



# ЖУРНАЛ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЙ И РАЗВИТИЯ THE JOURNAL OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ТАДҚИҚОТ ВА ТАРАҚҚИЁТ ЖУРНАЛИ

ISSN: 3030-3281. Volume I, Issue-1, (January) 2024  
Journal homepage: <https://imfaktor.com/index.php/tjrd>

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## ORIGIN AND GRAMMATICAL FEATURES OF ENGLISH PHRASAL VERBS

### ANNOTATION

Phrasal verbs are a unique English language phenomenon in English studies. Numerous studies in linguistics have been devoted to determining the status of these lexical units, including their grammatical and lexical structures, the nature of the second component, and how they operate in language and speech. Polysemy is one of these characteristics. First, this paper demonstrates the phrasal verb in English and its background and some grammatical features.

**Keywords:** phrasal verbs, Germanic languages, word combinations, phraseology.

### АННОТАЦИЯ

Фразовые глаголы – уникальное явление английского языка в англо- ведении. Многочисленные исследования в лингвистике посвящены определению статуса этих лексических единиц, включая их грамматическую и лексическую структуру, природу второго компонента и то, как они действуют в языке и речи. Полисемия является одной из таких характеристик. Во-первых, в этой статье демонстрируется фразовый глагол в английском языке, его происхождение и некоторые грамматические особенности.

**Ключевые слова:** фразовые глаголы, германские языки, словосочетания, фразеология.

### ANNOTATSIYA

Ingliz tilidagi frazik fe'lli birikmalar tilni o'rganishdagi o'ziga xos muhim jihatlarni o'z ichiga oluvchi birikmalardir. Tilshunoslikda ko'plab tadqiqotlar ushbu birliklarni leksik birlik sifatida tadqiq etdi shuningdek, grammatik va leksik tuzilishi, ikkinchi komponentning mohiyati va nutqda qanday ahamiyatda ega ekanligi tadqiq etild. Ushbu maqola ingliz tilidagi fe'lli birikmalarining kelib chiqishi va ularning grammatik jihatlari haqidagi izlanishlarni qisqacha tadqiq etadi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** frazeologik fe'llar, German tillari, so'z birikmalari, frazeologiya.

Beginning of the 18th century, phrasal verbs were viewed as especially 'idiomatic' and 'English'. However, since all of these languages have equivalent constructions, even a quick examination of other Germanic languages suggests that this viewpoint has to be explained. Consequently, one of this article's primary goals has been to evaluate the phrasal verb's real Englishness. The notion that the phrasal verbs are at the same time both typically Germanic and uniquely English is deeply rooted in the linguistic literature, where it has been traditionally taken for granted since the beginnings of the linguistic interest in the construction.

Phrasal verbs are one of the most complex aspects of the study of the English language. The term “phrasal verbs” was first introduced by an English linguist L.P. Smith [2, P.35] and was recorded in the English-Russian dictionary of verb combinations published in 1986 in the USSR. Phrasal verbs, as their name suggests, refer to phraseology. Phraseology is a branch of linguistics studying phrases, i.e., word combinations, but not all of them, only more or less stable.

Phrasal verbs are compound (or composite) verbs (multi-word verbs), consisting of several words, one of which is a verb, and another (or others) is a preposition or an adverb that has the same form. For this reason, two or three words that make up a compound verb and look like a short phrase are often called phrasal verbs. Learning English presents difficulties in mastering phrasal verbs. This is because they can quickly and suddenly change their meanings, and there are so many of them. As with all of the words of modern English, most verbs have either Latin (Romance) or Germanic origin.

In the 20th century, phrasal verbs came to be one of the favorite topics not only of grammarians and lexicographers but also of authors of popular style guides; only a few properties of English are commonly seen as more typical of the language than the phrasal verb. The above quotation from the preface to Johnson’s dictionary shows that this view goes back at least to the middle of the 18th century when many of the modern notions concerning the distinctive properties of the English language were first expressed. So powerful have these notions been that one obvious question has rarely been asked, namely: how “English” are the phrasal verbs? One aim of the present study is to explore this question. The other aim is to trace the evolution of the Modern English phrasal verb from its early history up to the present. Both aims are closely connected, since the peculiarities of Modern English construction are bound to remain indistinct unless one is ready to adopt a historical, contrastive and cross-linguistic perspective.

The term phrasal verb is rarely ever used except concerning English, where it is sometimes applied not only to phrasal verbs as described by Samuel Johnson in the quotation at the beginning of this introduction, but also to other verbal constructs, most notably prepositional verbs. It seems that the term was originally coined for English alone and it is probably first found in Smith [4, P.43].

Where it is attributed to one of the editors of the OED, Henry Bradley. Characteristically, the term is introduced in a chapter on ‘English idioms’, where Smith calls the phrasal verbs “one of the most striking idiosyncrasies of our language”, despite adding the observation that they “correspond to the compound verbs in synthetic languages”.

The English language is full of surprises, and some of its oldest components still come into play today. Take for example two simple phrases that date back to Old English - “look out” and “stand up”. Though their meanings have evolved, it’s incredible to think that these two small words have been around for nearly a millennium. It only goes to show that the past is never too far away. Similarly, the English language has continually evolved, and this is especially true when it comes to the use of phrasal verbs. In recent years these have become very commonplace in everyday speech, with new ones being invented all the time. As such, English remains a growing and versatile language with so many possibilities for expression.

From the very first known written record of the English language in the 6th century [1, P.21-22], it has been an ever-evolving and continuously changing entity. Whether you are aware of it or not, you’re speaking a much different language than people did centuries ago. It’s quite amazing to think how far the English language has come since its humble beginnings, but one thing remains true its gripping history shows no signs of slowing down anytime soon. It’s no secret that English has been heavily influenced by Latin, French, and other languages over the centuries. Every phrase we use today, from the simplest sentence fragment to the most complicated phrasal verb has evolved significantly since English first emerged. It’s amazing how much English has changed and adapted while remaining a part of its original roots.

Thus, the Great Vowel Shift [5, P.128-129] of the fifteenth century drastically altered English pronunciation as well as leading to the formation of new words and phrases, including the popular use of phrasal verbs. As it spread through England and eventually across the world, many people started speaking a different language than they were used to. This shift in English has had a lasting effect on how people communicate even to this day. It's no wonder that English is known as a beautiful and complex language; it has been evolving since the 5th century.

English began when the Anglo-Saxons brought their tongue to "Britain" [5, P.131] beginning an incredible journey of grammar and language. Through centuries of conquests and discoveries, the English language has gone through some interesting changes and continues to change to this day. The English language has had quite the journey. Way back in the day, it was known as Old English a much simpler form of the sophisticated language we know and love today. Over time, English underwent radical changes with Latin and Norman French infiltrating to create Middle English. It's come a long way and survived many transitions along the way.

The English language has changed dramatically since William Caxton introduced the printing press to Britain in the 15th century. This revolutionized many aspects of language, including the creation and popularization of phrasal verbs. The standardization of English furthered by the printing press is responsible for Modern English as we know it today.

Many of us take the English language for granted, but its history is far more complex than we might think. It is believed that the root of all modern European languages goes back to a single language, known as Proto-Indo-European. Without this original language and its many subsequent branches, our conversational landscape would look very different today proving just how important English language history really is. It's remarkable to think that many of the words we use in everyday speech today can trace their roots back to Old English. By examining these ancient origins, linguists have been able to uncover clues about how words evolved over time, and what their meanings were originally used for. It's like a journey through history it's intriguing to see how language has changed with the culture!

Thus, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the English language requires looking back at its earliest roots in Proto-Indo-European and studying how those old English words spread and evolved over the centuries. This can provide a fascinating insight into the shared histories of different cultures, showing how languages influenced and blended.

Phrasal verbs are usually referred to as the multi-word middle ground between lexis and grammar (Gass & Selinker, 2001). Not only are they complicated in terms of their semantics but they are also challenging because of the various grammatical configurations they may assume. While the transitive combinations are accompanied by an NP complement, no NP follows the intransitive combinations. It is interesting, however, to point out that not all transitive structures have the same syntactic behavior. In some transitive combinations, the particle is always contiguous to the verb. In some others, the particle is always noncontiguous to its verb.

There are still other transitive combinations in which there is no fixed word order. The particle in these structures can equally occur after the NP complement or immediately after the verb. To complicate the point, there are combinations (e.g., give up) that may fall in more than one syntactic type. With that being said, any discussion of phrasal verbs should not only care for their meaning but also for their grammar. Since the remaining instances could function both as phrasal verbs and prepositional verbs, the researchers went on to distinguish between the two types in terms of the operational definition of the phrasal verb combinations as explained above. After extracting all the instances of phrasal verbs in the corpus, the second step consisted in sorting them into their various grammatical patterns as phrasal verbs may occur in a wide range of syntactic configurations. To this end, a fairly extensive list of the distributional possibilities of these combinations as used in the corpus was developed.

This list included 14 different grammatical patterns of phrasal verbs which run as follows:

1. V+Prt+Np (Jot down all your thoughts, feelings, and opinions.)
2. V+Np+Prt (The wolf then ate the lamb up.)
3. V+Pron +Prt (Someone will wake them up.)
4. V+Prt (Hey, calm down. I was just joking.)
5. V+Prt+Prep (Cut down on your television time.)
6. V+Pron+Part+Np (I bring them back some worms.)
7. V+Part+Np +Prep (... the person who opened up a new world for me.)
8. V+Part+to-V (... animals have to move away to look for another home.)
9. V+Part+V-ing (That's why you kept on asking the factory tour guide to...)
10. V+Part+Prep+V-ing (I am looking forward to reading more about you.)
11. V+Pron+Part+to-v (... helped him out to complete ...)
12. V+Prt+ as Np (... if you signed up as a volunteer.)
13. V+Prt+Adj (... (never forgot) what it was like to grow up poor.)
14. V+Prt+S (... settlers look forward to their crops mature in a month's time.)

Although from the very beginning the use of the term phrasal verb implies that the construction is distinctively English, there are comparable verbal constructions in other languages, as already noted by Smith. The most obvious parallels can be found in other Germanic languages. Data analysis led the researchers to conclude that phrasal verbs did not enjoy a good reputation in these ELT textbooks. They were hardly ever treated as a group as such, enjoying their own grammatical behavior and were, therefore, rather sparingly dealt with. Despite their pronounced regularity, no grammatical explanation was provided for the language learners.

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