

Explanations

1

Verbs with three parts

The object always follows these verbs, and cannot be put between any of the parts. Verbs marked * can be used intransitively without the final preposition.

*I've decided to **cut down on smoking**. I've decided to **cut down**.*

A selection of verbs is listed here with examples. Others, and other meanings of those listed here, are included in the activities.

Cut down on *

*I've decided to **cut down on smoking**.* (reduce the amount of)

Catch up with *

*They are too far ahead for us to **catch up with them**.* (reach the same place as)

Come up against

*I'm afraid we've **come up against a problem we can't solve**.* (meet)

Come up with

*Have you **come up with an answer yet?*** (think of)

Drop in on *

*I **dropped in on Bill and Sheila on my way home**.* (visited)

Face up to

*You must **face up to reality!*** (accept, deal with)

Feel up to

*You must **feel up to going to work**.* (feel fit to do)

Get away with

*Jack stole the money and **got away with it**.* (avoid discovery)

Get along/on with *

*Do you **get along with your new boss?*** (have good relations with)

Get on with

*Stop talking and **get on with your work!*** (continue with)

Get out of

*I managed to **get out of working late**.* (avoid a responsibility)

Get round to

*I haven't **got round to decorating yet**.* (find time to do)

Get up to

*What has young Bill been **getting up to?*** (do, often something wrong)

Go in for

*Do you **go in for sailing?*** (have as a hobby)

Grow out of

*Julie has **grown out of playing with dolls**.* (become too old for)

Keep up with *	<i>You're going too fast! I can't keep up with you!</i>	(stay in the same place as)
Look down on	<i>Our neighbours look down on anyone without a car.</i>	(feel superior to)
Look up to	<i>I really look up to my teacher.</i>	(respect)
Look forward to	<i>We are looking forward to our holiday.</i>	(think we will enjoy)
Make up for	<i>The wonderful dinner made up for the bad service.</i>	(compensate for)
Put up with	<i>I can't put up with these screaming children!</i>	(bear)
Run out of *	<i>Oh dear, we've run out of petrol!</i>	(have no more of)
Stand up for	<i>You must learn to stand up for yourself!</i>	(defend)

2

Verbs with two parts: transitive and inseparable

These verbs take an object, but the object cannot be put between verb and preposition.

	<i>I can't do without coffee in the morning!</i>	
Ask after	<i>Jim asked after you yesterday.</i>	(ask for news of)
Call for	<i>I'll call for you at six.</i>	(come and collect)
Call on	<i>I called on some friends in Plymouth.</i>	(visit)
Come across	<i>Joe came across this old painting in the attic.</i>	(find by chance)
Come into	<i>Sue came into a large sum of money.</i>	(inherit)
Count on	<i>I'm counting on you to help me.</i>	(depend on)
Deal with	<i>How would you deal with the traffic problem?</i>	(take action about)
Do without	<i>We'll have to do without a holiday this year.</i>	(manage without)
Get at	<i>What are you getting at?</i>	(suggest)
Get over	<i>Barry has got over his illness now.</i>	(recover from)
Go over	<i>Let's go over our plan once more.</i>	(discuss the details)

