

Phrasal Verbs Practice | Lesson 05

settle for | count on | fall behind | sort out | do over

Example Dialogue

Emily : Everyone's task for the next couple of days is to sort out these files. Since we don't have enough people we are going to have to settle for as many files as we can get done. Please make sure they are alphabetized and labeled. If not, you will have to do it over again. Understood?

Victor : Yes, madam. One question: when is the deadline for this?

Emily : The deadline is next week. So work fast, you don't want to fall behind.

Victor : Got it. Do we get any breaks?

Emily : Yes, you do. Thirty-five minutes every two hours. Remember these are very personal files of clients. Please respect their privacy. Can I count on you to do that? Anyone caught going through the files will be terminated.

All : Yes, madam.

 *Try to figure out the meaning of these phrasal verbs.*

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Example Passage

Emily's boss hired some people to sort out boxes of files. Each huge box of assorted files has a deadline, so they have to be careful not to fall behind. If not done properly, they will have to do it all over again. They only hired a few people to do the job, so Emily has to settle for the manpower they have now. She has no choice but to count on them to finish it on time.



Again, try to figure out the meaning of these phrasal verbs.

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Definitions

settle for | to accept or agree to something, or to decide to have something, although it is not exactly what you want or it is not the best

*I actually wanted a BMW, but I guess I can **settle for** a Volkswagen.*

count on | to rely on someone or something for help or support

*Mrs. Walhug is **counting on** her daughter to take care of the dog.*

fall behind | to fail to do something fast enough or on time

*I've **fallen behind** with the mortgage payments.*

sort out | put things in order or in their correct place

*After three years, Amanda has finally started **sorting out** her very messy closet.*

do... over | to do something again because you did not do it well the first time

*Painting is a tricky thing to do. If you get it wrong, you have to **do** it all **over** again.*

Make sure you can understand the meaning of these phrasal verbs.

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Practice

Use the correct **phrasal verbs** (in a correct form) to complete the sentences.

- 1 | This is a very disorganized file cabinet. Please start _____ it _____ now.
- 2 | Make sure you pay the water bill today. We are already _____ with our bills.
- 3 | The output was not approved. I'm afraid you have to _____ it _____ again.
- 4 | Her boss is _____ her to do a good job on the decorations.
- 5 | We can't go to the beach, so let's just _____ the lake.
- 6 | We need to _____ this all _____ again. The numbers are all wrong.
- 7 | We _____ the pictures for the scrapbook.
- 8 | The presidential room is unavailable? That's all right. I'll _____ the royal suite.
- 9 | Sasha, you're already _____ with your homework.
- 10 | Why did you do that? I _____ you to support me!

APPLICATION:

Create your own sentences using these phrasal verbs.

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Exercise

Use the correct **phrasal verbs** (in a correct form) to complete the dialogue.

(Sasha is talking to Ben about his difficult situation at work.)

Sasha : Ben, is everything OK with you?

Ben : Umm, yes. Why?

Sasha : Well you are _____ on your projects. Most of what you have finished needs _____. All of your officemates need to _____ it _____. You're a mess, Ben. I have never seen you like this before.

Ben : I'm sorry, I just have lots of things on my mind.

Sasha : I understand. Just please don't force yourself to work if you can't focus. Maybe you should take a break or something.

Ben : No. Please. I'd rather be here at work. Just let me get it together.

Sasha : Are you sure, Ben? The whole department is _____ you for the presentation. If you can't do it, I'll _____ Mandy instead. I know she is inexperienced, but I won't have a choice.

Ben : No, no. I will do it.

APPLICATION:

Create your own dialogue using these phrasal verbs with your teacher.

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