

1A Phrasal verbs on the spot

Aims

- to practise prepositional phrases from the unit
- to practise open cloze task skills

Activity type

a gap-fill activity where students complete sentences with the correct preposition

Classroom dynamics

individual and pairwork

Time taken

10 minutes

Preparation

You will need a copy of the activity sheet per pair.

Procedure

- 1 Divide the class into pairs and give each student one half of the activity sheet.
- 2 Tell students that they and their partner each have a different set of sentences, but with the same phrasal verbs missing prepositions. Students must first work individually to complete their own set of sentences with the correct prepositions. Set a time limit of 4 to 5 minutes for this stage.
- 3 When completed, Student A reads their sentence 1 aloud. Student B confirms whether they wrote the same preposition to complete *their* sentence 1. If not, Student B reads aloud their own completed sentence and Student A accepts or rejects Student B's answer. If they are unsure, students can check with you, or just confirm answers at the end of the activity.
- 4 Student B then reads their completed sentence 2, and Student A compares it with their answer for sentence 2. Students continue in this way, taking turns reading out sentences and checking that they have used the same preposition in each case.
- 5 Conduct class feedback to check answers and deal with any queries.

Adaptation and extension

For weaker groups, write the necessary prepositions on the board for them to refer to. This could also be done to aid self-checking after the task has been completed.

Answer key

- 1 with 2 forward 3 to 4 on 5 up 6 into
7 on 8 for 9 down 10 in 11 with 12 for

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Student A

- 1 Italy is associated _____ many types of food, such as pasta, pizza and ice cream.
- 2 Everyone in the group had to put _____ some ideas for how to solve the problem.
- 3 In her later years, she devoted herself _____ writing her autobiography.
- 4 This new type of wearable technology will never catch _____!
- 5 Now that it's early spring, flowers have begun to spring _____ everywhere in my garden!
- 6 When she got a promotion, she really threw herself _____ her work – she sometimes worked 14 hours a day!
- 7 It's the exam tomorrow, so don't forget to read up _____ phrasal verbs!
- 8 Don't forget to pay your brother back _____ the meal; he paid for everything on his credit card!
- 9 My father is so stubborn! Even when he knows he's wrong, he never backs _____!
- 10 The man was totally taken _____ by the scam and lost a lot of money as a result.
- 11 My little sister is always coming out _____ such funny words – she's only four so she invents most of them!
- 12 When I'm playing with my dog, sometimes I pretend to throw the ball but really, I hide it. He falls _____ it every time!

Student B

- 1 Many people associate studying architecture _____ a lot of hard work.
- 2 His boss put him _____ for a promotion thanks to his fantastic work.
- 3 He devoted himself _____ his family and spent every possible moment with them.
- 4 He worked hard on designing his new gadget, but it never really caught _____.
- 5 Have you noticed how many new coffee shops have sprung _____ in the town centre recently?
- 6 Whenever I take up a new hobby, I always throw myself _____ it for a few months, but I usually end up losing interest.
- 7 Before playing Charles Darwin in a play, the actor decided to read up _____ the biologist's life.
- 8 My friend never pays me back _____ anything when we go out together – I hate it!
- 9 When the boy realised he had made a mistake, he reluctantly backed _____ and accepted his friend was right.
- 10 Don't be taken _____ by his stories – he exaggerates so much!
- 11 I like spending time with her, but she does come out _____ some strange ideas sometimes!
- 12 It can be very difficult to avoid falling _____ an internet scam – they can be so convincing!

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