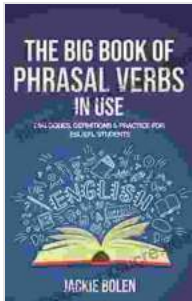


The Big Picture of Phrasal Verbs in Use: A Comprehensive Guide



The Big Book of Phrasal Verbs in Use: Dialogues, Definitions & Practice for ESL/EFL Students (Learn to Speak English) by Jackie Bolen

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English
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Phrasal verbs are a vital part of the English language, adding depth, nuance, and expressiveness to our communication. They consist of a verb combined with a preposition or adverb, forming a single unit with a specific meaning. This comprehensive guide will delve into the world of phrasal verbs, exploring their types, usage, and common examples to enhance your understanding and fluency in English.

What are Phrasal Verbs?

Phrasal verbs are multi-word verbs or phrases where the primary verb is followed by one or two particles (prepositions or adverbs) that collectively change the meaning of the base verb. The particles can modify the meaning of the verb, indicate direction, or express a specific relationship between the verb and its object.

For example, the phrasal verb "look up" has a different meaning from the base verb "look." "Look up" can mean "to search for information," "to check something," or "to respect someone."

Types of Phrasal Verbs

There are many types of phrasal verbs, each with its unique function and meaning. Here are some common types:

- **Intransitive phrasal verbs:** These verbs do not take an object and are complete in themselves. Example: "get up" (to wake up or rise)
- **Transitive phrasal verbs:** These verbs take an object and transfer action to it. Example: "put on" (to wear or apply something)
- **Separable phrasal verbs:** In these verbs, the particle can be placed either next to the verb or after the object. Example: "pick up" or "pick it up" (to lift something)
- **Inseparable phrasal verbs:** The particle always remains next to the verb in these verbs. Example: "make up" (to invent or fabricate something)

Usage of Phrasal Verbs

Phrasal verbs are commonly used in informal spoken English and can be found in various contexts, including:

- Everyday conversations
- Storytelling
- Idioms

- Formal writing (occasionally)

When using phrasal verbs, it's essential to consider the following factors:

- **Correct particle usage:** Ensure you use the appropriate particle with the verb, as different particles can alter the meaning.
- **Collocations:** Certain phrasal verbs go well with specific nouns and pronouns. For example, "put on" is usually used with clothes, while "pick up" is used with small objects.
- **Figurative and literal meanings:** Some phrasal verbs have both literal and figurative meanings. For instance, "look up" can literally mean to raise one's head, but it can also mean to search for information.

Common Examples of Phrasal Verbs

Here are some frequently used phrasal verbs with their meanings:

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
break down	to malfunction or collapse	The car broke down in the middle of the road.
come up with	to think of or invent	I came up with a great idea for a project.
figure out	to understand or solve something	I couldn't figure out how to fix the computer.
look up to	to admire or respect someone	I look up to my teacher because she's so smart.

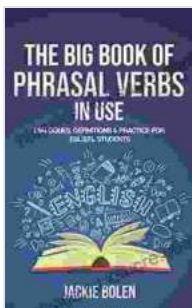
put off

to delay or postpone
something

I kept putting off studying for the
exam.

Phrasal verbs are a powerful and versatile tool that adds richness and expressiveness to the English language. By understanding their types, usage, and common examples, you can enhance your vocabulary, improve your comprehension, and communicate more effectively in English. Practice using phrasal verbs in your daily conversations and writing to master them confidently.

Remember, learning phrasal verbs is an ongoing process that requires regular exposure and practice. The more you immerse yourself in English, the more comfortable you will become with these essential elements of the language.



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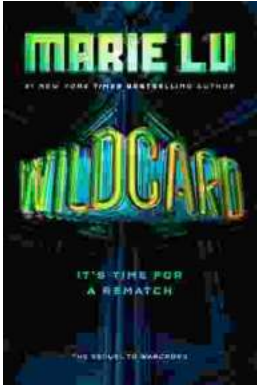
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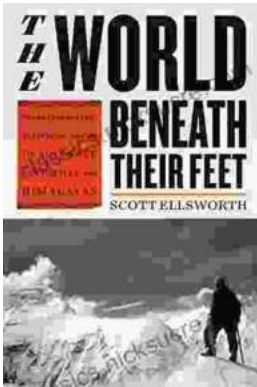
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