

Phrasal verbs with the verb *to get*

Phrasal verbs are important for learners of English because they are very common in everyday English, especially in spoken and informal written language. Some verbs, like the verb *to get*, form many phrasal verbs. Below you can find a list of some phrasal verbs with the verb *to get* which you might come across in business English.

1. to get something in *or* to get in something
2. to get over something
3. to get across
4. to get around something
5. to get on with someone
6. to get at something
7. to get off
8. to get something down
9. to get down to something
10. to get back to something
11. to get through something
12. to get away
13. to get into something
14. to get someone down
15. to get someone together

A Find out what these verbs mean by matching the verbs with their respective definitions given below.

- a. to have a good and/or friendly relationship with someone
- b. to feel better after something has made you unhappy
- c. to leave your place of work when you have finished work for that day
- d. to succeed in reducing the amount or number of something
- e. to have a holiday
- f. to find the time and opportunity to do something even though there is not much time
- g. to start doing something again after not doing it for a period of time
- h. to arrange for a group of people to meet in order to do something
- i. to find a way of dealing with something, especially by avoiding it
- j. to complete a task, process or something you are doing
- k. to suggest something indirectly
- l. to cause someone to be depressed
- m. to make someone understand something
- n. to finally start doing something, after you have been avoiding it or after something has prevented you from doing it
- o. to start talking about a particular subject

Key: 1f, 2b, 3m, 4i, 5a, 6k, 7c, 8d, 9n, 10g, 11j, 12e, 13o, 14l, 15h

B Complete the following sentences with one of the given words in italics.

1. We still have a lot of work to do so let's get *down/up* to business.
2. We hope to get *away/along* for a couple of weeks around Christmas.
3. How early can you get *off/on* this afternoon?

4. I don't want to get *on with/into* the issue of pricing here.
5. We have to get our act *together/through* if we want to be in business in one year's time.
6. Isn't there any way we could get *around/away* the regulations?
7. I'm still getting *over/down* the shock of being made redundant.
8. It's high time we got *in/down* to some serious work.
9. You shouldn't let these problems get you *away/down* too much.
10. What exactly is she getting *off/at*?

Key: 1. down, 2. away, 3. off, 4. into, 5. together, 6. around, 7. over, 8. down, 9. down, 10. at

C Complete the following sentences with a phrasal verb with the verb *to get*. Put the verbs in the correct form.

1. 25 people were made redundant in an attempt _____ costs _____.
2. The committee meet on Friday and it would be good if we could _____ a meeting _____ before that so we can update them on progress.
3. I don't _____ work until 5pm, so I can't be there by five thirty.
4. The Association is running courses to help women _____ work after a career break.
5. British pig farmers have tried _____ the problem by persuading the local supermarkets to favour British pork.
6. I wouldn't like _____ a discussion about who deserved to get the job.
7. The new colleague is very easy _____.
8. He managed _____ his meaning _____ although he couldn't speak the language.
9. I think it is critical to our success _____ a team _____ to promote our business.
10. New business support schemes can help you _____ the paperwork and your legal requirements.

Key: 1. to get costs down, 2. get a meeting in, 3. get off, 4. get back to, 5. to get around, 6. to get into, 7. to get on with, 8. to get his meaning across, 9. to get a team together, 10. (to) get through