

Phrasal Verbs Practice | Lesson 36**fend off | play with | fight back | zero out | wind up****Example Dialogues**

Monica : What do you think of the new prime-minister?

Ross : I am not sure yet. He has received some criticism in the press, but he managed to fend it off.

* * *

Joey : I am playing with the idea of buying a new car, you know.

Catherine : We don't have the money! Fight back your urge!

* * *

June : This project is really winding me up.

Johnny : Don't worry. The funding was zeroed out so the manager will drop it.



Try to figure out the meaning of these phrasal verbs.

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Example Passage

When I was 30, I started **playing with** the idea of learning how the stock exchange works, so I can get an extra income. I managed to **fend off** the temptation for a while, but finally I couldn't **fight back** anymore: I had to try it! I set up a separate account with some money in it and I started experimenting. At first it was ok, but after a few months I noticed that my account was **zeroed out**! At first I was sad and **wound up**, but then I thought that if this isn't the thing for me, maybe something else is!



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

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Definitions

- fend off** | to resist something; to defend yourself against an attack
*He managed to **fend off** the temptation of gambling.*
*A stray dog attacked me, but I **fended off** its attacks.*
- play with** | to consider something without giving it deep thought; to fiddle or mess about with
*I **played with** the idea of switching jobs, but I didn't go through with it.*
*She likes to **play with** his beard.*
- fight back** | to try to control an emotion; to resist an attack
*They couldn't **fight back** their tears when they were reunited.*
*She **fought back** the thief and called the police.*
- zero out** | to eliminate (a budget) by cutting off funding; to reduce to zero
*His family **zeroed out** his trust fund.*
*My chances of climbing Mount Everest are **zeroed out**.*
- wind up** | to make someone angry or upset; to tighten the spring in a clock to make it work
*The arduous trip has really **wound me up**.*
*I forgot to **wind up** my clock, so I overslept.*

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

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Practice

Answer using the correct **phrasal verbs** (in the correct form) to complete the sentences.

- 1 | Stop _____ your hair!
- 2 | Please don't _____ him _____. He is already very stressed.
- 3 | The boxer tried to _____ the punches.
- 4 | The course teaches women how to _____ if attacked. _
- 5 | I went to the bank and was surprised to see that my account was _____ .
- 6 | The concert organizers have _____ against their critics. _
- 7 | When we were young, we _____ the idea of opening a store here.
- 8 | He has managed to _____ attacks on his reputation.
- 9 | The government plans to _____ all unnecessary expenditures. _
- 10 | "I forgot to _____ the church-clock, unfortunately," said the priest.

APPLICATION:

Create your own sentences using these phrasal verbs.

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Exercise

Answer using the correct **phrasal verbs** (in the correct form) to complete the dialogue.

Robert and Alan are taking a martial arts class together. They are talking after they finished training, before going home.

Robert : Wow! Today's training has really _____ me _____ ! At least now I know how to _____ any attacker.

Alan : Yes, it's hard, but it's good to know how to _____ if you are in danger.

Robert : That's what I love about judo. It is great exercise and also very interesting and useful! Even if we don't get to _____ weapons like in Iaido...

(both are laughing)

Alan : Come on! Let's go get a drink. I'm paying this time. My wife hasn't _____ me _____ yet!

Robert : Great idea!

APPLICATION:

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

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