

Phrasal verbs 5 on/off (2)

Verb + on = continue doing something

drive on / walk on / play on = *continue walking/driving/playing etc.*

- Shall we stop at this petrol station or shall we drive on to the next one?

go on = *continue*

- The party went on until 4 o'clock in the morning.

go on / carry on (doing something) = *continue (doing something)*

- We can't go on spending money like this. We'll have nothing left soon.
 I don't want to carry on working here. I'm going to look for another job.

Also go on with / carry on with something

- Don't let me disturb you. Please carry on with what you're doing.

keep on doing something = *do it continuously or repeatedly*

- He keeps on criticising me. I'm fed up with it!

Get on

get on = *progress*

- How are you getting on in your new job? (= How is it going?)

get on (with somebody) = *have a good relationship*

- Joanne and Karen don't get on. They're always arguing.
 Richard gets on well with his neighbours. They're all very friendly.

get on with something = *continue doing something you have to do, usually after an interruption*

- I must get on with my work. I have a lot to do.

Verb + off

doze off / drop off / nod off = *fall asleep*

- The lecture wasn't very interesting. In fact I dropped off in the middle of it.

finish something off = *do the last part of something*

- A: Have you finished painting the kitchen?
 B: Nearly. I'll finish it off tomorrow.

go off = *explode*

- A bomb went off in the city centre, but fortunately nobody was hurt.

Also an alarm can go off = *ring*

- Did you hear the alarm go off?

put somebody off (doing something) = *cause somebody not to want something or to do something*

- We wanted to go to the exhibition, but we were put off by the long queue.
 What put you off applying for the job? Was the salary too low?

rip somebody off = *cheat somebody (informal)*

- Did you really pay £1,000 for that painting? I think you were ripped off.
 (= you paid too much)

show off = *try to impress people with your ability, your knowledge etc.*

- Look at that boy on the bike riding with no hands. He's just showing off.

tell somebody off = *speak angrily to somebody because they did something wrong*

- Clare's mother told her off for wearing dirty shoes in the house.

141.1 Change the underlined words. Keep the same meaning, but use a verb + on or off.

- Did you hear the bomb explode?
Did you hear the bomb go off ?
- The meeting continued longer than I expected.
The meeting longer than I expected.
- We didn't stop to rest. We continued walking.
We didn't stop to rest. We
- I fell asleep while I was watching TV.
I while I was watching TV.
- Gary doesn't want to retire. He wants to continue working.
Gary doesn't want to retire. He wants to working.
- The fire alarm rang in the middle of the night.
The fire alarm in the middle of the night.
- Martin phones me continuously. It's very annoying.
Martin It's very annoying.

141.2 Complete each sentence using a verb + on or off.

- We can't go on spending money like this. We'll have nothing left soon.
- I was standing by the car when suddenly the alarm
- I'm not ready to go home yet. I have a few things to
- 'Shall I stop the car here?' 'No,
- Bill paid too much for the car he bought. I think he was
- 'Is Emma enjoying her course at university?' 'Yes, she's very well.'
- I was very tired at work today. I nearly at my desk a couple of times.
- Ben was by his boss for being late for work repeatedly.
- I really like working with my colleagues. We all really well together.
- There was a very loud noise. It sounded like a bomb
- I making the same mistake. It's very frustrating.
- I've just had a coffee break, and now I must with my work.
- Peter is always trying to impress people. He's always
- We decided not to go into the museum. We were by the cost of tickets.

141.3 Complete the sentences. Use the following verbs (in the correct form) + on or off. Sometimes you will need other words as well:

carry finish ~~get~~ get get go rip tell

- A: How are you getting on in your new job?
B: Fine, thanks. It's going very well.
- A: Have you written the letter you had to write?
B: I've started it. I'll in the morning.
- A: We took a taxi to the airport. It cost £40.
B: £40! Normally it costs about £20. You
- A: Why were you late for work this morning?
B: I overslept. My alarm clock didn't
- A: How in your interview? Do you think you'll get the job?
B: I hope so. The interview was OK.
- A: Did you stop playing tennis when it started to rain?
B: No, we The rain wasn't very heavy.
- A: Some children at the next table in the restaurant were behaving very badly.
B: Why didn't their parents ?
- A: Why does Paul want to leave his job?
B: He his boss.