

Week 30

Grammar

Phrasal Verbs Topic – Colloquial Expressions

This week you will continue to look at colloquial expressions. Look at the following table which lists those in Unit 88 (page 99) in Flower's and which contain phrasal verbs.

Put on a brave face
Come down on someone like a ton of bricks
To be cut down to size
Let off steam; to run out of steam
Scare the pants off someone
Take your breath away
Stand out a mile
To be told where to get off
Give it up as a bad job
Go off (in) the deep end
Get on like a house on fire

Here are some examples of collocations and expressions from *The Call of the Wild* (Ch 4-7):

Make good time
To earn it
Time was flying (by)
Do your fair share
To cap it all
Lick into shape
Wild with happiness
The stuff of dreams
Lay one's hands on something/someone
Hold one's own
Call one's bluff
Worth its weight (in gold)
Break the mould
Lose one's head

Vocabulary

Here is a selection of collocations & expressions from The Call of the Wild (Chapters 4-7) with phrasal verbs:

[They] .. could not make it out (p65)
The heavy work wore them down (p64)
Since dogs count for little (p71)
Mercedes sided with her husband (p82)
Buck slowly won back his strength (p93)
The 3 partners could rake together only \$200 (p109)
Pay off certain debts (p114)

Make out something = to understand or comprehend the reason for something

I can't make you out!

Can you make out why he did this?

Wear down = to become more tired and less able to deal with something successfully

This is wearing me down; I've got no energy left

Count for = to have value. Therefore, to count for nothing/little = to have no value

Make it count!

I hate you – in your eyes I count for nothing!

Side with = to support someone or an opinion in an argument

I'm going to side with Z

As far as I'm concerned I side with Y on this point

Win back = to get something that you had before but lost temporarily

I'm going to win back my gymnastic gold medal

Rake together = gather or uncover things by various means

I bet you're raking in a lot of money in your new job!

Pay off = pay money owed to someone

He was happy that he had paid off his loan

Exercises

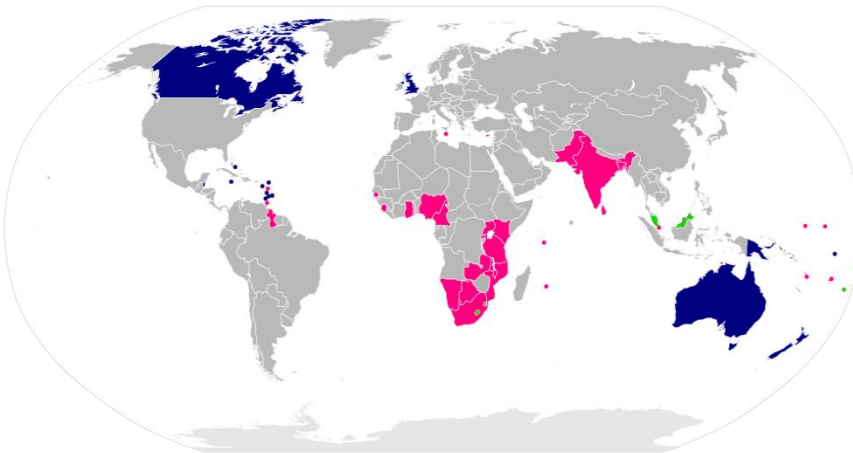
1. Complete Unit 88 from Flower's (page 99) to match the dialogues and underline all the phrasal verbs.
2. Complete Unit 1 A (Listening), page 12 in Close-up to decide whether the expressions are positive or negative.
3. Complete Unit 11 F (Vocabulary), page 139 in Close-up to complete the expressions in the sentences, explain the expressions and identify which sport(s) they derive from.
4. Complete Unit 12 E (Reading), page 149 in Close-up to complete the expressions in the sentences.

Civilisation

The Commonwealth – Other Members

Throughout the year you have looked at the Indian sub-continent (1T), South Africa (2T) and the Americas and the Caribbean (3T).

You will recall that the Commonwealth is made up of 53 countries around the world. There is a combined population of 2.36m people which represents 30% of the world's population. Every continent has members.



The Caribbean and Americas

North America = Canada (all states)

Latin America = Belize

South America = Guyana

Caribbean islands (9)

Africa

The majority of countries in the south of the continent [ref: 3eme 2T]

Asia

India and the Indian sub-continent [ref: 3eme 1T]

Pacific

Australia

New Zealand

Pacific islands (9)

Europe

Cyprus

Malta

United Kingdom

To conclude, let's think about some of the other members of the Commonwealth that we have not covered or explored in detail.

Rwanda, in East Africa, was the last country to join the Commonwealth in 2009. In the late 19th century it was part of German East Africa and then came under Belgian rule after the First World War. It gained independence in 1962. There are 3 main ethnic groups: Hutus,

Tutsis and Twa and the country has struggled with ethnic tensions between the Tutsi minority and the majority Hutus. In the mid-1990s a government-sponsored genocide killed an estimated 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus in 100 days. There was an international outcry and widespread condemnation. The country is covered in thick equatorial forest and is home to a significant mountain gorilla population.

Nauru (the smallest country in the Commonwealth) joined the Commonwealth in 1968 following its independence the same year. Nauruans were a distinct people with their own language and culture. They had little contact with Europeans until whaling ships, traders and beachcombers began to visit regularly in the 1830s. The island has been administered in turn by Germany, Britain and Australia each continuing to exploit the island's phosphate reserves. A century of mining has devastated the interior of the land and caused extensive environmental damage. A thin but fertile coastal strip provides soil for coconut palms, indigenous hardwood trees, bananas, pineapples and some vegetable growing.

Take the quiz on The Commonwealth for Kids website to test your knowledge. <http://www.youngcommonwealth.org/members/>. Then answer these questions:

1. Where is Nauru?
2. Where is the Commonwealth HQ (headquarters)?

The next Commonwealth games will be held in Birmingham, UK in 2022.



Look at these contrasts:

Population	India 1.26m	Nauru 10,084
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There are differences but also unity and inclusion:

Languages spoken include:	Turkish, Swahili, Malay, Urdu, Afrikaans, Tongan – but English unites all the countries
Religions	All the world's religions are represented

Remember, the Commonwealth stands for:

- Diversity
- Equality
- Friendship

Literature

The Call of the Wild

This week you will continue a literary analysis of the text by thinking about the following aspects.

Many of the ideas behind the book are based on Charles Darwin's 'Origin of Species' published in 1859. Jack London was greatly influenced by the ideas of 'survival of the fittest'; the idea that in a wild and cruel world, where there are limited resources, only the strong survive.

However, in his novel, London goes a step further and shows that mastery, domination and, finally, leadership is the greater battle or achievement. This is based on the work of a German philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche.

As Buck reverts back to his wild state (and/or returns to the wild) this is not seen as a backward step but an improvement. This analysis of Buck and his journey is taken from: <https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/call/character/buck/>

Buck's story is cyclical: he is introduced as a pampered prince, and the story concludes with Buck as a veritable king of beasts. In between, Buck undergoes experiences that provide him with greater insight about the world. The experiences, though, far from destroying him, makes him stronger, and he wins back his kingdom—or rather, he wins a new kingdom, a wild one that better suits his true destiny as a wild animal.

The Call of the Wild is, as its title suggests, a celebration of wildness, of primitive life, and even of savagery. Buck's rise to greatness is not an easy path; it is a struggle, a course strewn with obstacles, from the long duel with his rival Spitz to the folly of Hal, Mercedes, and Charles.

These obstacles, London indicates, are to be rejoiced in rather than avoided: life is ultimately a long struggle for mastery, and the greatest dogs (or men), the Bucks of the world, will always seek out struggles in order to prove their greatness. Thus, when Buck goes from being a moral, civilized pet to a fierce, bloodthirsty, violent wolf-dog, we are glad rather than shocked, because we know that he is fulfilling his highest -possible destiny.

Consider these aspects too:

CONFLICT	STRUGGLE	CLIMAX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The central struggle that moves the <i>plot</i> forward. The conflict can be the <i>protagonist's</i> struggle against fate, nature, society, or another person: •Buck's relationship with humans •Buck's survival •Buck's mastery •Buck's domination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Life and death struggles •Curly killed by a husky •Fight between Spitz and Buck •Buck's battles with the bear, moose and humans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The moment of greatest intensity in a text or the major turning point in the <i>plot</i>: •WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS IS?

