

New edition

A Practical English Grammar

Exercises 2

A.J. Thomson
A.V. Martinet

Oxford

A. J. Thomson and A. V. Martinet

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English Grammar

Exercises 2

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A Practical English Grammar

Exercises 2

Preface to the second edition

This is one of two books of exercises designed to accompany *A Practical English Grammar*. To coincide with the publication of the third edition of the *Grammar* the books have been reissued in a larger format with some minor changes. The text has been altered where necessary to bring the language and content up to date; the numbering of the sections has been rationalized; the 185 individual exercises have been renumbered in a single sequence for ease of reference; and the references printed at the head of each exercise are now to the third edition of the *Grammar*. In other respects the books are largely unaltered.

As in the original edition, the exercises in Book 1 are graded 'A', 'B' and 'C'. 'A' means difficult, 'B' means moderately difficult and 'C' means easy. These gradings are printed at the head of each exercise. In Book 2 all the exercises are of an intermediate difficulty and have not therefore been graded by letters in this way.

Some of the exercises are in the form of a dialogue between two people. Quotation marks are not used here but the second remark is usually printed directly below the first. Where both remarks are very short, they sometimes follow each other on the same line with a space between them.

Keys to most of the exercises will be found at the end of the book. It has not been felt necessary to provide keys for every exercise.

It will be noticed that in some places the old imperial weights and measures have been retained, in others they have been replaced by metric ones. This is deliberate, as both forms are in daily use among English speakers.

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6 Verb+preposition/adverb combinations

97 Combinations with *get* and *be*

Put in the correct prepositions or adverbs.

- 1 Is Mary in?
No, she's . . . and won't be . . . till nine o'clock.
- 2 What shall we do now?
I'm . . . keeping quiet and saying nothing.
- 3 If you got your work instead of talking you'd be finished in half the time.
- 4 He promised to act as chairman, so I'm afraid he can't get it now. There's no one else to do it.
- 5 She wants to do all the work herself but I don't think she is it.
- 6 He leaves his car at a parking meter for over two hours and always gets it. When I do that, I am fined.
- 7 I don't think they'll be . . . yet. It's only five o'clock in the morning.
- 8 They didn't want the news of their engagement to get . . . till it was officially announced.
- 9 The office closes early on Fridays and we get . . . at five o'clock instead of six.
- 10 If you don't give the children something to do, they'll be some mischief.
- 11 The car stopped in front of the bank messenger and two men with guns got
- 12 She is a friendly girl who gets everyone she meets.
- 13 As soon as the examinations are . . . we are going away on holiday.
- 14 It took her a long time to get . . . the death of her husband.
- 15 We usually get . . . a play among ourselves at the end of the term.
- 16 I'm going to Berlin on business and I shall be . . . for a week.
- 17 Tom hasn't been working; he won't get . . . his examinations.
- 18 The police knew he had committed the crime but he got . . . as there was not enough evidence against him.
- 19 Shall I marry him?
Well it is you. I can't very well decide for you.
- 20 I tried to ring him up but I couldn't get . . . ; I think some of the lines are down after last night's storm.
- 21 She talks so much that it is difficult to get . . . from her.

2 VERB AND PREPOSITION/ADVERB COMBINATIONS

- 22 Why not have your operation at once and get it . . . ?
- 23 He got . . . his bicycle to pick up his pump.
- 24 Mary wants to study medicine but she is not very clever. I don't think she is it.
- 25 The train was delayed and only got . . . at midnight.
- 26 When winter is . . . I am going to have the house painted.
- 27 If you don't get . . . I'll send for the police. (*leave*)
- 28 I am . . . doing the washing up first and watching TV afterwards.
- 29 Get . . . the bus at Victoria Station.
- 30 How are you getting . . . with your work?
- 31 I don't think she is the level of the rest of the class.
- 32 I left my umbrella in the bus but I got it . . . from the Lost Property Office.
- 33 I am not getting . . . very fast because I can only type with two fingers.
- 34 The dog got a string of sausages from the butcher's.
- 35 We got . . . late because we had to walk.
- 36 Don't worry about my snake. He can't get his box.

98 Combinations with *look* and *keep*

Put in the correct prepositions or adverbs.

- 1 He wanted to talk to me but I kept . . . working and refused to listen.
- 2 She is a good secretary but she is kept . . . by her ignorance of languages.
- 3 The country was in a state of rebellion and was only kept . . . by repressive measures.
- 4 Look . . . the baby while I am out.
- 5 She kept the children . . . all day because it was so wet and cold.
- 6 You must look . . . and make plans for the future.
- 7 'Keep . . . !' he said. 'Don't come any nearer.'
- 8 If you look . . . it carefully you will see the mark.
- 9 I told the children to keep the room that was being painted.
- 10 Looking . . . , I see now all the mistakes I made when I was younger.
- 11 I have started getting up at five a.m. to study but I don't know if I can keep this
- 12 He had an unhappy childhood and he never looks . . . on it with any pleasure.

- 13 The man walked so fast that the child couldn't keep him.
- 14 She looked . . . to see who was following her.
- 15 There were so many panes of glass broken that the windows couldn't keep . . . the rain.
- 16 I've been looking . . . a cup to match the one I broke.
- 17 Look me at the station. I'll be at the bookstall.
- 18 Look . . . ! You nearly knocked my cup out of my hand.
- 19 He was kept . . . in his research by lack of money.
- 20 Tom is looking his first trip abroad. (*expecting with pleasure*)
- 21 Look . . . on your way home and tell me what happened.
- 22 Before putting any money into the business, we must look very carefully . . . the accounts.
- 23 I look . . . her as one of the family.
- 24 My windows look the garden.
- 25 He asked me to look . . . the document and then sign it.
- 26 He looked . . . the book to see if he had read it before.
- 27 If you can afford a new car your business must be looking
- 28 You can always look . . . her address in the directory if you have forgotten it.
- 29 He looked me . . . and . . . before he condescended to answer my question.
- 30 I am looking seeing your new house.
- 31 Children have a natural inclination to look their parents.
- 32 You will see I am right if you look . . . the matter from my point of view.
- 33 He looks me because I spend my holidays in Blackpool instead of going abroad.
- 34 If he doesn't know the word he can look it . . . in a dictionary.
- 35 The crowd looked . . . while the police surrounded the house.
- 36 Since our quarrel she looks . . . me whenever we meet.

99 Combinations with *go* and *come*

Put in the correct prepositions or adverbs.

- 1 It was some time before he came . . . after being knocked out.
- 2 I had to wait for permission from the Town Council before I could go . . . with my plans.
- 3 He came . . . to my way of thinking after a good deal of argument.
- 4 The guard dog went . . . the intruder and knocked him down.

4 VERB AND PREPOSITION/ADVERB COMBINATIONS

- 5 He had a sandwich and a cup of coffee, then went . . . working till ten.
- 6 It's no use trying to keep it secret; it's sure to come . . . in the end.
- 7 I went . . . the proposal very carefully with my solicitor and finally decided not to accept their offer.
- 8 The gun went . . . by accident and wounded him in the leg.
- 9 The question of salary increases will come . . . at the next general meeting.
- 10 Wearing black for mourning went . . . about 30 years ago.
- 11 She went a beauty contest but she only got a consolation prize.
- 12 Those rust marks will come . . . if you rub them with lemon.
- 13 The price of tomatoes usually goes . . . in summer in England.
- 14 If there isn't enough soup to go . . . just put some hot water in it.
- 15 Seeing me from across the room, she came me, and said that someone wanted to speak to me.
- 16 The early colonists of Canada went . . . many hardships.
- 17 You can't go your promise now; we are depending on you.
- 18 I have changed my mind about marrying him; I simply can't go it.
- 19 The aeroplane crashed and went . . . in flames.
- 20 He came . . . a fortune last year. (*he inherited it*)
- 21 Wait till prices come . . . again before you buy.
- 22 I refuse to go . . . now. I'm going on.
- 23 They have gone . . . all the calculation again but they still can't find the mistake.
- 24 The party went . . . very well last night; we all enjoyed ourselves.
- 25 Come It's far too cold to wait here any longer.
- 26 Mary went . . . in such a hurry that she left her passport behind.
- 27 The handle of the tea-pot came . . . in my hand as I was washing it.
- 28 Why don't you go stamp collecting if you want a quiet hobby?
- 29 I came . . . a vase exactly like yours in an antique shop.
- 30 Her weight went . . . to 70 kilos when she stopped playing tennis.
- 31 Don't go . . . food if you want to economize. Why not smoke less?
- 32 The sea has gone . . . considerably since last night's gale.
- 33 I'm at home all day. Come . . . whenever you have time.
- 34 She went her work after the interruptions.
- 35 She goes . . . a lot because she is popular and has a good many friends.
- 36 He has fainted but he'll soon come . . . if you keep him quiet.

100 Combinations with *take* and *run*

Put in the correct prepositions or adverbs.

- 1 I couldn't take . . . the lecture at all. It was too difficult for me.
- 2 He is inclined to let his enthusiasm run him.
- 3 When he offered me only 50p an hour, I was too taken . . . to say a word.
- 4 He has already run . . . the money his father left him two years ago.
- 5 Now he is running . . . bills all over the town.
- 6 She took . . . riding because she wanted to lose weight.
- 7 I can't start the car; the battery has run
- 8 The policeman ran . . . the thief.
- 9 He takes . . . his mother; he has blue eyes and fair hair too.
- 10 I forgot to turn off the tap and the wash-basin ran
- 11 That blouse is easy to make. You could run it . . . in an hour.
- 12 I am sorry I called you a liar. I take it
- 13 Reformers usually run opposition from all kinds of people.
- 14 He took . . . going for a walk every night before he went to bed.
- 15 Don't run the idea that Scotsmen are mean. They just don't like wasting money.
- 16 I wish we could sell the grand piano; it takes . . . too much space here.
- 17 She is always running . . . her friends behind their backs. She soon won't have any friends left.
- 18 You'd better take . . . your coat if you're too hot.
- 19 Just run . . . the music of this song for me.
- 20 We took . . . each other the first time we met and have been friends ever since.
- 21 When his father died, Tom took . . . the business.
- 22 What I saw in the water was only an old tree. I took it . . . the Loch Ness Monster.
- 23 I ran . . . an old school friend in the tube today.
- 24 I can't go more than 50 k.p.h. as this is a new car and I am still running it
- 25 People often take me . . . my sister. We are very like each other.
- 26 My neighbour is always running bread and borrowing some from me.
- 27 He always takes . . . his false teeth before he goes to bed.
- 28 I took . . . Tom at chess and beat him.
- 29 If a bull chased me I'd run
- 30 Even a child wouldn't be taken . . . by such an obvious lie.

6 VERB AND PREPOSITION/ADVERB COMBINATIONS

- 31 You're looking rather run . . . ; I think you need a holiday.
- 32 The policeman took . . . the number of the stolen car.
- 33 If she takes . . . the job of director she'll have to work harder.
- 34 My car skidded and ran . . . a wall.
- 35 She makes a little extra money by taking . . . paying guests in summer.
- 36 A hen ran in front of my car and I'm afraid I ran . . . it.

101 Combinations with *turn*, *call* and *break*

Put in the correct prepositions or adverbs.

- 1 He broke . . . completely on hearing of his daughter's death.
- 2 He wasn't rich by any means, but he never turned . . . anyone who needed help.
- 3 On his way to work he called . . . the florist's and ordered a dozen red roses.
- 4 Burglars broke . . . the house and stole some jewellery.
- 5 I turned . . . the job because it was badly paid.
- 6 We called . . . a specialist when he grew worse.
- 7 When the police questioned him he broke . . . and confessed.
- 8 Turn . . . the radio if you're not listening.
- 9 War broke . . . in 1939.
- 10 The secretary was then called . . . to read the minutes.
- 11 He carried on the business alone for years before his health broke
- 12 The lion turned . . . the lion-tamer and knocked him senseless.
- 13 Can you be ready at six? He is calling . . . us then to take us out.
- 14 Mary has broken . . . her engagement to Charles.
- 15 I haven't much time for housework but I try to turn . . . one room in the house every week.
- 16 She called . . . for a few minutes to return a book.
- 17 The lift broke . . . and we had to use the stairs.
- 18 The representative of the computer company called . . . all the factories in the district.
- 19 The situation is difficult and calls . . . great tact.
- 20 They broke . . . their conversation when I came in.
- 21 The school broke . . . for the holidays at the end of July.
- 22 In this book the mysterious stranger turns . . . to be the long-lost son of the duke.
- 23 The fireman had to break . . . the door to rescue the children.
- 24 The garden party was called . . . because of the rain.

- 25 A good horse can be ruined if it is not carefully broken
- 26 He was called . . . at the age of eighteen and spent a year in the army.
- 27 She was plain as a child but she turned . . . remarkably pretty.
- 28 Negotiations between the two countries were broken . . . following the murder of the ambassador.
- 29 Mrs Jones rang up when you were out. She wants you to call her
- 30 The family was broken . . . after the death of the parents.
- 31 The new factory turns . . . surgical instruments as well as cutlery. .
- 32 He broke . . . the conversation to remind us it was getting late.
- 33 The boat turned . . . and threw us all into the water.
- 34 We arranged to meet at the theatre but she didn't turn
- 35 The three men who broke prison yesterday were later recaptured.
- 36 A huge crowd turned . . . to see the international football match.

102 Combinations with *give*, *put* and *make*

Put in the correct prepositions or adverbs.

- 1 Don't give these shoes . . . ; there's a lot of wear in them still.
- 2 Put . . . the clock, it is twenty minutes fast.
- 3 Riding is too expensive; I'll have to give it
- 4 I'll put . . . my visit to the Royal Mint till you can come with me.
- 5 The roads were crowded with people making . . . the coast.
- 6 He gave . . . all the books he had borrowed.
- 7 She had invited me to dinner but had to put me . . . as she was ill.
- 8 I can't make . . . the postmark on the letter; it looks like Basingstoke.
- 9 Put . . . the light; it's getting quite light again.
- 10 After four days of freedom, the escaped prisoner gave himself . . . to the police.
- 11 That vase is very valuable. Put it . . . before you drop it.
- 12 A young girl shouldn't need to make . . . her face very much.
- 13 Your secret is safe with me. I won't give you
- 14 He was very much put . . . when she rang off angrily in the middle of their conversation.
- 15 It's time they made . . . that silly quarrel.
- 16 I wish you would put . . . the dishes instead of leaving them on the table.

8 VERB AND PREPOSITION/ADVERB COMBINATIONS

- 17 The bus strike is annoying, I know, but we have to put it.
- 18 He didn't want to go to the cinema but they begged so hard that he gave . . . and went with them.
- 19 I don't believe that story. I am sure you made it
- 20 The house itself is quite attractive but the fact that it's near a busy airport put me
- 21 Scientists have recently put . . . the theory that eating too much fat is bad for the heart.
- 22 They put . . . a statue of Florence Nightingale after her death.
- 23 The diver's supply of oxygen gave . . . and he had to be brought to the surface as quickly as possible.
- 24 I asked him to put . . . the lights if he was the last to leave.
- 25 I don't know how you put the noise; it would drive me mad.
- 26 After his fourth attempt he gave . . . trying to pass the examination.
- 27 Put . . . the blue dress. Blue suits you.
- 28 He should try to make his loss of sleep by going to bed early.
- 29 If you can't find a room in a hotel, I could always put you
- 30 The names of the winners were given . . . on the radio.
- 31 The shortage of eggs has put . . . their price considerably.
- 32 The government put . . . the rebellion with great severity.
- 33 If you want to save money, give . . . eating in expensive restaurants.
- 34 This clock is always slow; I put it . . . ten minutes every morning.
- 35 There was a man giving . . . leaflets outside the church.
- 36 He put . . . his name for the excursion.

103 Combinations with *clear*, *cut*, *fall*, *hold*, *let* and *hand*

Put in the correct prepositions or adverbs.

- 1 Clear . . . your books. I want to set the table for lunch.
- 2 The army fell . . . when the enemy attacked.
- 3 You should cut . . . this tree. It is too near the house.
- 4 The examination was so easy that all the candidates handed . . . their answer papers after the first hour.
- 5 My plans for starting a restaurant fell . . . for lack of capital.
- 6 Our water supply was cut . . . because the pipe burst.
- 7 At the end of term attendance at these classes usually falls
- 8 Mary has cut . . . all the pictures in this magazine; her mother will be very angry.

- 9 I hope the rain holds . . . until my washing is dry.
- 10 They won't let you . . . if you aren't a member of the club.
- 11 The mounted police cleared . . . the crowds.
- 12 A heavy snowfall held . . . the trains from the north.
- 13 If you really want to slim you must cut . . . on sweets.
- 14 The two brothers fell . . . over their father's will.
- 15 You would recover your sense of taste if you cut . . . smoking altogether.
- 16 If you will hold . . . I'll put you through to Enquiries.
- 17 If he refuses to fall my plans I can probably find someone more co-operative.
- 18 These folk songs have been handed . . . from generation to generation.
- 19 She has grown so much that her mother will have to let . . . all her dresses.
- 20 Children, you must clear . . . this mess before going to bed.
- 21 I was cut . . . in the middle of my call because I had no more money to put in the box.
- 22 The burglar cleared . . . when he heard me coming downstairs.
- 23 The retiring general handed . . . to his successor.
- 24 I should feel very cut . . . if I lived more than twenty kilometres from the town.
- 25 The soldiers fell . . . and marched off.
- 26 In the film the train was held . . . and robbed by four armed men.
- 27 The mystery of his sudden disappearance was never cleared
- 28 He didn't dismiss the man; he let him . . . with a warning.
- 29 I hope the weather will clear . . . soon. I want to go out.
- 30 He let the rest of the team . . . by not turning up for the match.
- 31 Deaf people often feel very cut . . . from others by their disability.
- 32 When she got fatter her clothes were too tight and she had to let them all
- 33 I'd like Jones to have the job, but if he doesn't accept we'll have to fall a less experienced man.
- 34 The survivors of the plane crash were able to hold . . . till help came.
- 35 Could you hand . . . the photographs so that everyone can see them?
- 36 You'll need somewhere to keep your books. I'll clear . . . this cupboard for you.