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100+ MOST IMPORTANT VERBAL PHRASES

For Different SSC & Govt. Exam

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A comprehensive list of **100+ Most Important Verbal Phrases** with their meaning and examples is given in the following pages of this **Free English E-book** on **100+ Most Important Verbal Phrases**.

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Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
abide by	To respect or obey a decision, a law or a rule	For a Fair game of Cricket, every player must abide by the Umpire's decisions.
add up	To make sense, seem reasonable	There is something about the points given in the book that just does not add up.
agree with	To have the same opinion as someone else.	The Entire Crowd agreed with the Leader's demand for a Fair Pay Law.
apply for	To make a formal request for something (job, permit, loan etc.)	Ajay Applied for the post of Assistant Manager at NABARD
back down	To withdraw, concede defeat	It seemed like the Indian Team backed out of a contest in the first session itself.
black out	To faint, lose consciousness	The blow on his head was so hard that he blacked out on the spot.
boil down to	To be summarized as	All the Drama, Twists and Turns throughout the match has boiled down to a Penalty Shoot Out which will decide the Champion.
break away	To separate from a crowd	She broke away from the rat race of engineering and decided to be a writer.
break out of	To escape	5 of the prisoners met and made a plan to break out of the Prison.
break up	To come to an end (marriage, relationship)	After seeing their love for 5 years, it was sad to see them breaking up.
brush up on	To improve, refresh one's knowledge of something	Ram decided to brush up his technical skills before appearing for the Job interview
call back	To return a phone call	As she was busy with her work, she requested the Executive to call back in 15 minutes.
calm down	To become more relaxed, less angry or upset	To calm down in a Crisis is the first step towards resolving it.
check in	To register at a hotel, airport or any other public place	It is mandatory to check in at the Airport at least 3 hours before the flight.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
clamp down on	To act strictly to prevent something	Officer Sharma led the fight to clamp down on Drug Abuse in his Locality.
count on	To rely or depend on (for help)	The Fans knew they could count on Pujara to win the match.
deal with	To handle, take care of (problem, situation)	One of a major part of the job is to deal with Erratic customers.
do without	To manage without	All her Childhood she had to do without fancy and expensive clothes.
draw up	To write (contract, agreement, document)	In the Meeting they agreed to draw up a contract to finalize the deal.
drop in	To visit, usually on the way somewhere	Amar decided to drop in at Alok's place on his way to the Stadium.
ease off	To reduce, become less severe or slow down (pain, traffic, work)	Her headache eased off after she took the medicine.
end up	To finally reach a state, place or action	The path he has chosen is dangerous and for him, it will end up only in jail.
figure out	To understand, find the answer	The Meeting was called to figure out the best strategy for increasing sales.
find out	To discover or obtain information	Investigations were being done to find out who stole the Diamond.
get along (with)	To be on good terms; work well with	It would be much easier to work if you got along with your teammates.
get away	To escape	A Holiday to a beach would be the perfect get away from the Stress at work.
get in	To enter	She had worked really hard to get into this prestigious institute
get on	To board (bus, train, plane)	He decided to get on the first train to meet his ailing parents.
get on with (something)	To continue to do; make progress	After She left, it was difficult for the Team to get on with the Project.
get out of	To avoid doing something	He had the perfect excuse to get out of the Weekly meeting at work.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
get over	To recover from (illness, disappointment)	The sooner you get over your failures, the more successful you would be.
get together	To meet each other	All the students of the 98' Batch decided to get together over the weekend.
give up	To stop doing something	After failing to clear the IAS Exam in the 4th attempt as well, I decided to give up.
grow up	To spend one's childhood; develop; become an adult	He fondly remembers the memories about growing up in this neighbourhood.
hand out	To distribute	They all gathered relief materials to be handed out to the flood victims.
hang up	To end a phone conversation	After failing to talk to an executive, I decided to hang up.
iron out	To resolve by discussion, eliminate differences	The Team lead took both of them into a meeting room to iron out their differences.
keep on	To continue doing something	The longer you keep on doing it, the better you would be at it.
kick off	To begin, start	The Stadium was full, and everyone was seated well before the Kick off of the Match.
let down	To disappoint	Such a dismal performance of the Team was a big let-down for the loyal fans.
look down on	To consider as inferior	The people who look down upon manual labour do not really understand its value.
look forward to	To await or anticipate with pleasure	The young striker was looking forward to the game as it was going to be his debut match.
look up to	To admire	The World Looks up to India's Democratic System
make up	To invent (excuse, story)	He knew immediately that he would need to make up a good story to get out of the situation.
move in	To arrive in a new home or office	It was decided that we would move into our new office next month.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
pass away	To die	It was a shock for her to hear that her childhood friend had passed away in an accident.
pay back	To reimburse	He Told, "There is no hurry, you can pay back the loan anytime you wish"
point out	To indicate/direct attention to something	He was infamous for pointing out other's mistakes.
put on	To turn on, switch on, to wear	She decided to put on the black dress for the party
account for	To explain, give a reason	The Official responsible was asked to account for the missing funds.
advise against	To recommend not doing something	I would advise against visiting Shimla at this time of the year.
allow for	To take into consideration	We need to allow for the weather conditions before planning the Trip.
back away	To move backwards, in fear or dislike	Sometimes it is wise to just back away from the fight.
bank on	To base your hopes on something/someone	All the fans were banking on the Captain to take them to a win.
block off	To separate using a barrier.	The western part of the locality was blocked off by the authorities because of the riots
boot up	To start a computer by loading an operating system or program	After the update, there was a message on the screen requesting me to boot up my system.
break into	To enter by force	On noticing that the owners are away, the gang decided to break into the house and steal the jewellery.
break out	To start suddenly	Because of the Break out of Ebola in the city, entry and exit of the people was banned for a week.
bring up	To raise (a child)	She was bringing up her child without anyone's support.
bump into	To meet by chance or unexpectedly	He unexpectedly bumped into her at the game.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
call off	To cancel	The flight was called off because of the extreme rains.
carry on	To continue	In spite of the failure, she decided to carry on and achieve her dream.
clam up	To refuse to speak	Because of the bullying at school, Ajju clammed up in front of his parents.
come forward	To present oneself	The Teacher said, "If the culprit comes forward now, the punishment would be lenient."
cut down on	To reduce in number or size	Because of the limited budget, the committee decided to cut down on the expenses for the project.
die down	To calm down, become less strong	After his anger had died down, he went and apologised to her.
drag on	To last longer than expected	The movie was dragged on for too long, making it a boring watch.
dress up	wear elegant clothes	He decided to dress up for the office party.
drop out	To leave school without finishing	Mark Zuckerberg had dropped out of college to start Facebook.
end in	To finish in a certain way; result in	After all the drama it was sad to see the match end in a draw.
fall through	To fail; doesn't happen	Their plan to meet fell through because of the bandh called by the opposition party.
fill out	To complete (a form/an application)	The candidates were given 10 days to fill out the online application form.
focus on	To concentrate on something	He succeeded because he was focused on his target.
get at	To imply	He wasn't sure what she was getting at through her arguments.
get by	To manage to cope or to survive	It was difficult to get by at the workplace without friends.
get into (+noun)	To enter	He always used to jump over the fence to get into the hostel after the gates were closed.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
get on (well) with (somebody)	To have a good relationship with	One of the reasons of his loneliness is that he does not get on well with anyone.
get out	To leave	After the argument he decided to get out for a while.
get over	To recover from (illness, disappointment)	The trip helped her a lot in getting over the loss of her pet.
get rid of	To eliminate	The government decided to get rid of the additional taxes to bring the fuel prices under control.
get up	To rise, leave bed	The ability to get up after taking a hard blow makes a Champion.
go through	To experience	During that phase of his life, he had to go through a lot of pain and sadness.
hand in	To submit (report, homework)	The Teacher announced that the 10th of the month was the last date for the students to hand in their assignments.
hang out	To spend time in a particular place or with a group of friends	Pappu's Chai tapri was the most popular hangout place for all the college students.
hurry up	To be quick, act speedily	She called and asked him to hurry up, as he was already an hour late.
join in	To participate	It was an open forum, and anyone could join in and put forth their point.
keep up with	To stay at the same level as someone or something	He was finding it hard to keep with the professor's teaching speed.
leave out	To omit, not mention	He was left out of the team because of his bad behaviour.
look after	To take care of	As there was no one to look after his ill pet, he decided to take a half day.
look for	To try to find something	Jack and Jill decided to go on the trip to look for the hidden treasure.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
look on	To be a spectator at an event	Instead of helping the accident victim, everyone just looked on.
make fun of	To laugh at/ make jokes about	His unusual dress made him a perfect candidate to be made fun of at the office.
mix up	To mistake one thing or person for another	Because of a Mix up, she got the wrong file to the meeting.
move out	To leave your home/office for another one.	Arun asked Vijay to move out of the room as he did not like his unhygienic lifestyle.
own up	To admit or confess something	It is good to see him owning up his mistakes.
pass out	To faint	On the fourth day of the hunger strike, He passed out on the stage itself.
pick up	To collect somebody	Sara asked Dimple to pick her up from college.
put off	To postpone, arrange a later date	As the boss was on leave, the meeting had to be put off till tomorrow.
put out	To extinguish	As they were unable to put out the fire themselves, Firefighters were called.
appeal to	1. To plead or make a request	1. The Leader appealed to the audience to support him.
	2. To be attractive or interesting	2. The Management thought that the discount offer would appeal to their customer base.
back up	To give support or encouragement	Her Parents backed her up on her decision of going to Mumbai.
blow up	1. To explode	1. If the container was not handled properly there was a risk that it might blow up.
	2. To get angry	2. It felt like he was blowing up on her unnecessarily.
break down	1. To go out of order, cease to function	1. The lift used to break down so frequently that they have now gotten used to it.
	2. To lose control of one's emotions	2. On seeing the UPSC results, she broke down with joy.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
burn out	become exhausted from over-working	He was completely burned out because of the long working hours.
carry out	To do something as specified (a plan, an order, a threat)	The Army officers were trained to carry out the orders with precision.
check out	1. To pay one's bill and leave (a hotel)	1. The plan was to check out of the hotel and go to the airport.
	2. To investigate	2. They decided to check out other options before deciding on anything
come across	1. To find by chance	1. Yesterday I came across this amazing place to eat on the East street.
	2. To appear, seem, make an impression	2. For a 20-year-old, he came across a very matured person.
cut out	To stop doing something	To stay healthy doctor advised him to cut out smoking completely.
drop off	To deliver someone or something	He offered to drop her off after work.
get off	1. To leave (bus, train, plane)	1. He asked him to get off the bus immediately.
	2. To remove – get (noun) off	2. No matter how much she tried, she could not get him off her mind.
give in	To cease opposition; yield	On the 25th day of the worker's strike, the Management had to give in to their demands.
hold on	1. To wait	1. The Troop decided to hold on until the backup arrived.
	2. To grip tightly	2. Joey used to hold on to the huggy while he was asleep.
join up	To engage in, become a member of	Every employee was invited to join up the WhatsApp group.
put up	To accommodate, give somebody a bed	On reaching the town Varun called Dharam and asked if he could put up at his place for the night.
rely on	To count on, depend on, trust	The Manager knew he could rely on Mahesh to get the project completed on time.
rule out	To eliminate	Sanchez was ruled out of the squad for the world cup because of the injury.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
run into	To meet by accident or unexpectedly (also: bump into)	Vidya never expected to run into Vatsal at her new office.
run out of	To have no more of something.	The Administration has run out of funds and hence would not be able to complete the project on time.
set off	To start a journey;	John Snow and his friends set off on the adventure beyond the wall.
set up	To start a business	They all decided to set up a stall at the trade fair.
shop around	To compare prices	They were shopping around the market to get the best price.
show off	To brag or want to be admired	Adam wanted to show off his new Ferrari so he drove it to work.
show up	To appear/arrive	He had the annoying habit of showing up at unexpected times.
shut up (impolite)	To be silent, stop talking	She was asked to shut up and leave the meeting because of her arrogant behaviour.
sit down	To take a seat	The Manager asked everyone to sit down before the big announcement.
stand up	To rise from a sitting position	Everyone in the room stood up as soon as the boss walked in.
stick up for	To defend	Friends are expected to stick up for each other under all circumstances.
take after	To resemble, in appearance or character	He takes after Sachin Tendulkar in the manner in which he plays the straight drive.
take care of	To look after	He said, "You have nothing to worry, I will take care of the house in your absence."
take off	To leave the ground	His career took off after the powerful performance in the "Gangs of Wasseypur" movie.

Phrasal Verb	Meaning	Example
take on	To hire or engage staff	It was decided that they would take a couple of freelancers to get the project completed on time.
take out	To remove; extract	A surgery was done to take out the bullet from his shoulder.
tell off	To reprimand/criticize severely	My father told me off for getting home late last night.
think over	To consider	He requested some time to think it over before deciding on anything.
turn down	To refuse	Sanju just could not turn down the offer to work with her.
use up	To finish a product (so that there's none left)	We would need more paper because, she used up all the paper for just one assignment.
watch out	To be careful	On entering the jungle, the Guide told them to watch out for any animals.
wear out	1. To become unusable	1. She had to get a new jacket, as the old one was completely worn out.
	2. To become very tired	2. He used to wear out every day after the work.
wipe off	To clean (board, table).	Father had told him to wipe off the car before he comes back in the evening.
work out	1. To do physical exercise	1. It is seen that working out every day helps you stay healthy and active.
	2. To find a solution or calculate something	2. They had been sitting for hours trying to work out a solution for the problem.
nod off	To fall asleep	After Such a long journey, it just took a few seconds for her to nod off on the chair itself.
run away	To escape from a place or suddenly leave	He always thought of running away from the village to fulfil his dreams.

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