

ACTIONS

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn about actions.
Key Goals	Here is an outline of what you will learn today: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phrases to talk about actions 2. Collocations to talk about actions

1. Phrases to talk about actions

A **phrase** is a **group of words** that have a different **meaning** when put **together** as a **unit**. We often use them in everyday speech.

When we talk about actions, there will be many different **phrases** we could use.

Some verbs also have a **different meaning** when combined with another word.

These are called “**phrasal verbs**”.

Read this text which contains some phrases to remember when you talk about actions:

Jimmy didn't think he would have **access to higher education**. When he was little, he was in a car accident and was paralyzed **for life**. His parents were very worried that he would never **move on**. **For some time**, he believed that he would always **fail to** have a successful life. Just when he **was about to** give up, he met Kathy. From the moment they met, he started to **work on** himself and changed his **way of life**. **Thanks to** her, he **got to know** his own best qualities and decided to go to law school. Since then, Kathy never lets him **run out of** optimism!

Exercise:

Let's see if you understood the text correctly!

1. Rephrase the advice at the end of the text "His parents worried that he would never **move on**."

2. What does it mean when we say that Jimmy **was about to** give up?

Answers:

1. For instance: His parents thought he was never going to recover.
2. For instance: It means that he wanted to give up but hadn't yet.

2. Collocations to talk about actions

Here are some collocations that we often use when talking about actions.

- **With the verb “to get”**

Dressed: to put on clothes

Married: to marry someone

Angry: to start feeling angry

A job: to be selected for a job

Drunk: to drink so much that you are drunk

Wet: when there's water on someone/something

Pregnant: to be expecting a baby

- **With the verb “to do”**

Homework: to study after school

Business: for business relationships

Someone a favor: to help someone

Someone's best: to make an effort

The chores: to work around the house

Exercise: to work out

Laundry: to wash clothes

- With the verb “to make”

Friends: to create new friendships

A living: to earn money to live

A promise: to promise something

A call: to call someone

- With the verb “to take”

A look: to look quickly at something

A chance: to try

A break: to rest

Notes: to write something down

- With the verb “to keep”

Calm: to stay calm

A promise: to honor a promise you made

Quiet: to be silent

A diary: to write things down in a diary

Score: to count the score

- With the verb “to come”

First: to be the most important or the winner of a competition

Back: to return

To an agreement: to reach an agreement with someone

Up with: to find an idea or a plan

Close: to almost do something

Examples:

My aunt **came** close to quitting her job after her car accident.

I **made** a promise to myself to take good care of my dog.

It was a pleasure **doing** business with you.

My cousin is **getting** married on June 25th.

You work too much, you should **take** a break.

My sister **keeps** a diary, but she never lets me read it.

Exercise:

Choose the correct word to fill in the blanks:

1. My brother sells newspapers to make _____.
2. Don't jump in that puddle or you'll get _____!
3. John always comes _____ creative ideas.
4. You'll never succeed if you don't take _____.

Answers:

1. A living
2. wet
3. up with
4. a chance

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