

Random Thoughts 18

Two-Word Verbs with Objects

(A) Separable Two-Word Verbs

1. **break off:** (end, stop abruptly)
 - a. She **broke** the engagement **off** without warning.
2. **bring up:** (present for attention or consideration)¹
 - a. I will **bring** the matter **up** at the next meeting.
3. **carry out:** (execute, perform)
 - a. He **carried** the plan **out** successfully.
4. **figure out:** (understand, comprehend)
 - a. Can you **figure** the meaning **out**?
5. **give away** (divulge, reveal)
 - a. He carelessly **gave** the secret **away**.
6. **look up:** (research)
 - a. I **looked** his address **up** online.
7. **put away:** (replace; store)
 - a. **Put** your books **away** before we start the test.
8. **take out:** (date a person)
 - a. Did Bob **take** Sally **out** last night?
9. **try out:** (experiment with)
 - a. I want to **try** that car **out** before I buy it.
10. **turn down:** (reject)
 - a. I **turned** the offer **down**.

(B) Inseparable Two-Word Verbs

1. **figure on:** (anticipate)
 - a. I didn't **figure on** so many people coming to the party.
2. **get over:** (recover from)
 - a. I can't **get over** this cold I have had the past two weeks.
3. **go without:** (abstain from)
 - a. I **went without** sleep for three days.
4. **look after:** (take care of)
 - a. I'll **look after** your cat while you are on vacation.
5. **look into:** (investigate)
 - a. The police are **looking into** the matter now.
6. **pick on:** (bully, tease)
 - a. The other boys **picked on** Billy because he had a stutter.
7. **Run into:** (meet by chance)
 - a. I **ran into** Bob on the street the other day.
8. **stand for:** (tolerate)
 - a. I will not **stand for** your rude behavior any longer!
9. **take after:** (resemble)
 - a. He **takes after** his father.

¹ **Bring up** when used to mean "raise or careful children" cannot be separated; the two words must come together.