

Phrasal verbs

Verb + particle (prep or adv)

Transitive

Vb + obj



Take off your shoes.

Intransitive

Vb (no obj)



The plane took off.

Which one is **not** correct?

- a) He took off his shoes.
- b) He took his shoes off.
- c) He took off them.
- d) He took them off.

ANSWER: c) is not correct

He took off his shoes.

He took his shoes off.

~~He took off them.~~

He took them off.

Separable: ie TAKE OFF

He took off his shoes.

He took his shoes off.

~~He took off them.~~

He took them off.

Verb + part + noun

Verb + noun/ pronoun + part

When the object is a noun, it can go **either before or after** the particle. The verb and part can be separated – separable.

When the object is a pronoun, it must go **before** the part.

Which two are **not** correct?

- a) Nurses look after patients.
- b) Nurses look patients after.
- c) Nurses look after them.
- d) Nurses look them after.

ANSWER: b) and d) are not correct
Nurses look after patients.
~~Nurses look patients after.~~
Nurses look after them.
~~Nurses look them after.~~

Inseparable: ie LOOK AFTER

Nurses look after **patients**.
~~Nurses look patients after.~~
Nurses look after **them**.

~~Nurses look them after.~~

Verb + part + **noun**/ **pronoun**

The verb and the part **cannot** be separated, therefore the object, whether it is a **noun** or a **pronoun**, must go **after** the part – inseparable.

All phrasal verbs with 2 particles are inseparable:

Put up with

Look up to

I can't put up with all that noise!

I can't put up with it!

Jane really looked up to her mother.

Jane really looked up to her.

Some intransitive phrasal verbs can

become transitive by adding another preposition:

SPLIT UP

Intransitive

My boyfriend and I **have just split up.**

SPLIT UP WITH

Transitive (add another prep)

I **have just split up with** my boyfriend.

Recording vocab

Always learn phrasal verbs in context. Choose a context that is familiar to you and easy to remember. If the phrasal is separable, separate it in the example. Find an English synonym/ definition and, if you want, the Italian translation.

ie

phrasal sep / insep	example	definition	Italian
look after s.o.	A nurse looks after sick people.	take care of	_____
take sth off take off	He took his shoes off . The plane took off on time.	remove leave the ground	_____ _____