# An Active Lesson Plan for Teaching Phrasal Verbs Using Corpus Linguistics

Nobuhiro Fujisawa<sup>\* 1</sup> Kenneth T. Howells<sup>\* 2</sup>

#### Abstract

It comes as a surprise to few instructors that when students are actively engaged in learning, they are better at retaining information long term. "...though students felt as if they learned more through traditional lectures, they actually learned more when taking part in classrooms that employed so-called active-learning strategies" (Reuell, 2019). This lesson plan uses the Corpus of Contemporary American English to engage students in learning phrasal verbs (Davies, 2008). Through the Internet, students access COCA and search for their choices of verbal phrases, seeing the relevance of their choices and the different ways that verbal phrases are used. In addition, this lesson plan has the students do the exercises in groups, which has benefits of learning cooperation and peer review. Group exercises also help to alleviate any anxiety that a student might feel when under pressure to perform a task individually. In addition to visual aids, this lesson plan also incorporates in-class listening exercises and quizzes to assess the students' progress.

## Keywords

COCA, Grammar, Phrasal Verb, Lesson Plan

#### I. Introduction

We can be upfront about the following statement: Most students cannot stand studying grammar. Grammar seems to be a dry, rote memory exercise that takes all the fun out of learning a language. However, with any discipline, the approach to teaching a discipline is the key to pulling in the students and engaging them into the learning process. A way to do this is to have the students themselves discover grammar rules, phrases, and such on their own. This is where corpus linguistics and technology come into play. Nowadays, the technology, specifically the Internet in this case, is a great source for learning (Godwin-Jones, 2009) (Sauro, 2009).

<sup>\*1</sup> ふじさわ のぶひろ:大阪国際大学経営経済学部教授〈2020.12.3 受理〉

<sup>\*2</sup> Kenneth T. Howells:沖縄大学非常勤講師、チットチャト英会話スクール代表

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Corpus linguistics refers to large data sets of language text that a human would have a difficult time examining accurately, and some kind of computer/Internet program would be required to search and use such large databases (McEnery & Hardie, 2011) (Vannestål & Lindquist, 2007). In this lesson plan, COCA is used to engage students in exploring phrasal verbs (i.e., two or three-part verbs).

Of course, there is some preparation involved. For example, students must have access to computers, and they must have an understanding of how to use COCA. These concerns have been dealt with beforehand for this lesson plan.

The beauty, if you will, of this lesson plan is that students themselves decide the phrasal verbs to concentrate on, and they are given a lot of leeway in the learning process. In this way, students feel more engaged (i.e., active) in the learning experience and are more apt to retain what they have learned (Reuell, 2019).

#### II. Lesson Plan







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## **Phrasal Verbs Lesson Plan**

Instructors/Teacher's Names: Nobuhiro Fujisawa, Kenneth T. Howells

Part 1: General Description

| Type of Course         | ( x ) General English ( ) English for Specific Purposes   |  |  |
|------------------------|---|--|--|
| Target audience        | Age group: 19 to 22 years old.  2 <sup>nd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> year university students whose majors are economics, law, or business administration  English Proficiency level: High elementary to intermediate  Class size: 20 students  |  |  |
| Classroom<br>equipment | 40 PCs, a white projector screen, a projector, sound equipment for the projector, and a whiteboard  |  |  |
| Lesson Aims            | Help students learn grammatical structures of phrasal verbs used in various situations including: conversations, newspapers, magazines, and academic papers.  Help students practice phrasal verbs.   |  |  |
| Learning<br>Objectives | <ul> <li>At the end of this lesson, students should be able to:</li> <li>Identify grammatical structures of phrasal verbs used in various situations.</li> <li>Choose and apply one phrasal verb of interest by engaging in listening, reading activities.</li> </ul>   |  |  |
| Assumptions            | Although students know some phrasal verbs such as "take off" and "give up," they do not know either the basic grammatical structures of phrasal verbs or how to use them.  Students do not know either separable phrasal verbs or how to use them.  Students learned how to use COCA in a previous lesson.  Class size does not affect this lesson because the class is conducted in a computer room where 40 PCs are available. Students can carry out the online lesson during the class. |  |  |

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| Assessment               | Formative Assessment: Teacher assesses students' learning progress by monitoring their performance during activities and by having them answer fill-in-the-blank questions and listening questions.  Summative Assessment: Teacher assesses students' achievement by assignments that require students to demonstrate what they have learned through activities, including running the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA).   |
|--------------------------|--|
| Class time               | 90 minutes.  |
| Resources (and<br>links) | <ol> <li>Everyday Grammar: Phrasal Verbs (VOA Learning English, 2016b), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/everyday-grammar-phrasal-verbs/3360414.html</li> <li>Everyday Grammar: Introducing Phrasal Verbs (VOA Learning English, 2015a), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3010474.html</li> <li>Scripts of "Everyday Grammar: Grab Onto Phrasal Verbs" (VOA Learning English, 2016a), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/everyday-grammar-grab-onto-phrasal-verbs/3435383.html</li> <li>Everyday Grammar: Learn 10 Separable Phrasal Verbs (VOA Learning English, 2017), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/learn-10-useul-separable-phrasal-verbs/3628393.html</li> <li>Everyday Grammar: Our Top 10 Separable Phrasal Verbs (VOA Learning English, 2015d), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3041885.html</li> <li>Scripts of "Everyday Grammar: Our Top 10 Separable Phrasal Verbs" (VOA Learning English, 2015e), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3041885.html</li> <li>Everyday Grammar Introducing Phrasal Verbs Q1 (VOA Learning English, 2015b), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3042136.html</li> <li>Quiz Introducing Phrasal Verbs Reagan (VOA Learning English, 2015f), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3042189.html</li> <li>Everyday Grammar Introducing Phrasal Verbs Q3 (VOA Learning English, 2015c), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3042189.html</li> <li>Everyday Grammar Introducing Phrasal Verbs Q3 (VOA Learning English, 2015c), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3042189.html</li> <li>Piveryday Grammar Introducing Phrasal Verbs Q3 (VOA Learning English, 2015c), https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/3042189.html</li> <li>Phrasal Verbs from American English at State FB (163 Photos) (American English, n.d.), https://www.facebook.com/pg/AmericanEnglishatState/photos/?tab=album &amp;album_id=10152803685644123</li> </ol> |

### Part 2: Materials development process

First, I came up with several grammar points that would be helpful for my students, after which I accessed the web resources mentioned in the lecture. After a few hours of searching, I decided to use phrasal verbs for the lesson. Some other candidates were: noncount nouns, be supposed to, the difference between will and be going to, and frequency adverbs. I thought that my students would appreciate learning phrasal verbs for the following reasons. Firstly, according to Resource 5, one phrasal verb is found in every 192 words of written English. Therefore, my students need to know the rules to use them appropriately. For this reason, I decided to use the prescriptive grammar approach by using instructional videos and sound clips. Secondly, phrasal verbs are so popular that they appear in various situations; that is, there is variation in grammar. For this reason, I decided to use the descriptive grammar approach by having them use COCA autonomously.

Fortunately, I was able to find abundant material that made my three ideas feasible:

- 1- To help my students picture the grammatical structure easily and prescriptively, they watch a short video clip (Resource 1). After I add some explanations, my students listen to a slightly longer sound clip to understand the structure more deeply (Resource 2). Then, they engage in fill-in-the-blank questions that I created from the script of the sound clip (Resource 3).
- 2- To apply their knowledge, students watch another short video clip about separable phrasal verbs (Resource 4). And again, after a brief explanation, they listen to another sound clip (Resource 5 with script, Resource 6). Then, my students engage in a listening/dictation activity to get used to some of the patterns of separable phrasal verbs (Resource 7 to 9). Through those two activities, I believe that my students will be able to understand the grammatical structure of phrasal verbs and acquire the ability to use them.
- 3- To introduce online resources to students for those who wish to learn English in a self-sustaining way in order to be able to continue learning English on their own after my course. For this reason, I utilized COCA and American English on the State Facebook page which was introduced in the lecture. For this lesson, the students choose a phrasal verb of interest to them from the website (Resource 10). By exploring how the phrasal verbs they chose are used, my students will have an opportunity to be exposed to authentic English, as well as resources for further self-study.

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Part 3: Lesson Plan

| Timing<br>(minut<br>es) | Stages   | Interac<br>tions<br>Ss/T<br>T/Ss<br>Ss/Ss | Aims   |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| 0                       | Before the Class  T puts on a song by the Beatles (The Beatles, 2015),  "We can work it out." Ss enjoy the song for a while. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qyclqo_AV2 M)  | Т   | T builds a safe<br>environment for Ss.                   |
| 5                       | Warm up (with the music in the background)  1) T asks Ss to form into groups of 2 or 3. T asks Ss what "work" and "out" mean respectively.  Some Ss answer the question immediately. Then, T asks Ss what "work it out" means. A few Ss answer that "work it out" means "solve."  2) T asks each group to find some other examples. After a few minutes, the groups share their ideas with the class voluntarily. (e.g. give up, take off) (Beatles songs are in the background during the activity) | T/Ss<br>Ss/Ss,<br>Ss/T                    | Ss get interested and<br>know the topic of the<br>lesson |
|                         | Body   |   |  |
| 2                       | Step 1 (15 mins)  1) T shows a short video clip about phrasal verbs to the class (Resource 1).   | T/Ss                                      | Ss learn the grammatical structure of phrasal verbs.     |
| 4                       | 2) T plays a sound clip to the class (Resource 2, from time mark 3:30 to 5:10, from 5:38 to 6:00) and adds a brief explanation.  | T/Ss                                      | Ss deepen their understanding of them.                   |
| 9                       | 3) T gives Ss <u>a fill-in-the-blank worksheet,</u> <u>Material 1</u> , and Ss engage in the activity in groups.  Step 2 (15 mins)   | Ss/Ss                                     | Ss learns how they are used.                             |
| 2                       | 4) T shows a short video clip about separable phrasal verbs to the class (Resource 4).   | T/Ss                                      | Ss learn separable phrasal verbs.                        |
| 5                       | 5) T plays a sound clip to the class (Resource 5, from time mark 0:34 to 4:40) and adds a brief explanation. [In the sound clip, the speaker refers to language experts who began to use computers to examine a large collection, or corpus. This will lead to the next activity smoothly.]  | T/Ss                                      | Ss deepen their understanding of them.                   |
| 8                       | 6) T plays short sound clips (Resource 7, Resource 8, and Resource 9). T gives SS <u>a</u> <u>listening/dictation worksheet</u> , <b>Material 2</b> , and Ss engage in the activity in groups.   | Ss/Ss                                     | Ss learn how phrasal<br>verbs are used.                  |

|    | 0. 0.400 1.3  |              |   |
|----|---|--------------|---|
| 10 | <ul><li>Step 3 (40 mins)</li><li>7) T asks Ss within the respective groups</li></ul>            |              | Ss start to explore                         |
|    | a phrasal verb of interest to them. Each accesses the website (Resource 10) and                 | · '          | phrasal verbs autonomously.                 |
|    | which phrasal verb to choose (e.g. cut  | in).         | ·   |
| 30 | 8) T asks Ss to launch COCA. Ss access CO   | CA and Ss/Ss | Ss explore and learn                        |
|    | follow the steps below ( <u>Material 3</u> ):   |              | the structure of                            |
|    | <ol> <li>Ss use the List function to look for<br/>frequency of the verb in the phras</li> </ol> |              | phrasal verbs through a descriptive         |
|    | that they chose (e.g. cut).   |              | grammar approach.                           |
|    | 2. Ss confirm that the phrasal verb t   | nat they     | Ss also brush up their                      |
|    | chose (e.g. cut in) is often used in sentences.   |              | COCA operational skill.                     |
|    | 3. Ss identify common patterns or p   | nrases       |   |
|    | other than the phrasal verb that t  | hey          | T walks around the                          |
|    | chose (e.g. cut back on, cut off).  |              | classroom and                               |
|    | 4. Ss use the KWIC function to look a   | t the        | monitors Ss' activity                       |
|    | types of words that follow the ver  |              | and conducts                                |
|    | they chose (e.g. Adverbs (back, do  |              | formative                                   |
|    | off) and prepositions (in and into) follow cut.)  | that         | assessment.                                 |
|    | 5. Ss create a phrasal verb chart whi   | ch shows     | T answers questions if                      |
|    | that the verb creates a variety of  | ohrasal      | there are any.                              |
|    | verbs.  |              |   |
|    | Wrap up   |              |   |
| 5  | 1) T wraps up the whole lesson, that is, th   |              | Ss expand their                             |
|    | structure of phrasal verbs, their patter  | ns, how      | understanding of                            |
|    | they are used, and the importance of  |              | phrasal verbs. Ss feel                      |
|    | collaboration.  |              | that their group can act as a unified team. |
|    |   |              | act as a unined team.                       |
| 5  | 2) T asks students to submit their work.  | Ss/T         | Summative                                   |
|    | T puts on a song by a-ha (a-ha, 2010), "Tak   | e on me,"    | assessment.                                 |
|    | until class ends. Ss enjoy the song for a wh  | le.          |   |
|    | (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djV1   | 1Xbc914)     |   |
|    |   |              |   |

Part 4: The complete and ready-to-use materials

Please take a look at the other files for Material 1, Material 2, and Material 3.

English Grammar Class

Material 1

# Fill-in-the-blank Worksheet

Complete the texts with the correct form of the phrasal verbs in the box.

|               | put up with       | look after          | look up            | look up to  |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---|
|               |                   |                     |                    |   |
| 1. Let's star | t with the basic  | structure of phra   | asal verbs. A phr  | asal verb is a phrase with                        |
| two or more   | e words: a verb a | and a preposition   | n or adverb or bo  | oth. An example is in this                        |
| sentence: "I  | [                 | _ my cousin's       | phone number."     |   |
| The verb is   | , and             | is the ad           | verb. The phrasa   | l verb  |
| means to re   | search or to sear | rch for.            |                    |   |
| 2. Some ph    | rasal verbs allow | an object to se     | parate the phrase  | <b>&gt;</b> .                                     |
| "I didn't kn  | ow the number s   | so I had to         | it"                |   |
| Here, the pr  | onoun "it" stanc  | ls for the object   | "number." Othe     | r phrasal verbs have to stay                      |
| together. Yo  | ou can say that y | ou care for some    | eone with the ph   | rasal verb  |
|               | A                 |                     |                    |   |
| But you car   | nnot say: "I      | his dog             | while he v         | vas on vacation."                                 |
| three words   |                   | I                   |                    | o words. The next kind has noise of my neighbor's |
| Here, the pl  | nrasal verb       |                     | means to t         | olerate.  |
| The verb _    | is follow         | ed by the partic    | le "up" and the p  | preposition These                                 |
| phrasal verb  | os must have dire | ect objects (in the | nis case: "the noi | se").   |
|               | three-part phrasa |                     |                    | It means to admire. We                            |
|               |                   |                     |                    | sister" to any other place in                     |
|               | e, as in: "She    |                     |                    |   |
|               |                   |                     |                    |   |
|               |                   |                     |                    |   |
| <u>ID:</u>    |                   | Name:               |                    |   |

English Grammar Class

Material 1

## Fill-in-the-blank Worksheet [Answers]

Complete the texts with the correct form of the phrasal verbs in the box.

| put up with | look after | look up | look up to |
|-------------|------------|---------|------------|

1. Let's start with the basic structure of phrasal verbs. A phrasal verb is a phrase with two or more words: a verb and a preposition or adverb or both. An example is in this sentence: "I <u>looked up</u> my cousin's phone number."

The verb is <u>looked</u>, and <u>up</u> is the adverb. The phrasal verb <u>look up</u> means *to research* or *to search for*.

- 2. Some phrasal verbs allow an object to separate the phrase.
- "I didn't know the number so I had to look it up."

Here, the pronoun "it" stands for the object "number." Other phrasal verbs have to stay together. You can say that you care for someone with the phrasal verb <u>look after</u> as in: "I <u>looked after</u> Andy's dog while he was on vacation."

But you cannot say: "I looked his dog after while he was on vacation."

3. The first two kinds of phrasal verbs we looked at have two words. The next kind has three words. For example: "I <u>put up with</u> the noise of my neighbor's party because I knew it was his birthday."

Here, the phrasal verb put up with means to tolerate.

The verb <u>put</u> is followed by the particle "up" and the preposition <u>with</u>.

These phrasal verbs must have a direct object (in this case: "the noise").

4. Another three-part phrasal verb is <u>look up to</u>. It means *to admire*.

We can say: "She <u>looks up to</u> her sister." Here, "her sister" is the direct object.

We cannot move "her sister" to any other place in the sentence, as in:

"She looks her sister up to."

| ID: | Name: |  |
|-----|-------|--|

English Grammar Class Material 1

## Fill-in-the-blank Worksheet [Original]

The following is an excerpt from Resource 3: Scripts of "Everyday Grammar: Grab Onto Phrasal Verbs," (VOA Learning English, 2016a)

https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/everyday-grammar-grab-onto-phrasal-verbs/3435383.html

### The structure of phrasal verbs

Let's start with the basic structure of phrasal verbs. A phrasal verb is a phrase with two or more words: a verb and a preposition or adverb or both. An example is in this sentence: "I <u>looked up</u> my cousin's phone number." The verb is "<u>look</u>," and "<u>up</u>" is the adverb. The phrasal verb "<u>look up</u>" means *to research* or *to search for*.

Some phrasal verbs allow an object to separate the phrase. "I didn't know the number so I had to <u>look</u> it <u>up</u>." Here, the pronoun "it" stands for the object "number." Other phrasal verbs have to stay together. You can say you care for someone with the phrasal verb "<u>look after</u>" as in: "I <u>looked after</u> Andy's dog while he was on vacation." But you cannot say, "I <u>looked</u> his dog <u>after</u> while he was on vacation."

The first two kinds of phrasal verbs we looked at have two words. The next kind has three words. For example, "I <u>put up with</u> the noise of my neighbor's party because I knew it was his birthday." Here, the phrasal verb "<u>put up with</u>" means *to tolerate*. The verb "<u>put</u>" is followed by the particle "up" and the preposition "<u>with</u>" followed by an object ("the noise"). These phrasal verbs must have direct objects. For example, we cannot say: "I <u>put up with</u> because I knew it was his birthday." Let's look at some examples.

"Carrie asked me to help out with the cooking." Here, we can substitute the single verb *assist* for the phrasal verb "help out." However, we need to keep the preposition "with" when we paraphrase the sentence, as in: "Carrie asked me to assist with the cooking."

Another three-part phrasal verb is <u>look up to</u>. It means *to admire*. We can say: "She <u>looks up to</u> her sister." Here, "sister" is the direct object. We cannot move "sister" to any other place in the sentence, as in "She <u>looks</u> her sister <u>up to</u>."

English Grammar Class Material 2

# **Listening/Dictation Worksheet**

Listen to each sound clip and dictate what s/he says.

| Question 1.       |  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| "Please           |  |  |
|                   |  |  |
| In your native la | nguage, this                                   |  |
| means             |  | <u>.</u>   |
| "I think          |  | "  |
| 1 tillik          |  | ·  |
| In your native la | nguage, this                                   |  |
| means             |  | <u>.</u>   |
| Occasion 2        |  |  |
| Question 2.       | : 4+ D14 D                                     | V U  |
|                   |  | Vest Germany. He told a crowd in   |
| the divided city  |  |  |
| "Mr. Gorbachev,   | <u>,                                      </u> | !"   |
| Question 3.       |  |  |
| •                 |  | 22   |
|                   |  | ·  |
| Question 4.       |  |  |
| •                 | e sound clip are the following se              | entences grammatically correct or  |
| wrong?            | ocume cup, and one rene ming oc                | on the second se |
| "I decided to thr | ow my old jeans out."                          | correct / wrong  |
| "Are you sure yo  | ou want to throw them out?"                    | correct / wrong  |
| "Are you sure yo  | ou want to throw out them?"                    | correct / wrong  |
| ID:               | Name:  |  |

English Grammar Class

Material 2

# **Listening/Dictation Worksheet [Answers]**

Listen to each sound clip and dictate what s/he says.

| Question 1.<br>"Please | put the lamp on the desk                         | "                            |
|------------------------|--|------------------------------|
|                        | native language, this                            | <u>.</u>                     |
| "I think               | you're putting me on                             | "                            |
| •                      | native language, this                            | <u>.</u>                     |
| Question 2.            |  |                              |
| In 1987,               | U.S. President Ronald Reagan visited West O      | Germany. He told a crowd in  |
| the divid              | led city of Berlin,                              |                              |
| "Mr. Go                | rbachev, tear down this wall                     | !"                           |
|                        |  |                              |
| Question 3.            |  |                              |
|                        | I decided to throw out my old jeans              | ·"                           |
|                        |  |                              |
| Question 4.            |  |                              |
| According wrong?       | ng to the sound clip, are the following sentence | ces grammatically correct or |
| "I decide              | ed to throw my old jeans out."                   | correct / wrong              |
| "Are you               | u sure you want to throw them out?"              | correct / wrong              |
| "Are you               | u sure you want to throw out them?"              | correct/wrong                |
| <u>ID:</u>             | Name:  |                              |

Material 2

English Grammar Class

## **Listening/Dictation Worksheet [Original]**

The following is an excerpt from Resource 6: Scripts of "Everyday Grammar: Our Top 10 Separable Phrasal Verbs," (VOA Learning English, 2015e) https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/top-10-separable-phrasal-verbs/3041841.html

As you know, a phrasal verb is a phrase with two or more words: a verb and a preposition or adverb or both. We call the preposition or adverb a particle when it combines with a verb. Here are two examples:

"Please <u>put</u> the lamp <u>on</u> the desk." "I think you're <u>putting</u> me <u>on</u>." In the first sentence, "on" is a preposition showing the position of the lamp. In the second sentence, "on" is an adverbial particle. "Put on" is a phrasal verb meaning "to fool" or "to trick" in this sentence.

An important point is that a regular verb + preposition combination has two meanings. A phrasal verb, that is, a verb + particle, has a single meaning within a sentence. Many phrasal verbs have a number of different meanings, and the meanings depend on the different situations. Yet the meaning of the verb + particle can usually be expressed with a single Latin-based verb. Here are two sentences with the same meaning:

"They tore down the old building." "They demolished the old building."

The verb "tear" has its own meaning, and so does the preposition "down". They can combine with other words when they are alone. But as a phrasal verb, "tear down," they have only one meaning: "destroy."

In 1987, U.S. President Ronald Reagan visited West Germany. He told a crowd in the divided city of Berlin: "Mr. Gorbachev, <u>tear down</u> this wall!"

Now for the tricky part. You know that some verbs are transitive, which means they have a direct object. When such verbs appear as phrasal verbs, an object can either separate the phrase or follow it. Here's an example.

"I decided to throw out my old jeans." "I decided to throw my old jeans out."

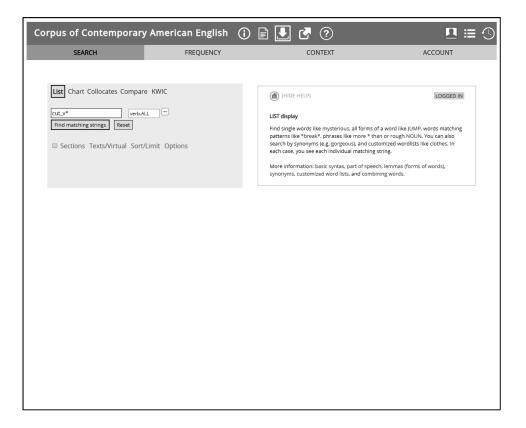
Both of these sentences are correct. The object of the phrasal verb "throw out" is jeans. You can use a pronoun instead of jeans and ask: "Are you sure you want to throw them out?"

However, you cannot ask, "Are you sure you want to <u>throw out them?</u>" Here, the pronoun "them" must appear between the verb and the particle.

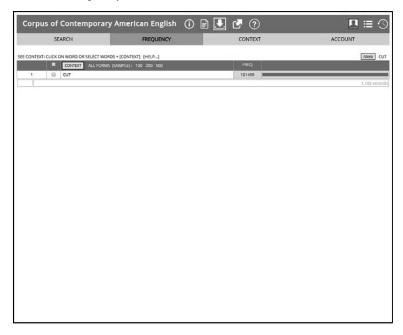
English Grammar Class Material 3

The following screenshots are to illustrate the steps that students should take. Please see Step 3 activity in Part 3: Lesson Plan for details. I assume that "cut in" is the phrasal verb that a group of students has chosen.

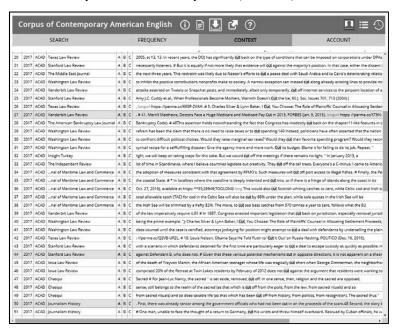
- 0. Ss choose a phrasal verb of interest to them in a group. Let us say it is "cut in."
- 1. So use the List function to look for the frequency of the verb in the phrasal verb that they chose (i.e. cut).



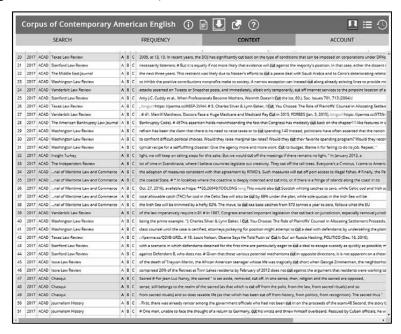
2. Ss find that the frequency of cut as a verb is 101,499.



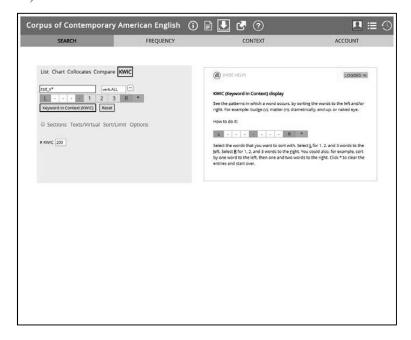
3. Ss confirm that the phrasal verb that they chose (i.e. cut in) is often used in sentences.



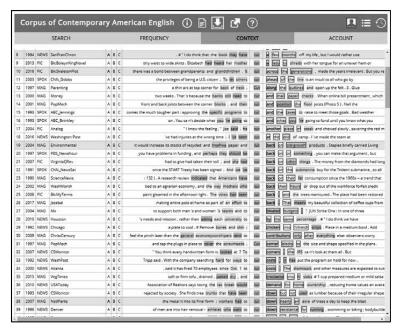
4. Ss identify common patterns or phrases other than the phrasal verb that they chose (e.g. cut back on, cut off, cut out).



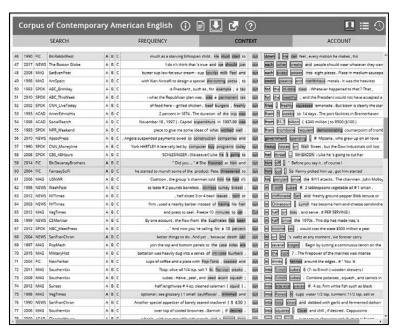
5. So use the KWIC function to look at the types of words that follow the verb they chose (i.e. cut).



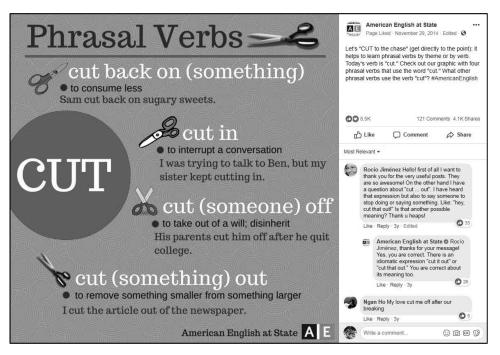
6. Ss find that some adverbs (e.g. back, down, and off) ...



... and some prepositions (e.g. in, across, and into) follow the verb they chose (i.e. cut).



7. Ss create a phrasal verb chart which shows that the verb creates a variety of phrasal verbs. Ss can use their dictionaries. The chart below is a screenshot from Resource 10.



8. [Optional] T can show Ss YouTube video clips, "Phrasal Verb Cut Part 1" (Smith, 2017a), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RxolHoCOhA, "Phrasal Verb Cut Part 2" (Smith, 2017b), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYzl0v31Iag.

### III. Concluding Remarks

In most cases, teaching grammar, vocabulary and spelling does not inspire much enthusiasm from students. This can hold true for teaching phrasal verbs, which can have a myriad of meanings depending on the situation, along with pitch/tone of voice, which may cause students to give up. However, getting the students to engage in the learning process can facilitate much more enthusiasm and retention in the long run. This lesson plan has engagement in mind, using technology and the information readily available on the Internet to draw students into the learning process.

Another positive point of this lesson plan is that it does not merely rely on the Internet. There are aural/visual exercises as well as quizzes to reinforce learning. Group work is also emphasized in order to create an environment that puts students more at ease in trying new things and having new ideas.

Of course, not all lesson plans are perfect. Access to computers in the right setting is important, as well as being familiar with computers and the Internet. Students must be first taught about COCA and how to use the site. Small, more homogeneous corpora can work better in learning environments (Braun, 2005) (Kaltenböck & Mehlmauer-Larcher, 2005). Suggested minutes for each part of the lesson plan may also not be realistic and instructors may have to adjust or extend the number of classes to cover the lesson plan.

However, all in all, the lesson plan gives an instructor a firm springboard for future classes for any number of lessons that deal with English lexicon.

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