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# 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**.