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Translating Phrasal Verbs**Group 'C': PHRASAL VERBS:**

Phrasal verbs are well-established, extremely popular idioms. As explained earlier (see 2.3.), a phrasal verb is a combination of a verb+an adverb/preposition, or both an adverb and a preposition (such as: 'up, down, on, off, in, out, over', etc). It has a special, idiomatic meaning that cannot be understood from the individual meaning of the verb and the adverb/preposition taken together.

The students face a big problem at translating English phrasal verbs into Arabic, because they are misleading and usually confused with prepositional verbs (i.e. a verb+a preposition) which are not idiomatic and retain their normal, direct meaning. The criterion for distinguishing between the two types of verb is to apply direct translation to both of them to find out if meaning is altered. e.g.

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1. "Please, put the book on the table": (من فضلك ضع الكتاب على الطاولة)
2. "Please , put your coat on": (من فضلك ضع معطفك على)

Clearly, (1) is possible and understood, whereas (2) is not because it is broken, ungrammatical and something is missing after the preposition 'on' (على). So, the former is a prepositional verb, but the latter is a phrasal verb that has a special, idiomatic, different meaning (i.e. wear/dress (يلبس) that has no relation to the former, although both are 'put on' each.

Let us focus now on the translation of phrasal verbs, starting with giving examples under group 'C':

1. "You always argue back every time I say something": (أنت دائماً تعارض كلما أقول شيئاً)
2. "When the guests come, ask them up, please": (حينما يأتي الضيوف، قل لهم أن يصعدوا إلى الأعلى، لو سمحت)
3. "The mother barked out when her child had fallen down": (صرخت الأم بشدة/صرخة ألم عندما سقط طفلها)
4. "Stop beating about the bush !": (توقف عن اللف والدوران)
5. "Please, do not break in while I am talking": (من فضلك لا تقاطعني أثناء كلامي)
6. "Try to bring the others around to your opinion": (حاول أن تقنع الآخرين برأيك)
7. "You are welcome any time you call in": (أهلاً بك في أي وقت تزورني)
8. "We are obliged to carry out our promise": (نحن ملزمون بتنفيذ وعدنا)
9. "Come forward, gentleman": (تقدم أيها الشاب)
10. "The boy does not like his sister . She always digs at him": (لا يحب الولد أخته. إنها تنهره دائماً)
11. "My uncle found out that his illness was serious" : (اكتشف عمي أن مرضه خطير)
12. "What time do you usually get up in the morning ?" (في أي وقت/ساعة عادة تنهض في الصباح؟)
13. "My friend always says that he will give up smoking": (يقول صديقي دائماً إنه سوف يقلع عن التدخين)
14. "Do not stop talking. Go on, please": (لا تتوقف عن الكلام. تابع لو سمحت)
15. "The defender played the ball back to the goal keeper": (أعاد المدافع الكرة لحارس المرمى)
16. "I do not have enough time to read the book through":

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(ليس عندي الوقت الكافي لأدرس الكتاب بنمعن)

17. "Will you see us to the door , we do not know the way":

(هلاً رافقتنا إلى الباب، إننا لا نعرف الطريق)

18. "Nobody spoke against the suggestion":

(لم يعارض أحد الاقتراح)

19. "Please, stand aside, the lady would like to enter":

(من فضلك ، أفسح الطريق، فالسيدة تود أن تدخل)

20. "The plane takes off at 9 O'clock a.m.":

(تقلىع الطائرة عند الساعة ٩ صباحاً)

21. "We try our best not to write any student off the final exam":

(نحاول جهدنا ألا نستبعد أي طالب من الامتحان النهائي)

22. "They will be on with the lectures very soon"

(سوف يبدؤون المحاضرات قريباً جداً)

23. "You are lying ! Come down to brass tacks":

(أنت تكذب. تحدث عن حقائق الأمور/حقائق جوهرية)

24. "Mary always likes to get in on preparing food":

(تحب ماري دائماً أن تشارك في إعداد الطعام)

25. "Some people are unkind. Yet we can put up with them":

(بعض الناس غير لطفاء (غير ظرفاء). ومع ذلك يمكننا أن نتسامح معهم)

The meanings of English phrasal verbs are mostly unpredictable and unfamiliar to students. Yet, the preposition 'on' implies the idea of doing something over a period of time continuously when it combines with verbs (e.g. go on=continue; carry on=continue; drive on=continue driving, etc.). In a similar way, the adverb 'off' suggests the notion of finishing, leaving or disposing of something (e.g. get off=leave; call off=cancel; take off=undress; etc). Similar to 'off' is the adverb 'away' which usually means dispose, or take something/somebody far from something/somebody (e.g. go away=leave; throw away=dispose of; wipe away=remove; etc). The adverb 'up' can also have a general meaning of doing or finishing something quickly and completely (e.g. drink up=drink completely and at one time; eat up=finish eating, etc). (See also Carter, 1987: Chs. 3&6)

However, this does not lead to the conclusion that some adverbs and prepositions have fixed, general meanings when combining with any verb, because of three reasons:

1. The combinations of the same preposition/adverb with different verbs may result in different meanings; e.g.

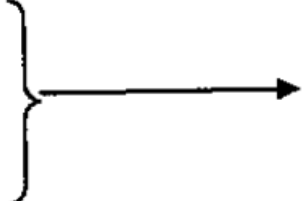
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'ON':	-go on=continue	(يستمر)
	-put on=wear	(يلبس)
	-hang on=wait	(يستظر)
'OFF':	-get off=leave	(يفادر)
	-take off=fly/undress	(يطير/يخلع)
	-write off=dismiss/ignore/exclude	(يطرد/يتجاهل/يستثنى)
'UP':	-eat up=finish eating	(ينهي الأكل)
	-give up=stop	(يتوقف/يقطع عن)
	-speak up=raise one's voice	(يرفع صوته)

2. The same combination of a preposition/adverb and a verb can have different meanings. e.g. **'COME OFF'**:

1. "Leave a place":	(يفادر مكاناً ما)
2. "succeed":	(ينجح)
3. "take place as planned":	(يحدث كما هو مخطط له)
4. "to have a result":	(يصل إلى نتيجة)
5. "to suffer a result":	(يعاني من نتيجة/من عاقبة)
6. "to fall from something high":	(يسقط من علي)
7. "to be able to be removed":	(يمكن إزالته)
8. "to stop being joined to something":	(ينفصل عن شيء ما)
9. "to stop public performance (of a play)":	(يوقف عرضاً عاماً/المسرحية)

3. The same meaning can be expressed by different combinations: e.g.

'LEAVE':	-go away		(يفادر/غادر)
	-get off/out		
	-go out		
	-push off		
	-buzz off		

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'INVITE':	-ask in	}	→	(يدعو)
	-ask over			
	-ask to			
	-ask up			
'VISIT':	-call at	}	→	(يزور)
	-call by			
	-call in			
	-call into			
	-call on			
	-call upon			
	-go on(a visit)			

What is the solution, then? It is by no means not possible for students to know the meanings of all English phrasal verbs, nor all the combinations of the same verb, especially common verbs like 'come', 'get', 'drink', 'go', 'see', 'set', 'take', etc. For example 'take' has over three hundred meanings. 'Come to' has forty five entries of main meanings (see Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs, 1983). Nevertheless, they are able to know and memorize the most important combinations of the common, widely used phrasal verbs (some examples are provided above from 1-25). This is similar to irregular verbs; the students need to memorize only the commonest, most important irregular verbs such as 'bring', 'come', 'drink', 'eat', 'go', 'have', 'run', 'put', 'see', 'take', 'think', 'write', above etc.

Moreover, students can concentrate on the main, core combination(s) of each of these common phrasal verbs. For example, 'come' has about sixty eight phrasal combinations. The commonest ones are seven. Here they are with their commonest meanings only: 'come to' (يصل إلى); 'come in' (يدخل); 'come across' (يصادف); 'come on' (يخرج سالماً); 'come off' (يسقط); 'come out' (يبرز); and 'come through' (يخرج سالماً). Each of these combinations has a number of meanings. At the same time it has a core, commonly used meaning (which is the one mentioned here). Students can satisfy themselves with these common phrasal combinations of 'come', and with their core meanings only. This is hopefully possible for the students of translation. After all, phrasal verbs have entries in good dictionaries now, and are assigned special dictionaries (see above, op.cit.).