

# Phrasal Verbs 6 up/down

## A

Compare **up** and **down**:

**put** something **up** (on a wall, etc.)

- I **put** some pictures **up** on the wall.

**pick** something **up**

- There was a letter on the floor. I **picked it up** and looked at it.

**stand up**

- Alan **stood up** and walked out.

**turn** something **up**

- I can't hear the TV. Can you **turn it up** a little?



**take** something **down** (from a wall, etc.)

- I didn't like the picture, so I **took it down**.

**put** something **down**

- I stopped writing and **put down** my pen.

**sit down** / **bend down** / **lie down**

- I **bent down** to tie my shoes.

**turn** something **down**

- The oven is too hot. **Turn it down** to 325 degrees.



## B

**Tear down, cut down, etc.**

**tear down** a building / **cut down** a tree / **blow** something **down**

- Some old houses were **torn down** to make room for the new shopping mall.
- A: Why did you **cut down** the tree in your yard?  
B: I didn't. It was **blown down** in the storm last week.

**burn down** = *be destroyed by fire*

- They were able to put out the fire before the house **burned down**.

## C

**Down** = becoming or having less

**slow down** = *go more slowly*

- You're driving too fast. **Slow down**.

**calm** somebody **down** = *become calmer, make somebody calmer*

- Calm down**. There's no point in getting mad.

**cut down** (on something) = *eat, drink, or do something less often*

- I'm trying to **cut down on** coffee. I drink too much of it.

## D

Other verbs + **down**

**break down** = *stop working (for machines, cars)*

- The car **broke down** and I had to call for help.

Also discussions, talks, etc. can **break down** (= *fail*)

- Talks between the two groups **broke down** without a solution being reached. (= the talks failed)

**close down** = *stop doing business*

- There used to be a shop on this street; it **closed down** a few years ago.

**let** somebody **down** = *disappoint somebody because you didn't do what they hoped*

- You can always rely on Pete. He'll never **let you down**.

**turn** somebody/something **down** = *refuse an application, an offer, etc.*

- I applied for several jobs, but I was **turned down** for all of them.
- Rachel was offered the job, but she decided to **turn it down**.

**write** something **down** = *write something on paper because you may need the information later*

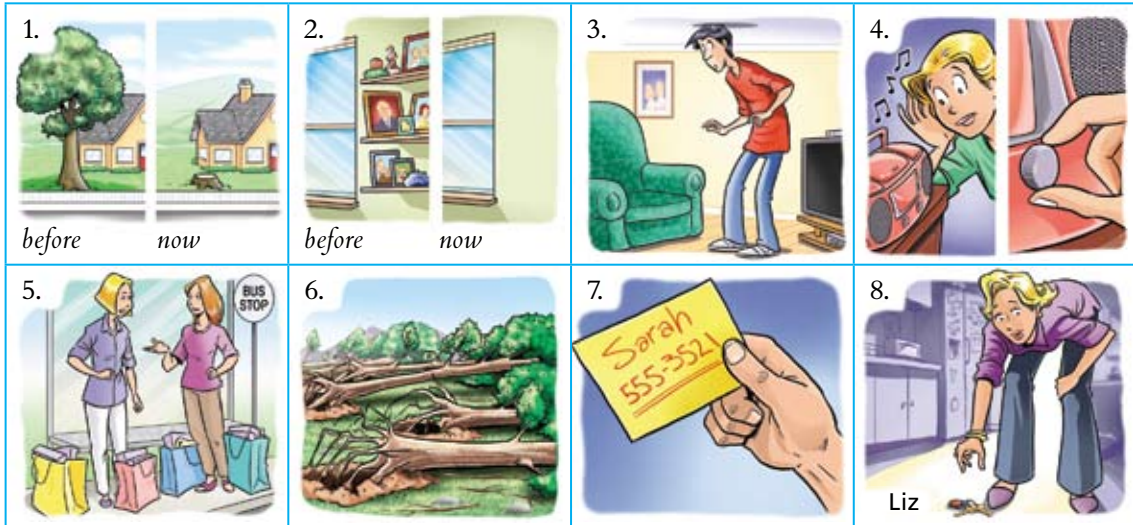
- I can't remember Tim's address. I **wrote it down**, but I can't find it.

### 139.1 Complete the sentences. Use the following verbs (in the correct form) + up or down:

calm let put ~~take~~ turn turn

- I don't like this picture on the wall. I'm going to take it down.
- The music is too loud. Can you \_\_\_\_\_?
- David was very angry. I tried to \_\_\_\_\_.
- I've bought some new curtains. Can you help me \_\_\_\_\_?
- I promised I would help Anna. I don't want to \_\_\_\_\_.
- I was offered the job, but I decided I didn't want it. So I \_\_\_\_\_.

### 139.2 For each picture, complete the sentences using a verb + up or down. In most sentences, you will need other words as well.



- There used to be a tree in front of the house, but we cut it down.
- There used to be some shelves on the wall, but I \_\_\_\_\_.
- The ceiling was so low, he couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ straight.
- She couldn't hear the radio very well, so she \_\_\_\_\_.
- While they were waiting for the bus, they \_\_\_\_\_ on the ground.
- A lot of trees \_\_\_\_\_ in the storm last week.
- Sarah gave me her phone number. I \_\_\_\_\_ on a piece of paper.
- Liz dropped her keys, so she \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### 139.3 Complete each sentence using a verb (in the correct form) + down.

- I stopped writing and put down my pen.
- I was really upset. It took me a long time to \_\_\_\_\_.
- The train \_\_\_\_\_ as it approached the station.
- Sarah applied for medical school, but she \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our car is very reliable. It has never \_\_\_\_\_.
- I need to spend less money. I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ on things I don't really need.
- I didn't play very well. I felt that I had \_\_\_\_\_ the other players on the team.
- The shop \_\_\_\_\_ because it was losing money.
- This is a very ugly building. Many people would like it to \_\_\_\_\_.
- I don't understand why you \_\_\_\_\_ the chance to work abroad for a year. It would have been a great experience.
- Unfortunately, the house \_\_\_\_\_ before the fire department got there, but no one was hurt.
- The strike is going to continue. Talks between the two sides have \_\_\_\_\_ without agreement.