.v. [informal] When you **come on** to people, you approach them and try to interest them in romance or sex.
   
   Toad **came on** to Judy at the party, and she told him to get lost.

**Come about**

1. **come about** p.v. When something **comes about**, it happens, usually as a result of a series of events and actions.
   
   He was the richest man in town, and now he's bankrupt. How did that **come about**?

**Exercise 2. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense**

1. Lydia wants to **come up with** a great idea for the party.
2. My grandmother said, "If you don't wear an undershirt, you'll **catch** pneumonia."
3. By 1910, millions of immigrants had **crossed** the ocean to America.
4. His American humor didn't **come across** well in Britain.
5. I'm never going **to** this awful place again.
7. Western movies and TV shows go out of style and then **come back** every few years.
8. My cousin from San Antonio **came to** Detroit last week.
9. The major didn't go to the military academy. He **rose through** the ranks.
10. We were discussing possible candidates to manage the new office, and your name **came up**.
11. The execution was stopped when the call from the governor **come in**.
12. The state legislature promised to provide the financing for a new stadium, but they didn't _____ _____.
13. The professor's enthusiasm for the subject really _____ ____ in his lectures.
14. When you open the refrigerator door, the light ________ automatically.
15. Believe me, you're going to love this garlic ice cream. ____ ____ , try it!
16. Tom didn't study for one minute, and you're telling me he got 100 on the test? Oh, _____ ___.
17. I feel a headache ______ ___. Do you have any aspirin?
18. Several major medical advances have _____ ____ in the last fifty years.
19. I can't stand that guy Ned. He's always _____ ____ to me.
20. Bob ______ ____ kind of arrogant, but he's actually a nice guy.

Do

1. do away with p.v. When you do away with something, you eliminate it or prohibit it.
2. do away with p.v. When you do away with people, you kill them. Marvin inherited a fortune after he did away with his older brother.
1. do ... over p.v. When you do something over, you do it again in order to improve it or to correct mistakes.
   This is all wrong — it'll have to be done over.
1. do with p.v. [used only in the infinitive form] When you say that one thing has something to do with another, you mean there is a connection between the two.
   Don't blame me for what happened; I had nothing to do with it.
1. do without p.v. When you do without something, you continue living or working without something that you want or need because it is not possible or available.
   Washing your hair everyday is something you have to do without when you go camping.
   Doing without is something you get used to when you're poor.
Exercise 3. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense

1. Some people think the electoral college is obsolete and should be _____ _____ _____.
2. The woman was accused _ _____ _____ _____ her husband with arsenic.
3. I got a bad grade on my paper, but the teacher said I could ____ it _____.
4. I'm not sure what this part does, but I think it must have something to ____ ____ the transmission.

Get

1. get ahead p.v. When you get ahead, you become more successful and make progress in your job or your life.
   With your pessimistic attitude, you'll never get ahead.

Get along

1. get along (with) p.v. When you get along with people, you have peaceful, harmonious relations with them. Get on is similar to get along.
   Jim and his cousin aren't good friends, but they get along.
2. get along p.v. When you are able to do some sort of work without any serious problems, you get along.
   Oh, I'm getting along okay, thank you.

Get around

1. get around to p.v. When you do something after waiting for some time because you are lazy, inefficient, or do not want to do it, you get around to it.
   I didn't get around to doing my taxes until April 14.

Get away

1. get away (from) p.v. When you escape from people who are chasing you because they want to hurt you or because you have committed a crime, you get away or get away from them.
   When he took the knife out of his pocket, I got away from him fast.
   getaway n. When you escape from people who want to capture or hurt you, you make a getaway.
   The robbers made their getaway in a blue Ford.
2. **get away** (with) p.v. When you do something that is sneaky or wrong and you are not punished or criticized for it because no one knows or cares about it, you get away with it.

Jake has been cheating on his taxes for years, and he always gets away with it.

3. **get away** (from) p.v. When you get away from people or places, you leave them even though it may be difficult.

I'm tired of this town. I need to get away.

4. **get away** p.v. When you get away, you go on vacation.

I have a lot of work to do, but I'll try to get away for a week or two.

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**Get together**

1. **get together** (with) p.v. When two people get together, they meet and spend time together. When you get together with someone, you meet and spend time with that person. When a man and woman resume a relationship after separating, they get back together.

If you're not busy tomorrow night, would you like to get together?

Judy and Sam had separated, but now they've gotten back together.

**get-together** n. An informal gathering is a get-together.

2. **get... together** p.v. When you get things together, you collect them so they are in the same place.

You should get all your tools together so you will have them when you need them.

3. **get... together** p.v. [informal] When you get yourself together, or get it together, you gain control of your emotions after you have become upset or emotional.

Bob was very upset before the party, but he got it together before the guests came.

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**Get back**

1. **get back** (to) p.v. When you return to a level or place where you were before, you get back or get back to that place.

We left three weeks ago, and we didn't get back until yesterday.

Where are you going? Get right back here!

2. **get... back** (to) p.v. When you get something back or get something back to a person or place, you return it to that person or place.

Jim uses his mother's car in the morning, but she needs it to go to work at 4:30, so he has to get it back before then.
3. get... back (from) p.v. When you get something back or get something back from someone or someplace, you have something that you had before.

I couldn't believe I got my stolen car back.

4. get back (from) p.v. When you get back or get back from something that is very hot or dangerous or that you should not be near, you move away from it so that there is more distance between you and it.

Get back from the edge of the cliff! You might fall.

1. get back to p.v. When you get back to people, you talk to them later, usually because you do not have time to talk to them at the time or because you will have information for them later that you do not have now.

I don't have time to talk now; I'm really busy. Can I get back to you?

Get behind

1. get behind (in) p.v. When you are in a group that is studying or working, and so on, and they learn faster or get more work done because you are learning or working more slowly than the others, you get behind or get behind in your studies or work. When you do not complete work as fast as originally planned and expected, you get behind schedule. Keep up is the opposite of get behind. Fall behind is similar to get behind.

With all the bad weather we've been having, the construction project has gotten way behind schedule.

Get by

1. get by p.v. When you get by or get by something, you pass something or someone while you are walking or driving even though it may be difficult because there is not enough room.

Can you move all that junk in the hallway please? It's hard for people to get by.

2. get by (on) p.v. When you get by or get by on a certain amount of money, you continue with your work or continue with your life even though it may be difficult.

Don't worry about me; I'll get by somehow.

It's not easy getting by on $250 a week.

3. get by p.v. When something, such as a mistake or a problem, gets by you, you do not notice it.

I checked this report twice. How did all these misspellings get by me?
Get down

1. get down (to) p.v. When you move to a lower level or place or from north to south, you get down or get down to that level or place. Get up is the opposite of get down. Go down is similar to get down.

   You're going to fall out of that tree and break your neck. Get down right now!

2. get... down (from) p.v. When you get things or people down, you move them from a higher level or place to a lower one.

   Why do you always put the dishes on the top shelf? I can't get them down.

3. get down p.v. When you bend your body and lower your head to avoid danger or to prevent people from seeing you, you get down.

   When the enemy soldiers started shooting, the sergeant ordered his men to get down.

4. get... down p.v. When things or people get you down, they make you sad or depressed.

   Don't let your troubles get you down. Everything will be all right.

Get in/into

1. get in/into p.v. When you get in or get into a place, building, room, car, boat, and so on, you enter it.

   Get in the car! We're going now.

2. get... in/into p.v. When you get in or get into a place, building, club, restaurant, meeting, and so on, you obtain permission to enter. When you get other people in or get other people into a building, club, restaurant, meeting, and so on, you arrange for them to enter.

   I didn't have an invitation to the party, but Nancy got me in.

3. get... in/into p.v. When you get something in or get something into a place, building, room, container, enclosure, and so on, you get the object inside even though it is difficult.

   The shoes are too small — I can't get my feet in.

4. get... in/into p.v. When you get in trouble or get into a difficult situation or a mess (a mess is a confused or difficult situation), you become involved in it. When you get people in trouble or get them into a difficult situation or a mess, you cause them to become involved in it.

   Susie got in a lot of trouble at school today.

5. get in/into p.v. When you get in or get into a place, you arrive. When the vehicle you are in gets in or gets into a place, it arrives. Come in is similar to get in.
I'm exhausted. I got in really late last night.
I'll be waiting for you at the station when your train gets into the station.

6. get... in p.v. When a store gets something in, it receives a delivery of something that it will offer for sale.

Karen asked the sales clerk when the store was going to get some summer dresses in.
I wanted to buy that new book, but the bookstore hasn't gotten it in yet.

7. get... in p.v. When you get an activity in, you find the time for it or make the time for it.
Whenever I go to San Francisco on business, I try to get a baseball game in.

Get on

1. get on p.v. When you move your body toward something and stand, sit, or lie on it, you get on it.
The nurse asked me to take off my shirt and get on the examination table.
If you get on that chair you can reach the top shelf.

2. get on p.v. When you mount an animal, bicycle, motorcycle, and so on, you get on it.
The children got back on their bikes and went home.

3. get on p.v. When you enter a bus, train, airplane, ship, and so on, you get on it.
The bus stopped so that I could get on.
Only people who are going on the cruise can get on the ship.

4. get... on p.v. When you get an item of clothing on, you put it on your body.
Get your coat on. It's cold outside.

5. get on (with) p.v. When you continue doing something, you get on, get on with what you were doing, or get on with it.
It's getting late. If we're going to finish this work today we'd better get on with it.
Get to

1. *get*... *to* p.v. When you *get* *to* a place, you arrive there. When you *get* people *to* a place, you help them to go there or take them there. When you *get* *to* work, you arrive at the place where you work.

1. *get* to When I *get* *to* Tokyo, I'll call to let you know I arrived safely.
   
2. *get* to p.v. When things or people *get* *to* a certain level, number, or amount, they reach it.
   
   It sure was hot yesterday. It must have *gotten* *to* 100 degrees.

3. *get* to p.v. When you *get* *to* something that you want or need to do, you find the time to do it. When you *get* *to* work, you start working.
   
   I didn't have time to do the ironing last night. I'll try to *get* *to* it tonight.

4. *get* to p.v. When you *get* *to* doing something, you begin to do it gradually.
   
   Karen finally *got* back *to* her school project yesterday. She hadn't worked on it for weeks.

5. *get* to p.v. When you *get* *to* do something, you are allowed to do it or are able to do it.

   Timmy was excited because he *got* *to* ride a pony.

6. *get* to p.v. When something *gets* *to* you, it bothers or annoys you, either psychologically or physically.

   Jim's constant complaining is really starting to *get* *to* his wife.

Get out

1. *get* out *(of)* p.v. When you *get* *out* or *get* *out* of a place, building, room, car, boat, and so on, you leave or escape from it.

   When Bob heard his car's engine making a strange noise, he *got* *out* and looked under the hood.

2. *get* out *(to)* p.v. When you go to a place that is west of where you are or to a place outside a large city, you *get* *out* or *get* *out* to that place.

   I love it here in the city. I almost never *get* *out* to the suburbs anymore.

   I told my friend in New York, "If you ever *get* *out* to California, please visit me."
3. **get... out (of)** p.v. When you *get* people *out* or *get* them *out* of a place, you take them out or you arrange for them to leave.
   The soldiers were surrounded, so they called for a helicopter to *get* them *out*.

4. **get... out (of)** p.v. When you *get out* or *get out* of a dangerous, awkward, or difficult situation, you avoid it. When you *get* people *out* of a dangerous, awkward, or difficult situation, you help them to avoid it.
   Erik made a date with two girls for the same night. How is he going to get out of this mess?

5. **get... out (of)** p.v. When you *get* something *out* or *get* something *out* of a container or place, you remove it.
   Mother's coming for dinner tonight, so let's *get* the good china *out*.

6. **get... out (of)** p.v. When you *get* dirt or a stain *out* or *get* dirt or a stain *out* of a material, you remove it by cleaning.
   This detergent's ad claims it'll *get* dirt *out* even in cold water.

7. **get out** p.v. When information *gets out*, it becomes known to people who are not supposed to know it.
   Be careful — we'll be in a lot of trouble if this information *gets out*.

8. **get out** (of) p.v. When you leave your house and do things that are relaxing and fun, you *get out* or *get out* of the house.
   You work too hard; you should *get out* more.

Get over

1. **get over** (to) p.v. When you *get over* to a place, you go there. When you tell people to *get over* here, you want them to come where you are.
   Francisco called and he said he needs you to help him with something, so *get over* to his house right way.

2. **get over** p.v. When you *get over* a problem, illness, or emotionally painful experience, you stop letting it affect you and continue with your life.
   I've got a bad cold. I've been sick for a week, and I still haven't *gotten over* it.
   You can't feel sorry for yourself forever — you've got to *get over* it and get on with your life.

3. **get over** p.v. When something happens that surprises you or makes you angry, and you cannot stop thinking about it, you cannot *get over* it.
   I can't *get over* seeing my ex-wife with her new husband.
   The coach couldn't *get over* losing the state championship 47 to 0.
Get up

1. get up (to) p.v. When you move to a higher level or place, or from south to north, you get up or get up to that level or place. Get down is the opposite of get up. Go up is similar to get up.

   Tom, your brother is in the basement. Please go tell him to get right up here and start doing his homework.

2. get... up p.v. When you get up or someone gets you up, you rise from your bed. When you get people up, you cause them to rise from their beds.

   I don't usually get up until 11:00 on weekends.
   I make breakfast; getting the children up and ready for school in the morning is Bill's job.

3. get up p.v. When you change from a sitting or lying position to a standing position, you get up. Stand up is similar to get up.

   The teacher told the sleeping students to get up.

Get over

Susie, get over here and clean up this mess immediately!
After he hit me, I got right up and hit him back.
I haven't gotten up to my brother's house in Canada for a long time.

Exercise 4. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense

   1. _____ _____ is pretty easy when your father owns the company.
   2. How are you _____ _____ in your new job?
   3. Don't worry about the broken window. I'll ___ _____ ___ it one of these days.
   4. By the time the police arrived, the robbers had already _____ _____ .
   5. The car used for the _____ was found abandoned in the next town.
   6. Frank was talking and talking, and I couldn't ____ _____ from him.
   7. We always try to _____ _____ in January and go skiing.
   8. I'm having a little _____ - _____ tonight. Would you like to come?
   9. Hey, ___ yourself _____! Everyone is watching you.
10. Mark lost a ton of weight when he was sick, and it took him a long time to ____ to his old weight.
11. Jim borrowed a book from me three years ago, and I still haven't it from him.
12. Linda had some problems last semester, and she in her studies.
13. There was an accident on the highway, and no one could ___.
14. The first thing I did after I to Miami was go to the beach.
15. Jim's marriage problems are really him.
16. I don't see any solution to this problem. How did I ever this mess?
17. Dinner isn't until 7:30, so we've got time to a tennis game.
18. a camel isn't as easy as a horse.
19. These gloves are too small. I can't them.
20. I didn't say you could stop! with your work.
21. Sarah left her house at 8:30 and the beach at 9:15.
22. I went to the restaurant across the street for lunch, and I didn't back work until 2:30.
23. I hope I shake the President's hand after his speech.
24. Let's sit down and rest — this heat is me.
25. We smelled gas and of the building just seconds before it exploded.

Give

1. give... away p.v. When you give something away, you give it to someone without asking for anything in return because you do not want it or because you want to help the person you are giving it to.
   This old furniture isn't worth very much, so I think I'll just give it away.
2. give... away p.v. When you give a secret away, you accidentally reveal that secret.
   I haven't seen that movie yet, so don't give away the ending.
3. **give... away** p.v. When you **give** yourself **away**, you accidentally reveal something secret about yourself. When something **gives** you **away**, it accidentally reveals something secret about you.

Mark tried to keep his affair a secret, but he was **given away** by his credit card bills.

**giveaway** n. A **giveaway** is a statement or action that reveals secret information.

I knew I was going to be fired from my job when everyone stopped talking to me — that was the **giveaway**.

**Give up**

1. **give up** (on) p.v. When you stop trying to do something because you think you will never succeed, you **give up** or **give up on** it.

   Forget it! This is impossible — I **give up**!

2. **give... up** p.v. When you are running from or fighting with the police or enemy soldiers and you surrender, you **give up** or **give yourself up**.

   When the bank robbers realized they were surrounded by police, they **gave up**.

3. **give ...up** p.v. When you stop doing something you do regularly, such as a sport or a job, you **give it up**.

   My father didn't **give** sky diving **up** until he was eighty-two.

**1. go about** p.v. When you **go about** something or **go about doing** something, you begin or continue to follow all the steps necessary to do it.

   I have no idea how to **go about** opening a restaurant. Everyday he quietly **went about** his business and never caused any problems.

**Exercise 5. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense**

1. He made nearly a billion dollars, but after he retired he ____ most of his money _______.

2. You can trust me with the secret. I haven't _______ it _______.

3. Toad claimed he didn't care about Sally anymore, but he _______ himself _______ when he asked who she had gone to the party with.

4. I've tried for years to have a nice looking lawn, but I've just ____ ____ on it.

5. The suspect got tired of hiding from the police, and he ______ himself ____.
6. I had to ______ my second job because I was so exhausted all the time.

Go

1. **go out** (of) p.v. When people or things leave a place, room, or house that you are in, they go out or go out of it. **Come in** is the opposite of go out.
   
   I'm trying to study — go out and play in the backyard.

2. **go out** (to) p.v. When people leave a city where you are and go out to a place outside the city, they travel to that place.
   
   Last weekend we went out to Jim's cabin on the lake.
   
   This Thanksgiving I'm going to go out to my brother's house.

3. **go out** p.v. When something that is burning goes out, it stops burning because it has no more fuel or because something, such as water or lack of oxygen, has caused it to stop burning.
   
   The campfire went out during the night.

4. **go out** p.v. When an electrical light goes out, it stops producing light because it is no longer receiving power.
   
   The lights in the barracks go out every night at 10:00.

5. **go out** (with) p.v. When two people with a romantic interest in each other go out, they go together to a place of entertainment in order to have fun and spend time together.
   
   Mike's nervous — he's going out with Heather tonight.

Go after

1. **go after** p.v. When you chase and try to physically stop or to attack people, you go after them.
   
   A policeman saw him stealing the car and went after him.

2. **go after** p.v. When law enforcement officials try to prosecute people through a legal procedure, they go after them.
   
   Federal prosecutors are now going after the top drug dealers.

3. **go after** p.v. When a business tries to increase its profits by trying to increase its market share or its number of customers, it goes after them.
   
   The tobacco company denied going after the teenage market.
   
   The CEO said he wanted to go after new customers in China.

4. **go after** p.v. When you go after something, you try to obtain it even though it may be difficult to do.
   
   Sofia went after a degree in accounting.

Go for
1. **go for** p.v. [informal] When you go for something, you like it a lot. Erik really goes for scuba diving.

2. **go for** p.v. When you go for something, you try to achieve it. The gymnast said she was going to go for the gold at the next Olympics.

3. **go for** p.v. [always continuous] When you have something going for you, you have an advantage that makes it easier for you to do something or get something that you want.

   Sam's not especially good at basketball, but he has one thing going for him — he's seven feet tall.

4. **go for** p.v. When you say that a statement about one person or thing goes for another person or thing, you mean that it is also true about the other person or thing. When you say "That goes for me," you are agreeing with someone else's opinion.

   Heather said that Tom was a jerk, and I said that that goes for Tom's brother Bill, too.

**Go through with**

1. **go through with** p.v. When you do something that you have decided to do even though it may be dangerous or unpleasant or others may object, you go through with it.

   The spokeswoman said the company would go through with its plan to move the company to Mexico.

**Exercise 6. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense**

1. Nancy was so sick that she didn't ____ ____ of the house for a week.

2. The forest fire didn't ____ ____ until it started to rain.

3. When the old tree fell on the power lines, every light in town ____ ____.

4. Sally and Jim ____ ____ for three years before they got married.

5. Captain Morgan was ordered to ____ ____ the enemy soldiers.

6. The senator introduced a bill designed to ____ ____ deadbeat dads.
7. Todd trained for a year before ____ ____ the record in the 100-yard dash.
8. Let's go to a different nightclub. I don't ____ ____ jazz.
9. After she finished her master's, she _____ ____ a Ph.D.
10. I have ten years of experience ____ ____ me, so I think I have a good chance of getting the job.
11. Betty's really angry about it, and that ____ ____ me, too.
12. Despite his family's opposition, Erik ____ ____ with his decision to quit his job and start his own business.

**Look**

1. look... up p.v. When you get information from a reference book, such as a word from a dictionary or a telephone number from a telephone book, you **look** the word or number **up**.
   
   I **looked up** his number, but it's not in the phone book.

2. look... up p.v. When you locate and visit people you have not seen for a long time, you **look** them **up**.
   
   I was in Dallas on business, and I **looked up** Dan Jones, my old college roommate.

3. look up p.v. When a situation is **looking up** or starting to **look up**, it is improving.
   
   Business was pretty bad for a while, but things are starting to **look up**.

**Look at**

1. look at p.v. When you focus your eyes on people or things, you **look at** them.
   
   I **looked at** her and told her I loved her.

2. look at p.v. When you examine something or a situation and decide what to do about it, you **look at it**.
   
   The mechanic **looked at** my car but couldn't find anything wrong with it.

3. look at p.v. When you think a certain way or have an opinion about something that is the way you **look at it**.
   
   The way I **look at** it, Congress is to blame for this mess, not the President.

4. look at p.v. [informal — always continuous] When you say that people are **looking at** an amount of money or a length of time, you mean that this
is how much they think something will cost or how long something will take.

That was a serious injury. You're looking at months and months of physical therapy.

**Look around**

1. **look around** p.v. When you turn your head to see what is behind you or around you, you **look around**.

I heard a sound, and I looked around to see who it was. 2. **look around** p.v. When you look around or look around a place, you go to various parts of the place in order to see what it is like or what is there.

You should **look around** before you decide whether you want to buy the house.

**Look down**

1. **look down on** p.v. When you look down on people, you consider them to be less intelligent, less educated, or from a lower level of society than you.

Some people look down on Hank because his father was in prison.

**Look up to**

1. **look up to** p.v. When you look up to people, you admire and respect them.

You should look up to people who have overcome difficulties to become successful.

**Look over**

1. **look... over** p.v. [usually separated] When you look something over, you look at it or read it carefully and thoroughly.

Here's the first chapter of my new book; look it over and tell me what you think.

**Look into**

look into p.v. When you look into something or look into doing something, you investigate it or get more information about it.

Maybe leasing a car is something I should look into.

Exercise 7. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense

1. The teacher told the students to _______ the new words __ in a dictionary.
2. If you're ever in Kempton, _____ me ____.
3. I'm much happier than I was last year. Things are ______ ____.
4. ______ ___ me when I talk to you!
5. Your finger might be broken; you should have Dr. Smith ______ ___ it.
6. What should be done about this situation depends on how you ______ ___ it.
7. Putting a new roof on this house isn't going to be cheap. You're ______ ____ at least $15,000.
8. Sally _____ ____ the room and didn't recognize anyone.
9. Linda ______ ___ the bookstore but didn't find anything interesting.
10. ______ ____ people because of things they have no control over is stupid.
11. I've always ______ ____ ____ my father because of his honesty and concern for others.
12. He ought to ______ the car ______ before he buys it.
13. After receiving many complaints about the company, the attorney general decided to ______ ____ the matter.

Make

1. make of p.v. What you make of something is your understanding or opinion of it.
   So what did you make of the prime minister's speech?
   What he said was so strange that I didn't know what to make of it.

1. make ...out p.v. When you can make something out, you can see it or hear it even though it is difficult to do so.
   The audio system is so bad in the bus station that I can never make out what the speakers are saying. I think that might be a mountain goat up there near the top of the mountain. I can just barely make it out with these binoculars.

2. make... out p.v. [always used with "to be"] When you make people or things out to be a certain way or a certain thing, you describe or consider them to be this way or to be this thing.
   Stop complaining — my food isn't as bad as you make it out to be.
   The critics made the film out to be a real bore, but I liked it.
3. make... out (to) p.v. When you write the necessary information on the front of a check, you make the check out. When you write the name of a person, company, or other organization on the check, you make the check out to that person, company, or organization.

How should I make this check out?
There must be a mistake; this check is made out to my brother, not to me.

Nancy made a check out to the IPS for $17,000.
made out part.adj. After the necessary information has been written on the front of a check, the check is made out.
Is the check made out, or is it blank?
4. make out (on) p.v. When you make out or make out on something, you do something successfully or survive a situation even though it may be difficult.

Karen had a job interview yesterday. I wonder how she made out.
Even though Jerry has lost his job, we'll make out somehow.
How did you make out on the test yesterday?

Make up

1. make... up p.v. When you invent a story to entertain or fool people, you make the story up. When you invent a lie to deceive people, you make the lie up.

My son asked me to make up a story about monsters.
made-up part.adj. When a story is invented or fictional, it is made-up.

There's no truth to any of this — it's just a made-up story.

2. make up (of) p.v. [often passive] When people or things make up a larger thing, they together form that larger thing. When a larger thing is made up of people or things, they together form that larger thing.

Children under fifteen make up 50 percent of the population.

3. make... up p.v. When you make up your mind, make up your mind about something, or make up your mind about doing something, you decide which choice to make or which action to take.

/ like both the blue dress and the red dress. I can't make up my mind.

My daughter still hasn't made up her mind about which college to attend.
made up part.adj. After you make up your mind or make up your mind to do something, your mind is made up.

4. make... up p.v. When you have an amount of money that is not enough for a certain requirement and you add more money so that it will be
enough, you make up the difference between the amount you have and the amount you need.

I didn't have enough saved to pay for college, but my Uncle Fred made up the difference.

5. make... up p.v. When you do something that you were required to do earlier but did not, such as attend a class, take a test, or complete a homework assignment, you make it up.

The teacher told her she could make it up tomorrow after school.

6. make... up p.v. [the noun and adjectives derived from this verb are much more commonly used than the verb itself] When you make yourself up, you put lipstick, eye shadow, and so on, on your face.

make-up n. Make-up is cosmetics: lipstick, mascara, and soon. Heather's father thinks she wears too much make-up.

made-up part.adj. After people have put on make-up, they are made-up.

7. make up (with) p.v. When two people make up or make up with each other, they end an argument and resume friendly relations.

Sally and Jim had a big fight, but they made up the next day.

Exercise 8. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense

1. Hank told his boss he was late for work because he had to go to the doctor, but he just _____ that excuse ____.

2. An airplane is ______ ____ of thousands of parts.

3. Marsha ______ her mind ____ about quitting her job and joining the Navy.

4. Don't waste your time talking to Tom about it — his mind is _____ ____.

5. The cashier was supposed to have $755 at the end of her shift, but she had only $735, so she had to ____ the shortage ____ with her own money.

6. Karen asked the teacher about ______ ____ the test that she missed.

7. She _____ herself ____ and went to the party.

8. Did you see Lydia? She's really beautiful when she's all _____ - ____.

9. Mr. Baker said he won't _____ ____ with his wife until she apologizes.
Put

1. **put... off** p.v. When you **put off** something or **put off** doing something, you delay or postpone it. When you **put** people off, you delay doing something they want you to do.
   
   Buying a new house will have to be **put off** until we can afford it.

2. **put... off** p.v. When people **put** you **off**, they do or say something that offends you.
   
   Everyone was **put off by** his racist jokes.

Put together

1. **put... together** p.v. When you assemble the parts of something, you **put** it **together**. **Put together** is the opposite of **take apart**.
   
   Sally got a bicycle for her birthday, and her father **put** it **together** after dinner.

2. **put... together** p.v. When you organize some ideas, plans, or suggestions in order to show them to someone or discuss them with someone, you **put** them **together**.
   
   Mr. and Mrs. Flores want to redecorate their house, so they asked an interior designer to **put** some ideas **together**.

3. **put... together** p.v. When you position people or things so that they are close to each other or touching, you **put** them **together**.
   
   When you plan your dinner party seating arrangement, **put** Heather and Jimmy **together**.

Put up to

1. **put... up to** p.v. When you persuade or pressure people to do something that is illegal, dangerous, foolish, or unwise, you **put** them **up to** it.
   
   When Jake was arrested for shooting Hank, he said Raquel had put him **up to** it by threatening to tell the police about his other crimes.

Exercise 9. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense

1. The students begged the teacher to ___ the test ___until the next week.

2. He pressured me for a decision, but I kept ______ him ____.

3. Todd went out to dinner with Nancy last night, and the way she treated the waiter really ____ him ___.

4. It was easy taking my car's engine apart, but ______ it back ______ was a lot harder.
5. I have an interesting idea for a new business, and I'm _______ _________ a proposal.
6. The teacher told Timmy and Mike to ___ their desks ___ so they could work on their project.
7. I didn't think it was a good idea to demand a raise, but my wife ___ me ___ it.

Turn

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

Turn in

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.
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 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.
   Melanie asked her teacher if she could turn her project in late.
4. turn in p.v. When you go to bed, you turn in.
   I'm really tired; I'm going to turn in early.

Turn 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.
2. turn ... into p.v. When you turn something into something else, you change it into that thing.
The children turned the big box into a playhouse.

**Turn off**

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.

   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.

   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.

   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
Turn 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 the light on please? It's dark in here.

   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.

   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 Valentine's 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.

   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.

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

**Turn 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.

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.

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.

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?

*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.

**Turn 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.

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.

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.

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.

**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.

Snowmobiles 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.

**Turn 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.
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.

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.

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

**Exercise 10. Complete the sentences with phrasal verb from this section. Be sure the phrasal verbs are in the correct tense**

1. Could you ______ the radio _____? I'm trying to sleep.
2. My request for a pay raise was ______ ______.
3. When Jake told me that he had murdered Luis, I knew I had to _____ him ___ to the police.
4. The police officer was ordered to ______ ___ her badge after she was caught taking a bribe.
5. I have to finish this report and _____ it ___ to the sales manager by tomorrow.
6. It's amazing that this small seed can ______ ___ a huge tree.
7. Would you ______ the light ____? I want to go to bed.
8. Be careful you don't ______ ____ the main road — you'll get lost.
9. This October has been so warm that I haven't ______ the heat _____ once yet.
10. Maria _____ me ___ to a great Colombian restaurant.
11. I didn't think I would like my brother's new wife, but she _____ ___ to be very nice.
12. Did the pictures you took at the wedding ____ ____?
13. High schools in America are _____ ____ people who can barely read.
14. The driver was killed when his car ______ ____.
15. The local police chief was relieved to _____ the terrorist ____ to the FBI.
16. We have a very stable work force in our plant. Employees _____ ____ very slowly.
17. We're _____ ____ forty cases of bananas a week in this supermarket.
18. Will you _____ ____ the TV? I can't hear it.
19. It's hard to plan a picnic when I don't know how many people will ______ ____.
20. The police ______ ____ enough evidence to convict Jake of murder.

PART II Modal Verbs
Preface

What are "modal auxiliary verbs"?

They are verbs which 'help' other verbs to express a meaning: it is important to realise that "modal verbs" have no meaning by themselves. A modal verb such as *would* has several varying functions; it can be used, for example, to help verbs express ideas about the past, the present and the future. It is therefore wrong to simply believe that *would* is the past of *will*; it is many other things.

A few basic grammatical rules applying to modal verbs
1. Modal verbs are NEVER used with other auxiliary verbs such as do, does, did etc. The negative is formed simply by adding "not" after the verb; questions are formed by inversion of the verb and subject:
   - You should not do that.
   - Could you pick me up when I've finished?
2. Modal verbs NEVER change form: you can never add an "-s" or "-ed", for example.
3. Modal verbs are NEVER followed by to, with the exception of ought to.

What sort of meanings do modals give to other verbs?
The meaning is usually connected with ideas of DOUBT, CERTAINTY, POSSIBILITY and PROBABILITY, OBLIGATION and PERMISSION (or lack of these). You will see that they are not used to talk about things that definitely exist, or events that definitely happened. These meanings are sometimes divided into two groups:

   DEGREES OF CERTAINTY: certainty; probability; possibility; impossibility
   OBLIGATION/FREEDOM TO ACT: permission, lack of permission; ability; obligation.
General overview of Modals

Let's look at each modal verb separately, and the functions they help to express:

**Will**
1) Making personal predictions
I don't think the Queen will ever abdicate.
2) Talking about the present with certainty (making deductions)
I'm sure you will understand that there is nothing the Department can do
3) Talking about the future with certainty
I won't be in the office until 11; I've got a meeting.
4) Talking about the past with certainty
I'm sure you will have noticed that attendance has fallen sharply.
5) Reassuring someone: Don't worry! You'll settle down quickly, I'm sure.
   It'll be all right! You won't have to speak by yourself.
6) Making a decision: For the main course I'll have grilled tuna.
7) Making a semi-formal request: Will you open the window, please?
   It's very hot in here.
8) Offering to do something: You stay there! I'll fetch the drinks.
9) Insistence; habitual behavior: I'm not surprised you don't know what to do! You will keep talking in class.
10) Making a promise or a threat: You can count on me! I'll be there at 8 o'clock sharp.

**Shall**
Shall is a form of will, used mostly in the first person. Its use, however, is decreasing, and in any case in spoken English it would be contracted to "-ll" and be indistinguishable from will.
The only time you do need to use it is in questions, when:
1) Making offers
   Shall I fetch you another glass of wine?
2) Making suggestions
   Shall we go to the cinema tonight?

**May & Might**
May & might sometimes have virtually the same meaning; they are used to talk about possibilities in the past, present or future. ("Could" is also sometimes used).

May is sometimes a little bit "more sure" (50% chance); whereas might expresses more doubt (maybe only a 30% chance).

May & might are used, then, for:
1) Talking about the present or future with uncertainty
   She may be back in her office: the lecture finished ten minutes ago.
   England might win the World Cup, you never know.
2) Talking about the past with uncertainty
   I'm surprised he failed. I suppose he might have been ill on the day of the exam.

They can also sometimes be used for talking about permission, but usually only in formal situations. Instead of saying May I open a window? we would say Is it all right/OK if I open a window? or Can I open a window? for example. You might, however, see:

Students may not borrow equipment without written permission.

May
1) Talking about things that can happen in certain situations
   If the monitors are used in poorly lit places, some users may experience headaches.
   2) With a similar meaning to although
      The experiment may have been a success, but there is still a lot of work to be done. (= Although it was a success, there is still ...)

Might
1) Saying that something was possible, but did not actually happen
   You saw me standing at the bus stop! You might have stopped and given me a lift!

Would
1) As the past of will, for example in indirect speech: "The next meeting will be in a month's time" becomes: He said the next meeting would be in a month's time.
   2) Polite requests and offers (a 'softer' form of will): Would you like another cup of tea?
   3) In conditionals, to indicate 'distance from reality': imagined, unreal, impossible situations
      If I ruled the world, every day would be the first day of Spring.
4) After 'wish', to show regret or irritation over someone (or something's) refusal or insistence on doing something (present or future) I wish you wouldn't keep interrupting me.

5) Talking about past habits (similar meaning to used to): When I was small, we would always visit relatives on Christmas Day.

6) Future in the past: The assassination would become one of the key events of the century.

**Can & Could**

1) Talking about ability: Can you speak Mandarin? (present); She could play the piano when she was five. (past)

2) Making requests: Can you give me a ring at about 10? Could you speak up a bit please? (slightly more formal, polite or 'softer')

3) Asking permission: Can I ask you a question?; Could I ask you a personal question? (more formal, polite or indirect)

4) Reported speech: Could is used as the past of can; He asked me if I could pick him up after work.

5) General possibility: You can drive when you're 17. (present); Women couldn't vote until just after the First World War.

6) Choice and opportunities: If you want some help with your writing, you can come to classes, or you can get some 1:1 help; We could go to Stratford tomorrow, but the forecast's not brilliant (less definite)

7) Future probability: Could (NOT can) is sometimes used in the same way as might or may, often indicating something less definite. For example: When I leave university I might travel around a bit, I might do an MA or I suppose I could even get a job.

8) Present possibility: I think you could be right you know. (NOT can); That can't be the right answer, it just doesn't make sense.

9) Past possibility: If I'd known the lecture had been cancelled, I could have stayed in bed longer.

**Must**

1) Necessity and obligation. Must is often used to indicate 'personal' obligation; what you think you yourself or other people/things must do. If the obligation comes from outside (eg a rule or law), then have to is often (but not always) preferred: I really must get some exercise; People must try to be more tolerant of each other.

2) Strong advice and invitations: I think you really must make more of an effort; you must go and see the film - it's brilliant.

3) Saying you think something is certain: This must be the place - there's a
white car parked outside; You must be mad.
4) The negative is expresses by can't: You're going to sell your guitar! You can't be serious! She didn't wave - she can't have seen me.

Should
1) Giving advice: I think you should go for the Alfa rather than the Audi; you shouldn't be drinking if you're on antibiotics.
2) Obligation: weak form of must: The University should provide more sports facilities; the equipment should be inspected regularly.
3) Deduction: The letter should get to you tomorrow - I posted it first class; I should have renewed my TV license last month, but I forgot.

Ought to
Ought to usually has the same meaning as should, particularly in affirmative statements in the present: You should/ought to get your hair cut.
Should is much more common (and easier to say!), so if you're not sure, use should.

Revision exercises on modals

Exercise 1. Translate the sentences with modal verbs expressing obligation, permission, ability, willingness, necessity, and characteristic behavior.

1. You should have asked for an advice from an experienced reporter before starting the research.
2. Journalists must be free of obligation to any interest other than the public’s right to know.
3. We must not leave the studio before we can be sure we’ve finished editing.
4. No one shall knowingly falsify facts.
5. A journalist shall not accept bribes nor shall he/she allow other inducements to influence the performance of his/her professional duties.
6. Categorical imperatives tell us how we ought to act irrespective of our inclinations.
7. The reporter ought to have told the editor about a sudden complication before his going live with the story.
8. Why are you speaking only about investigative journalists’ research activities? Don’t all journalists have to do some kind of investigation?
9. The work was to be finished in late fall, but as we couldn’t get a proper footage the start of the program will have to be postponed.
10. Reporters may use recorders when conducting interviews, although they are not allowed to tape-record interviews with inmates in prisons.
11. You ought to have known that interference in the actions of police in situations with hostages is strictly forbidden.
12. How are they to know that the situation has changed entirely?
13. By the middle of the century organizations of mass professionals were to be found in around one hundred countries of the world.
14. Journalists of all times will show respect for dignity, privacy rights and wellbeing of people.
15. He’ll spend hours reading old manuscripts.
16. I asked my colleague not to smoke in the newsroom, but he would do it.
17. She wouldn’t let me go there whenever I asked her.
18. How dare you address me in this tone?
19. One need be careful, but you needn’t be afraid.
20. You needn’t have written a headline. The copyeditor will do it.

Exercise 2. Translate the sentences with modal verbs expressing degrees of certainty (uncertainty) about the present and past.

1. I won’t do what you ask me.
2. It won’t have been Brian you met at the conference yesterday. He is in London.
3. You say you dined at a restaurant with a view of a mill? That would have been the restaurant I used to dine every evening.
4. I suppose I might have been rather critical.
5. The press conference could still be continuing.
6. The photographer must have earned a lot of money for so many good pictures of celebrities.
7. He may be among the richest cameramen now.
8. The editor-in-chief may not be in his office yet.
9. You must have misunderstood the speaker. He can’t have said this.
10. She must have forgotten about the meeting. She can’t have decided not to come without warning me. Or she might come later.
11. This might not be a correct decision.
12. This article may cause trouble. The company must sue the writer of the story for libel.
13. Some in the media business might be tempted to apply the principle if it’s legal it’s right, illegal wrong.
14. We should be moving into a new newsroom soon provided nothing unexpected happens.
15. He could be the author of this article although I doubt it. She might not be.

**Exercise 3. Explain the difference in the meaning of the modal verbs in the following pairs or groups of sentences.**

1. He could draw a good picture when he was a child.
   a. He could have drawn a good picture to illustrate the story.
2. The article must be written very fast.
   a. The article must have been written very fast. It is evident that there was no time to check the facts.
3. You may leave your key at home. I’ll be in all the time.
   a. You may have left your key at home. I don’t remember your putting it into your purse.
4. This young journalist can’t write under deadline pressure.
   a. A young journalist can’t have written such a serious survey.
5. No one was sure the program could be aired in prime time.
   a. The program could be aired in prime time. The director gave some hope.
   b. The program could be aired in prime time if it was better publicized.
6. The journalist didn’t need to pay for all the pictures at once.
   a. The journalist needn’t have paid for all the pictures at once.
7. The editor-in-chief had to fire the reporter for falsifying the facts.
   a. The editor must have fired the reporter. He doesn’t work in this newsroom any more.
8. He asked me for the permission to leave. I said he might do whatever he wanted, leave or stay.
a. Who knows? He might leave us or stay forever. He is unpredictable.

Exercise 4. Translate the sentences paying attention to different meanings of the verbs in italics.

1. The idea that we should tell the truth is deeply embedded in most cultural traditions.
   That is why there is nothing strange in my demanding that you should tell the truth.

2. If making money becomes a journalist’s governing regulative ideal we say that he or she is a good infotainer, for example – we would not say that the person was a good journalist.
   After the publication of that scandalous story it became clear that no one would say that the person was a good journalist.

3. Sometimes it is necessary that a person should lie to avoid a worse evil. As for me, I don’t think that a person should lie even to avoid a worse evil.

4. Why should I be good? Why should I act well when I might lose my job, my life?
   Should I act well, what’s going to happen?

5. If I were in your place I wouldn’t do it.
   Several times I asked the cameraman to reshoot the interview, but he wouldn’t do it.
   He said he would do everything himself.

6. I called the manager and asked if I might advance our meeting from 2 p.m. to 2.30.
   He might come later. He might have forgotten the time of the appointment.

Exercise 5. Translate the sentences paying attention to the modal verbs: can, may, must, should.

1. I can do this work myself without any help.
2. He couldn’t say anything about new research in this field of physics.
3. You can find this dictionary everywhere.
4. This question is important for you, you must solve it yourself.
5. I could attend all these lectures although they were delivered at the St. Petersburg University.
6. My friend can write excellent compositions.
7. You may go to the south only after your final examination.
8. You should see the Dean as soon as possible.
9. The teacher said we might use a dictionary, if necessary.
10. At first Roentgen couldn’t understand the nature of the new rays.

**Exercise 6. Translate the sentences paying attention to the equivalents of modal verbs.**

1. Will you be able to carry out this experiment yourself?
2. The students are allowed to take the next year’s course only when they have passed the exams and tests required at the end of the academic year.
3. Sophia Kavalevskaya had to go abroad to get higher education.
4. Was she able to speak and write Spanish in her childhood?
5. I shall have to work hard to pass my exams successfully.
6. The examinations are to be held next month.
7. He had to take private lessons in physics as he had missed many lessons because of his illness.
8. According to the curriculum the first-year students are to do many laboratory works.
9. They had to consult a dictionary many times, the text was rather difficult.
10. It should be kept in mind that only hard labour makes a gifted person a great scientist.

**Grammar Test**

Use modal verbs (can, may, must) instead of their equivalents.

a) may  b) can  c) must
1. The students will be allowed to conduct this experiment.
2. He was able to check the results of the experiments.
3. They are allowed to use dictionaries.
4. The students had to solve many problems.
5. I shall not be able to come to you.
6. The students have to conduct experiments.
7. The test is to start at 9 o’clock.
8. She was not allowed to take examinations in spring.
9. The designer was able to construct a new machine.
10. The students were allowed to use all the devices.
11. Electrons have to flow from the emitter to the collector.
12. She is able to help him.
13. The scientists will have to discuss the results.
14. Every worker is to know how to start an electric motor.
15. We were able to solve this equation.
16. They were not allowed to enter the laboratory.
17. I shall be allowed to take part in the conference.
18. This plant has to produce 4mln. TV sets.
19. We shall be able to translate this text without a dictionary.
20. We had to take part in this work.

Exercise 7. Make up situations of your own using the following phrases:

1. Не може бути, що він…
2. Невже він…
3. Він просто не може…
4. Не можу не…
5. Мені нічого не залишається, як…
6. Möglichо, він…
7. Він ледве не…
8. Я, мабуть, …
9. Мабуть, краще…
10. Можна було прийняти за…
11. Тобі треба було б …
12. Він має знати…
13. Тобі варто…
14. Звідки я знаю…
15. Ще б пак…
16. Неможна…
17. Час йти…
18. Доводиться…
19. Не треба…
20. Йому краще…

Exercise 8. Translate the following sentences into English using modal verbs.

1. Невже зараз тільки шоста година?
2. Він має це знати.
3. Тобі варто було б ще раз прочитати свій твір.
4. Мені зараз подзвонити йому?
5. Мабуть, він має відчуття гумору.
6. Мабуть, йде сильний дощ. На вулиці нікого немає.
7. Не може бути, що він забув про свою обіцянку.
8. Йому довелося повернутися до готелю, так як виліт його літака затримувався.
9. Він знал, що йому доведеться бути присутнім на двох нарадах наступного тижня.
10. Новина може налякати її.
11. Вона, мабуть, нічого не знає про твої справи.
12. Вона нічого не повинна знати про твої справи.
13. Цей іспит я маю складати через тиждень.
14. Тобі треба самому заробляти на життя.
15. Сподіваюся, твоїй дружині не доводиться мити автомобіль.
16. Я можу йти?
17. Навіщо мені йти туди пішки?
18. Його можна було прийняти за старого.
19. Тобі не варто звинувачувати його за це.
20. Чи не міг би ти зробити це сьогодні?
ЛИТЕРАТУРА