Hi. I’m Marianne Raynaud. My goal is to help you improve your spoken English. So let’s get started.

In this podcast we will be practicing phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs are composed of a verb followed by one or two postpositions. Phrasal verbs often have the same meaning as more academic verbs with Latin or Greek roots. Learners of English tend to find that verbs with Latin or Greek roots are easier to remember, as they are similar to verbs in other languages. But English speakers prefer phrasal verbs and use them frequently in colloquial, everyday language. To perfect your knowledge of English you should learn to use some basic phrasal verbs properly.

Here is the first set. We will give you the more academic verb followed by the equivalent phrasal verb and its postposition. Listen and repeat.

anticipate something with pleasure → look forward to something
disappoint someone → let someone down
search for something → look for something
rise from bed in the morning → get up

Now I will give the academic verb and you will give the phrasal verb and its postposition. Be sure to speak before I give the answer.

anticipate something with pleasure → look forward to something
disappoint someone → let someone down
search for something → look for something
rise from bed in the morning → get up

In the first application exercise we ask you to change the sentence by substituting the equivalent phrasal verb and its postposition for the more formal verb. Listen to the example.

I say: We anticipate your arrival with pleasure.
You say: We look forward to your arrival.
I say: Their son disappointed them by losing.
You say: Their son let them down by losing.

Now you go on in the same way. Be sure to speak before I give the answer.

We anticipate your arrival with pleasure.
We look forward to your arrival.
Their son disappointed them by losing.
Their son let them down by losing.
He is searching for his keys.
He is looking for his keys.
I rose from bed early in the morning.
I got up early in the morning.
Your English No. 42 Phrasal Verbs 1

Now listen and repeat this short poem. (Here the syllables to stress are in bold.)

I look **forward** to your **coming** **around**
So for **heaven’s** sake **down** **let** me **down**
I’ll be **looking** **for** some nice **place** to **eat**
So **get up** **early**, and we’ll **have** a real **treat**

*Here is a second set of phrasal verbs. We will give you the more academic verb followed by the equivalent phrasal verb and its postposition. Listen and repeat.*

tolerate → **put up with**
stop functioning → **break down**
seek information about someone in a book or on the Internet → **look** someone **up**
accommodate someone → **put** someone **up**

Now I will give the academic verb and you will give the phrasal verb and its postposition.

tolerate → **put up with**
stop functioning → **break down**
seek information about someone in a book or on the Internet → **look** someone **up**
accommodate someone → **put** someone **up**

*In the next application exercise we ask you to change the sentence by substituting the equivalent phrasal verb and its postposition for the more formal verb. Listen to the example.*

*I say:* I can’t tolerate all this noise.
*You say:* I can’t **put up with** all this noise.

Now you go on in the same way.

I can’t tolerate all this noise.
I can’t **put up with** all this noise.
My computer has stopped functioning.
My computer has **broken down**.
I’m looking for a repairman on the Internet.
I’m **looking up** a repairman on the Internet.
They accommodated several guests.
They **put up** several guests.

Now listen and repeat this short poem. If you learn our poems, you’ll remember these verbs.

Their car **broke down** as they drove to the sea
They **looked up** a mechanic but no one was free
They **put themselves up** in a hotel, not first choice
But sadly they couldn’t **put up with** the noise

*That’s the end of our podcast. For more oral practice try our other series *QualityTime-ESL*” for grammar & “*5 Minute TOPs*” for fun with lyrics. Bye for now, and thank you for listening.*