

Phrasal verbs 5 on/off (2)

A

Verb + on = continue doing something

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

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

go on = *continue*

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

go on / carry on (doing something) = *continue (doing something)*

- 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.

Also go on with / carry on with something

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

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

- He **keeps on** criticising me. I'm fed up with it!

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 doing 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*

- The lecture wasn't very interesting. In fact I **dropped off** in the middle of it.

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

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

go off = *explode*

- A bomb **went off** in the city centre, but fortunately nobody was hurt.

Also an alarm can go off = *ring*

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

put somebody off (doing something) = *cause somebody not to want something or to do something*

- We wanted to go to the exhibition, but we were **put off** by the long queue.
- What **put** you **off** applying for the job? Was the salary too low?

rip somebody off = *cheat somebody (informal)*

- Did you really pay £1,000 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.

Go on / carry on → Unit 538 Phrasal verbs 1 (Introduction) → Unit 137

More verbs + on/off → Unit 140

141.1 Change the underlined words. Keep the same meaning, but use a verb + on or off.

- 1 Did you hear the bomb explode?
Did you hear the bomb go off ?
- 2 The meeting continued longer than I expected.
The meeting longer than I expected.
- 3 We didn't stop to rest. We continued walking.
We didn't stop to rest. We
- 4 I fell asleep while I was watching TV.
I while I was watching TV.
- 5 Gary doesn't want to retire. He wants to continue working.
Gary doesn't want to retire. He wants to working.
- 6 The fire alarm rang in the middle of the night.
The fire alarm in the middle of the night.
- 7 Martin phones me continuously. It's very annoying.
Martin It's very annoying.

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 was standing by the car when suddenly the alarm
- 3 I'm not ready to go home yet. I have a few things to
- 4 'Shall I stop the car here?' 'No,'
- 5 Bill paid too much for the car he bought. I think he was
- 6 'Is Emma enjoying her course at university?' 'Yes, she's very well.'
- 7 I was very tired at work today. I nearly at my desk a couple of times.
- 8 Ben was by his boss for being late for work repeatedly.
- 9 I really like working with my colleagues. We all really well together.
- 10 There was a very loud noise. It sounded like a bomb
- 11 I making the same mistake. It's very frustrating.
- 12 I've just had a coffee break, and now I must with my work.
- 13 Peter is always trying to impress people. He's always
- 14 We decided not to go into the museum. We were by the cost of tickets.

141.3 Complete the sentences. Use the following verbs (in the correct form) + on or off. Sometimes you will need other words as well:

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

- 1 A: How are you getting on in your new job?
B: Fine, thanks. It's going very well.
- 2 A: Have you written the letter you had to write?
B: I've started it. I'll in the morning.
- 3 A: We took a taxi to the airport. It cost £40.
B: £40! Normally it costs about £20. You
- 4 A: Why were you late for work this morning?
B: I overslept. My alarm clock didn't
- 5 A: How in your interview? Do you think you'll get the job?
B: I hope so. The interview was OK.
- 6 A: Did you stop playing tennis when it started to rain?
B: No, we The rain wasn't very heavy.
- 7 A: Some children at the next table in the restaurant were behaving very badly.
B: Why didn't their parents ?
- 8 A: Why does Paul want to leave his job?
B: He his boss.