Phrasal verbs are two or three word verbs whose meanings are very different from the meanings of the individual words in the expression. There are several phrasal verbs in English. While a student is not required to learn all of them, they must at least be familiar with the most common phrasal verbs.

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use phrasal verbs correctly.

Fill in the blanks with an appropriate phrasal verb.

1. The teacher ...................... an explanation of his conduct.
   called off
   called out
   called in
   called for

2. ...................... the doctor immediately.
   Call on
   Call in
   Call at

   called on
   called in
   called out
Phrasal Verbs Exercise

4. My grandfather cannot ................ past events.

- call up
- bring out
- bring up

5. His arrogance .................. his ruin.

- brought in
- brought up
- brought about

6. The publishers are planning to ................ a cheap edition of their new dictionary.

- bring up
- bring out
- bring in

7. She ..................... the orphan as her own child.

- brought out
- brought up
- brought in
Phrasal Verbs Exercise

brought about

8. How did these things ...? come up
come about
bring out
bring about

9. The question ... before the municipal corporation last week.
came out
came up
came off

10. He seems to be ...
well out
pull off
run off
well off

11. They ... against the gross injustice
Phrasal Verbs Exercise

meted out to them.

cried up
cried out
cried away

12. The rope .................... while they were hauling up the pillar.

gave up
gave in
gave way
gave out

Answers

1. The teacher called for an explanation of his conduct.
2. Call in the doctor immediately.
3. Julie called on us yesterday.
4. My grandfather cannot call up past events.
5. His arrogance brought about his ruin.
6. The publishers are planning to bring out a cheap edition of their new dictionary.
7. She brought up the orphan as her own child.
8. How did these things come about?
9. The question came up before the municipal corporation last week.
10. He seems to be well off.
11. They cried out against the gross injustice meted out to them.
Phrasal Verbs Exercise

12. The rope gave way while they were hauling up the pillar.