

Phrasal verbs 5 **on/off** (2)**A** verb + **on** = continue doing something**go on** = *continue*

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

**go on / carry on** doing something = *continue doing it*

- ☐ 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.

**go on with / carry on with** something = *continue it*

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

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

- ☐ He **keeps on** criticising me. It's not fair! (or He **keeps** criticising me.)

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

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

**B** **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 something you have to do, usually after an interruption*

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

**C** verb + **off****doze off / drop off / nod off** = *fall asleep*

- ☐ I **dozed off** during the lecture. It was very boring.

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

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

**go off** = *make an alarm sound*

- ☐ Did you hear the alarm **go off**?

**put** somebody **off** (doing) something so that they don't want it or want to do it any more

- ☐ We wanted to go to the exhibition, but we were **put off** by the long queue.  
 (= we didn't go because of the long queue)  
☐ What **put** you **off** applying for the job? Was the salary too low?

**rip** somebody **off** / be **ripped off** = *cheat somebody / be cheated*

- ☐ Did you really pay £2,000 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.

## Exercises

## 141.1 What do these sentences mean?

- 1 I carried on studying.  
a ~~I started studying.~~ b I continued studying. c ~~I put off studying.~~ (b is correct)
- 2 I nodded off.  
a I agreed. b I felt sick. c I fell asleep.
- 3 We were ripped off.  
a We were attacked. b We paid too much. c Our clothes were torn.
- 4 I told them off.  
a I criticised them. b I was satisfied with them. c I told them to go away.
- 5 They don't get on.  
a They don't like each other much. b They are lazy. c They don't know each other.
- 6 He was showing off.  
a He was joking. b He was trying to impress us. c He wasn't telling the truth.

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

- 1 We can't go on spending money like this. We'll have nothing left soon.
- 2 I'm not ready to go home yet. I have a few things to .....
- 3 'Shall I stop the car here?' 'No, ..... a bit further.'
- 4 Dan paid too much for the car he bought. I think he was .....
- 5 Emma is enjoying her course at university. She's ..... very well.
- 6 The fire alarm ..... and everybody had to leave the building.
- 7 Ben was ..... by his boss for being late for work repeatedly.
- 8 The meeting has only just finished. It ..... longer than expected.
- 9 I really like working with my colleagues. We all ..... really well together.
- 10 I ..... making the same mistake. It's very frustrating.
- 11 I've just had a coffee break, and now I must ..... with my work.
- 12 Peter likes people to know how clever he is. He's always .....
- 13 We decided not to go to the concert. We were ..... by the cost of tickets.
- 14 Jack paused for a moment and then ..... with his story.
- 15 I was so tired at work today. I nearly ..... at my desk a couple of times.

## 141.3 Complete the sentences. Use a verb (in the correct form) + on or off. Sometimes you will need other words as well. Choose from:

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

- 1 A: How are you getting on in your new job?  
B: Fine, thanks. It's going very well.
- 2 A: What's Tanya like?  
B: She's very nice and easy-going. She ..... everybody.
- 3 A: Is Gary going to retire soon?  
B: No, he likes his job and wants to ..... working.
- 4 A: Have you written the letter you had to write?  
B: I've started it. I'll ..... tomorrow.
- 5 A: We took a taxi to the airport. It cost £40.  
B: £40! Normally it costs about £20. You .....
- 6 A: Why were you late for work this morning?  
B: I overslept. My alarm clock didn't .....
- 7 A: Some children at the next table in the restaurant were behaving very badly.  
B: Why didn't their parents ..... ?
- 8 A: Is Kate good at making decisions?  
B: No, she isn't. .... changing her mind.