Random Thoughts 17

# Two-Word Verbs without Objects

1. **break down:** stop operating; become ill, exhausted
	1. That machine is always **breaking down**.
	2. The strain from his work caused his health to **break down**.
2. **break out:** appear; arise suddenly or violently
	1. War **broke out** shortly after the elections.
	2. The sight of the snake caused him to **break out** in a cold sweat.
3. **fall off:** decrease
	1. New accounts **fell off** sharply in February.
4. **fall through:** fail; to become unaccomplished
	1. When that deal **fell through** it hurt the company quite a bit.
	2. Our plans for the trip **fell through** at the last minute so we spent our vacation at home.
5. **go off:** explode; depart; happen
	1. The bomb **went off** when they were trying to defuse it.
	2. The concert **went off** without any problems.
6. **let up:** diminish in intensity
	1. Let’s wait until the rain **lets up** a bit more before we go to lunch.
	2. He worked on the report not **letting up** even to eat.
7. **pass away:** die
	1. His father **passed away** last year.
8. **stand by:** wait; be prepared to assist
	1. The National Guard was **standing by** to assist in the evacuation of flood victims.
	2. I’ll be **standing by** in my office in case you need my help.
9. **stand out:** be noticeable; show up clearly or be distinct
	1. He always **stood out** in crowds because of his height.
	2. The form of the ship **stood out** sharply on the horizon.
10. **turn up:** appear; be found
	1. Marvin was always **turning up** at the most inopportune times.
	2. If the pen you lost **turns up** I’ll keep it for you.
11. **wear off:** fade; disappear
	1. After the novelty **wore off**, he stopped wearing his Chinese army hat.
	2. He slept until the effects of the drug **wore off**.