Phrasal verbs 9 away/back

Α

Compare away and back:

away = away from home

☐ We're going away on holiday today.

away = away from a place, a person etc.

- ☐ The woman got into her car and drove away.
- □ I tried to take a picture of the bird, but it flew away.
- I dropped the ticket and it blew away in the wind.
- ☐ The police searched the house and took away a computer.

In the same way you can say: walk away, run away, look away etc. back = back home

We'll be back in three weeks.

back = back to a place, a person etc.

- A: I'm going out now.
 - B: What time will you be back?
- After eating at a restaurant, we walked back to our hotel.
- I've still got Jane's keys. I forgot to give them back to her.
- When you've finished with that book, can you put it back on the shelf?

In the same way you can say: go back, come back, get back, take something back etc.

B Other verbs + away

get away = escape, leave with difficulty

We tried to catch the thief, but he managed to get away.

get away with something = do something wrong without being caught

□ I parked in a no-parking zone, but I got away with it.

keep away (from ...) = don't go near

☐ Keep away from the edge of the pool. You might fall in.

give something away = give it to somebody else because you don't want it any more

" 'Did you sell your old computer?' 'No, I gave it away.'

put something away = put it in the place where it is kept, usually out of sight

□ When the children had finished playing with their toys, they put them away.

throw something away = put it in the rubbish

□ I kept the letter, but I threw away the envelope.

C Other verbs + back

wave back / smile back / shout back / write back / hit somebody back

□ I waved to her and she waved back.

call/phone/ring (somebody) back = return a phone call

☐ I can't talk to you now. I'll call you back in ten minutes.

get back to somebody = reply to them by phone etc.

□ I sent him an email, but he never got back to me.

look back (on something) = think about what happened in the past

My first job was in a travel agency. I didn't like it very much at the time but, looking back on it, I learnt a lot and it was a very useful experience.

pay back money, pay somebody back

- ☐ If you borrow money, you have to pay it back.
- ☐ Thanks for lending me the money. I'll pay you back next week.

Exercises Unit 145

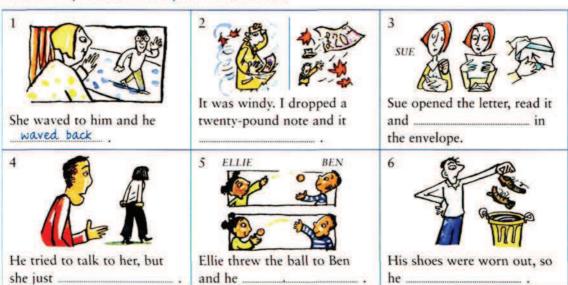
145.1 Complete each sentence using a verb in the correct form.

- 1 The woman got into her car and _______ away.
 2 Here's the money you need. ______ me back when you can.
 3 Don't ______ that box away. It could be useful.
 4 Jane doesn't do anything at work. I don't know how she _____ away with it.
 5 I'm going out now. I'll ______ back at about 10.30.
 6 You should think more about the future; don't ______ back all the time.
 7 Gary is very generous. He won some money in the lottery and ______ it all away.
- 8 ΓII _____ back to you as soon as I have the information you need.

145.2 Complete the sentences. Each time use a verb + away or back.

- 1 I was away all day yesterday. I got back very late.
- 2 I haven't seen our neighbours for a while. I think they must ______.
- 3 'I'm going out now.' 'OK. What time will you _____?'
- 4 A man was trying to break into a car. When he saw me, he
- 5 I smiled at him, but he didn't ______.
- 6 If you cheat in the exam, you might ______ with it. But you might get caught.
- 7 Be careful! That's an electric fence. ______ from it.

145.3 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences.



145.4 Complete the sentences. Use the verb in brackets + away or back.

- 1 A: Do you still have my keys?

 B: No. Don't you remember? I gave them back to you yesterday? (give)

 2 A: Do you want this magazine?
 - B: No, I've finished with it. You can (throw)
- 3 A: How are your new jeans? Do they fit you OK?
 - B: No, I'm going to ______ to the shop. (take)
- 4 A: Here's the money you asked me to lend you.
 - B: Thanks, I'll as soon as I can. (pay)
- 5 A: What happened to all the books you used to have?
 - B: I didn't want them any more, so I _______. (give)
- 6 A: Did you phone Sarah?
- B: She wasn't there. I left a message asking her to _______. (call)