

Aggie Grammar Guide: Single-Word Verbs vs. Phrasal Verbs

Answer Key

What follows are options for answers to the practice activities. In reality, many correct answers exist.

Intermediate Practice

- 1) The author **explains** how it is harder for her to go back to college each time she **returns** home.
- 2) I think that the new one is better because I **removed** an unnecessary and confusing sentence.
- 3) I **copied** the vocabulary on another sheet of paper from my memory.
- 4) I do not think that telemedicine has the same value as **visiting** the doctor.
- 5) I want to **discuss** airplanes' history, airplanes' companies, personal business, global trade, and the benefit for international students and traveling.
- 6) After working on glider experiments they **discovered** how to steer a plane while in flight.
- 7) Then the post office will handle the rest and **deliver** the item to your house.

Advanced Practice

What follows is the location of the phrasal verbs in the original paragraph and a chart listing possible synonyms. Below are sentences that need revision after replacement with a single-word verb.

I **caught on** that in today's society, many people are more self-centered. They **put** themselves **first**. When they **look at** anything unjust, they will not **stand up** and **go against** wrongdoings. The bystander effect **goes far beyond** my experience, however. According to James Nye, a reporter of Dailymail.com, many people **looked at** Brown's murder by a white police officer, but they didn't do anything to help Brown because they **waited for** someone else to take action. This pluralistic ignorance **contributed to** Brown's death. The witnesses clearly were conscious of the situation and they knew that that was unjust. However, no one **stood up** for him because the person who **stands** entirely **for** justice, the police officer, was **bringing about** the unjust behavior. Obviously, we should take action when it is needed. We must not wait or **watch for** others to do anything for us because it will be too late.

Phrasal Verb	Single-Word Synonym
caught on	realized, understood, grasped, recognized
put first	prioritize
look at	see, observe, witness, notice
stand up	fight, volunteer
go against	counter, thwart, rectify, oppose
goes beyond	exceeds, transcends
looked at	witnessed, observed, viewed, acknowledged
waited for	expected, assumed, thought, anticipated
contributed to	prompted, effected, affected
stood up	defended, supported
stands for	represents, exemplifies, symbolizes, denotes, embodies
bringing about	doing, producing, creating, acting, behaving
watch for	expect

- 1) The bystander effect far **exceeds** my experience, however. (Note that the adverb moves to before the verb “exceeds.”)
- 2) According to James Nye, a reporter of Dailymail.com, many people looked at Brown’s murder by a white police officer, but they didn’t do anything to help Brown because they **assumed/thought/anticipated** someone else **would** take action.
- 3) However, no one stood up for him because the person who **entirely represents** justice, the police officer, was **acting/behaving unjustly**. (Note that the adverb is moved to before the verb “represents”.)