

Phrasal verbs 6 up/down

A Compare up and down:

put something up (on a wall etc.)

- I put some pictures up on the wall.

pick something up

- There was a letter on the floor. I picked it up and looked at it.

stand up

- Alan stood up and walked out.

turn something up

- I can't hear the TV. Can you turn it up a bit?

take something down (from a wall etc.)

- I didn't like the picture, so I took it down.

put something down

- I stopped writing and put down my pen.

sit down / bend down / lie down

- I bent down to tie my shoelace.

turn something down

- The oven is too hot. Turn it down to 150 degrees.

B Knock down etc.

knock down a building / blow something down / cut something down etc.

- Some old houses were knocked down to make way for the new shopping centre.
- Why did you cut down the tree in your garden?

Also be knocked down (by a car etc.)

- A man was knocked down by a car and taken to hospital.

C Down = getting less

slow down = go more slowly

- You're driving too fast. Slow down.

calm (somebody) down = become calmer, make somebody calmer

- Calm down. There's no point in getting angry.

cut down (on something) = eat, drink or do something less often

- I'm trying to cut down on coffee. I drink far too much of it.

D Other verbs + down

break down = stop working (for machines, cars, relationships etc.)

- The car broke down and I had to phone for help.
- Their marriage broke down after only a few months.

close down / shut down = stop doing business

- There used to be a shop at the end of the street; it closed down a few years ago.

let somebody down = disappoint somebody because you didn't do what they hoped

- You can always rely on Pete. He'll never let you down.

turn somebody/something down = refuse an application, an offer etc.

- I applied for several jobs, but I was turned down for each one.
- Rachel was offered the job, but she decided to turn it down.

write something down = write something on paper because you may need the information later

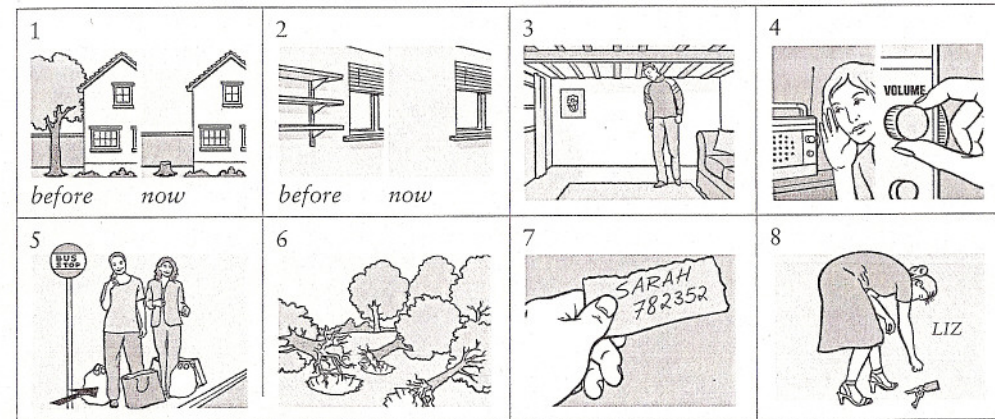
- I can't remember Tim's address. I wrote it down, but I can't find it.

142.1 Complete the sentences. Use the following verbs (in the correct form) + up or down:

calm let put ~~take~~ turn turn

- I don't like this picture on the wall. I'm going to take it down.
- The music is too loud. Can you
- David was very angry. I tried to
- I've bought some new curtains. Can you help me
- I promised I would help Anna. I don't want to
- I was offered the job, but I decided I didn't want it. So I

142.2 For each picture, complete the sentences using a verb + up or down. In most sentences you will need other words as well.



- There used to be a tree next to the house, but we cut it down.
- There used to be some shelves on the wall, but I
- The ceiling was so low, he couldn't straight.
- She couldn't hear the radio very well, so she
- While they were waiting for the bus, they on the ground.
- A few trees in the storm last week.
- Sarah gave me her phone number. I on a piece of paper.
- Liz dropped her keys, so she and

142.3 Complete each sentence using a verb (in the correct form) + down.

- I stopped writing and put down my pen.
- I was really angry. It took me a long time to
- The train as it approached the station.
- Sarah applied to study medicine at university, but she
- Our car is very reliable. It has never
- I need to spend less money. I'm going to on things I don't really need.
- I didn't play very well. I felt that I had the other players in the team.
- The shop because it was losing money.
- This is a very ugly building. Many people would like it to
- I can't understand why you the chance of working abroad for a year. It would have been a great experience for you.
- A: Did you see the accident? What happened exactly?
B: A man by a car as he was crossing the road.
- Peter got married when he was 20, but unfortunately the marriage a few years later.