



English Phrasal Verbs in Use Intermediate

Michael McCarthy , Felicity O'Dell

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English Phrasal Verbs in Use is a comprehensive reference and practice book suitable for students from good intermediate level onwards. Over 1000 of the most useful and frequent phrasal verbs are clearly explained and practised in typical contexts. The material is designed for self-study, as well as classroom use, and has a student-friendly answer key. The book has 70 two-page units. The verbs are presented on the left-hand page and are practised on the facing right-hand page. The verbs are divided into units by topic, function, concept, particle and verb. The language is presented in various ways, often in tables, showing the phrasal verbs in a range of natural contexts such as everyday dialogues, e-mails, cartoons and newspaper extracts. The book includes an invaluable mini dictionary, listing each verb with an easy-to-understand definition. This book is particularly useful for students preparing for a range of examinations.

English Phrasal Verbs in Use Intermediate Details

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As an ESL student, I had often found difficulties to use phrasal verbs. Although this book is marked as an intermediate level, phrasal verbs is an advanced subject for ESL students. Most ESL students are not familiar with the concept of phrasal verbs, let alone to use them in the right context. Having this book around really has helped me to improve my English.

This book is divided into 70 units and it covers approximately 1000 phrasal verbs. There is one exercise page for each unit that helps students to remember the phrasal verbs learnt, and answer key for each exercise is also provided. However, the number of the exercises can easily overwhelm ESL students. It will take a lot more time to finish this book if the students have to do all the exercises. In addition to that, these exercises are better used as a way to practice using phrasal verbs in the right context than a way of remembering them, as the time will always make the students forget them if they don't use the phrasal verbs often enough.

The first five chapters in this book teach the basic of phrasal verbs, which are strongly recommended to be finished first before continuing to the remaining chapters. The rest of the chapters teach a great deal of phrasal verbs in different topics. However, there are many specific British or American phrasal verbs that are not marked as such that can mislead the students. There are also more British phrasal verbs than American phrasal verbs, which for me is a drawback as I'm more interested in learning American English.

A good point of this book that is worth mentioning is there are many good tips and follow-ups for learning phrasal verbs. There is also a mini dictionary in the last few pages of the book. Even so, students are still advised to use a phrasal verb dictionary when learning with this book. (Consider what I said in previous paragraph about specific region's phrasal verbs. Students can always spot this, after looking up the words in the dictionary). Overall, this book is a good addition reference to ESL students. Every serious ESL student should consider reading one.
