

Phrasal Verbs: Relationships

- ① Read the following conversation between Julian and Anne, with a partner.

J Anne, you don't look happy, what's up?
 A Well, to be honest, I just broke up with my boyfriend.
 J Oh, I'm sorry to hear that. Why did you fall out?
 A He couldn't get over the fact that I'd started smoking...
 J But you two usually get on so well...
 A Yeah, but he's really anti-smoking.
 J I'm sure you'll get through this OK.
 A I hope so.



- ② Look at the list of expressions below and match them with the appropriate phrasal verb underlined in the above conversation.

1. have a disagreement
2. enjoy a good relationship
3. recover or forget about something
4. stop a relationship
5. come to the end of a difficult experience

- ③ With another partner, answer the following questions using the above phrasal verbs in your answers. Remember to choose an appropriate tense.

1. Debbie with her parents – they never argue!
2. He never the death of his cat, Tiddles.
3. Julian has just with his girlfriend.
4. Sally has a lot of problems, but I think she will OK.
5. When I was a teenager, I often with my parents

- ④ Cover the exercises above. Rewrite these sentences, using phrasal verbs.

1. He finished the relationship with his girlfriend.
2. I'm not friends at the moment with my brother.
3. Do you have a good relationship with your boss?

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Teaching Notes

Target Structure:	Phrasal verbs
Vocabulary:	Relationships
Level:	Intermediate / Upper Intermediate
Time:	30 minutes+
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method

This handout teaches/reviews a number of phrasal verbs in a rather necessarily unnatural compact conversation. It's important to tell your students that this number of phrasal verbs is not natural in everyday conversation but included here for educational purposes.

Before you start, you could explain 'phrasal verbs' to students, and elicit a few examples. If you're getting blank faces, mime 'get up', 'get on/off' (a bus), 'look for' or something similar.

- ① Give one handout to each student. Ask the students to make pairs and follow instructions as given.
- ② In the same pairs, follow instructions as given.
- ③ Change pairings in the class. Students are to spend a maximum two minutes on each question. Compare answers and check for comprehension as a group following the paired discussion.
- ④ Students should work alone, and then check in pairs.

Answers (Other answers may be possible)

- ②
 1. have a disagreement – fall out
 2. enjoy a good relationship – get on (**American English: get along**)
 3. recover or forget about something – get over
 4. stop a relationship – break up
 5. come to the end of a difficult experience – get through
- ③
 1. Debbie gets along with her parents – they never argue!
 2. He never got over the death of his cat, Tiddles.
 3. Julian has just broken up with his girlfriend.
 4. Sally has a lot of problems, but I think she will get through them OK.
 5. When I was a teenager, I often fell out with my parents.
- ③
 1. He broke up with his girlfriend.
 2. I've fallen out with my brother.
 3. Do you get on with your boss?

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