

Use of English

Part 4 Key word transformations

1 Read the dictionary extracts and answer these questions.

- How does the entry show that a phrasal verb is transitive?
- What symbol is used to show that a phrasal verb is separable (i.e. that the object can be placed between the verb and the particle)?

look 'back (on sth) to think about sth in your past **SYN** REFLECT ON: *to look back on your childhood*
look 'down on sb/sth to think that you are better than sb/sth: *She looks down on people who haven't been to college.*
look for sth to hope for sth; to expect sth: *We shall be looking for an improvement in your work this term.*
look 'forward to sth to be thinking with pleasure about sth that is going to happen (because you expect to enjoy it): *I'm looking forward to the weekend.* ◊ [+ -ing] *We're really looking forward to seeing you again.*
look 'in (on sb) to make a short visit to a place, especially sb's house when they are ill/sick or need help: *She looks in on her elderly neighbour every evening.* ◊ *Why don't you look in on me next time you're in town?*
look 'into sth to examine sth: *A working party has been set up to look into the problem.*
look 'on to watch sth without becoming involved in it yourself: *Passers-by simply looked on as he was attacked.* —related noun **ONLOOKER** **look on** sb/sth as sb/sth to consider sb/sth to be sb/sth: *She's looked on as the leading authority on the subject.* **look on** sb/sth with sth to consider sb/sth in a particular way **SYN** REGARD: *They looked on his behaviour with contempt.*

set sth/sb-**'back** to delay the progress of sth/sb by a particular time: *The bad weather set back the building programme by several weeks.* —related noun **SETBACK** **set** sb **'back** sth [no passive] (*informal*) to cost sb a particular amount of money: *The repairs could set you back over £200.* ⇨ note at **COST** **set** sth **'back** (from sth) [usually passive] to place sth, especially a building, at a distance from sth: *The house is set well back from the road.*
set sb-**'down** (*BrE*) (of a bus or train, or its driver) to stop and allow sb to get off: *Passengers may be set down and picked up only at the official stops.* **set** sth-**'down** **1** to write sth down on paper in order to record it **2** to give sth as a rule, principle, etc.: *The standards were set down by the governing body.*
set **'forth** (*literary*) to start a journey, **set** sth-**'forth** (*formal*) to present sth or make it known **SYN** EXPOUND: *The President set forth his views in a television broadcast.*
set **'in** (of rain, bad weather, infection, etc.) to begin and seem likely to continue: *The rain seemed to have set in for the day.* **set** sth **'in**/**'into** sth [usually passive] to fasten sth into a flat surface so that it does not stick out from it: *a plaque set into the wall*
set **'off** to begin a journey: *We set off for London just after ten.* **set** sth-**'off** **1** to make a bomb, etc. explode: *A gang of boys were setting off fireworks in the street.* **2** to make an alarm start ringing: *Opening this door will set off the alarm.* **3** to start a process or series of events: *Panic on the stock market set off a wave of selling.* **4** to make sth more noticeable or attractive by being placed near it: *That blouse sets off the blue of her eyes.* **set** sb **'off** (doing sth) to make sb start doing sth such as laughing, crying or talking
set **on**/**upon** sb [usually passive] to attack sb suddenly: *I opened the gate, and was immediately set on by a large dog.*

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 7th edition

2 For each of a–h complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the word given and a phrasal verb with *look* or *set*. The phrasal verbs you need are in the extracts in 1.

- a If you're ever in our part of the country, do visit us.

in

If you're ever in our part of the country, do on us.

- b I burnt the sausages and caused the smoke alarm to go off.

off

I burnt the sausages and the smoke alarm.

- c Joe tends to feel superior to people who don't earn as much money as he does.

down

Joe tends to people who don't earn as much money as he does.

- d A gang of teenagers attacked a man in broad daylight yesterday.

upon

A man by a gang of teenagers in broad daylight yesterday.

- e The terrible weather delayed the departure of the ferry by six hours.

back

Owing to the terrible weather, the departure of the ferry by six hours.

- f We all watched in silence as the magician performed his trick.

on

We all in silence as the magician performed his trick.

- g The house stands about 50 metres away from the road.

back

The house about 50 metres from the road

- h The police are investigating the possibility that the two crimes are linked.

into

The police the possibility that the two crimes are linked.