# IMPORTANCE OF EVOLUTION OF PHRASAL VERBS AND THEIR HISTORY

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#### ABSTRACT

The aim of this article is to supplement existing research on history of English phrasal verbs and its evolution by exploring fist versions till the present day. The periodization of languages into 'old', 'middle' and 'new' periods, or even more subtle distinctions, is a tricky issue. However, phrasal verbs present status and their position in verbal lexicon of contemporary English demand to study their periods of establishing. This work highlights and give instruction of how used phrasal verbs in past time.

Key words: phrasal verbs, fist version, periodization, present status, period.

#### Introduction

Phrasal verbs are an essential part of English language learning. They are a combination of two or three words that act as a verb and have a completely different meaning than individual words. Understanding phrasal verbs requires more than simply translating each word in the phrase. Instead, it requires an understanding of the entire phrase as a unique and individual concept. The evolution of phrasal verbs over time has been crucial in the development of English as a language. These phrases have developed and evolved as a result of various factors, including historical events and cultural influences. As different influences and factors shape the language, new phrasal verbs are introduced, and old ones begin to fade away.

One of the key reasons for the importance of phrasal verb evolution is the role they play in English communication. As a complex language, English heavily relies on phrasal verbs to communicate specific concepts and ideas. By having an understanding of the evolution of phrasal verbs, it becomes much easier to communicate and comprehend these specific concepts.

Additionally, phrasal verbs provide a glimpse into the development of the English language itself. These phrases often have a historical origin or reference that

can provide insight into the culture and society of that time period. For example, the phrasal verb "to butter up" has its roots in the time when butter was considered a luxury item. This insight into the history of the language can help learners to fully understand and appreciate the English language.

Another important aspect of the evolution of phrasal verbs is the fact that it is an ongoing process. As the English language continues to evolve and change, so too do the phrasal verbs that are used. This ongoing evolution ensures that the language remains fresh and relevant to modern learners.

The evolution of phrasal verbs is crucial to language learning and ever-changing process. By understanding the changes and developments in these phrases, learners can communicate and comprehend specific concepts more effectively. The historical origin and cultural references in phrasal verbs provide insight into the development of the English language, helping learners to fully appreciate the complexity and depth of the language. Finally, the ongoing evolution of these phrases ensures that English remains a dynamic and relevant language for future generations of learners.

Phrasal verbs have a long history that can be traced back several hundred years. Early examples of phrasal verbs can be seen in Old and Middle English, where they were often used to express complex meanings with a single word. In Old English, for example, the verb "geondseon" (to look throughout) was made up of the base verb "seon" (to look) and the preposition "geond" (throughout). In Middle English, the verb "overlooken" (to look over, neglect) was formed by combining the base verb "looken" (to look) and the prefix "over" (above). Akimoto refer that old English prefixes often remained before verbs because old English has object- before –verb tendencies.

The expansion of phrasal verbs decreased when English began to adopt French terms. French provided English with Romance verbs that replaced many of the Old English prefixed verbs. For example, English borrowed the word "destroy" from French (détruire), which replaced the meaning of Old English forbrecan. (break up). Class also played a factor. After 1066, French was considered the language of elite society. Phrasal verbs were casual. In other words, The Old English forbrecan became to break up. And by late Middle English, phrasal verbs may be classified into three types: a) Old English inseparable particle+ verb (understand, overtake); b) phrasal verbs with verbs+ separable particle (take up, write up); and c) noun compounds developed from the first two. (outcry, write- off).

The use of phrasal verbs increased in Early Modern English. Shakespeare himself employed the technique extensively in his plays. Hiltunen mentions that phrasal verbs were widely used in Early Modern English dramatic texts due to their varied shades of meaning and generative capacity "to be expanded to form new idioms." Phrasal verb could be formed a noun+ participle, such as to louse up. During this time, pronominal objects were firmly established before particles (She put it on rather than \*She put on it) as usual practice, although nominal objects kept movement before and after the particle (She put the dress on / She put on the dress).

In present –day Phrasal verbs are distinguished by particle movement (when transitive), stressed particles, and the lack of adverb intervention in the verb phrase, translation, and passivization. A phrasal verb is a verb that requires a complementary particle, which is an adverb similar to a preposition, to complete the sentence. (E.g. He fixed up the car.)

As the English language evolved further, phrasal verbs became more common and began to take on new complexities and nuances in meaning. For example, the phrasal verb "run into" can mean to physically collide with something or to meet by chance, depending on the context. In many cases, the meaning of a phrasal verb can be ambiguous depending on the context in which it is used.

Phrasal verbs have also played an important role in English language acquisition and usage. They are commonly used in conversation and informal English, and many idiomatic expressions and slang phrases make use of phrasal verbs. E.g. People can be taken up, taken down, taken off, taken in or one can keep in with people, one can set people up or down, or hit people off. While they can be difficult for language learners to master, exposure to common phrasal verbs and their usage in context is an important part of learning English as a second language.

Today, phrasal verbs remain an important part of the English language, and their usage has continued to evolve and change over time. In addition, new phrasal verbs continue to emerge as the English language expands and adapts to the needs and demands of modern communication.

In conclusion, phrasal verbs have a long and fascinating history that has played an integral role in the evolution of the English language over the centuries. From their early roots in Old and Middle English to their modern usage in everyday conversation and informal English, phrasal verbs continue to be an important and dynamic part of the English.

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