

## I

**Back out** — *to withdraw from a promise, contract*: I felt grieved when he backed out of his promise to help me.

**Back up** — *to support, to sustain*: He was backed up by his union to fight for his rights.

**Bear out** — *to support, to confirm*: The evidence does not bear out the charge against him.

**Beat back** — *to force to withdraw*: The demonstrators were beaten back by the police force.

**Boil down to** — *to amount to*: The whole problem boils down to the shortage of funds.

**Break down** — *of a car, a piece of machinery*: The plant broke down on account of extreme voltage fluctuations.

**Break out** — *to arise suddenly (of a war, a quarrel, etc.)*: Fierce fighting broke out between the rival groups.

**Break up** — *to disperse, to dissolve*: The meeting will break up after the President has addressed the audience.

**Bring out** — *to reveal clearly*: These facts clearly bring out the merits of the new policy.

— *to publish*: The annual report of the company has not been brought out so far.

**Call back** — *to telephone again*: Could you call back tomorrow, please?

**Call off** — *cancel*: Since the workers' demands have been met, they have called off the strike.

**Call upon** — *to order, to require*: It was a pity that I was called upon to give evidence against my best friend.

**Carry on** — *to continue*: If you carry on working hard, your business will soon flourish.

**Carry out** — *to put into action*: You did not carry out my instructions satisfactorily.

**Cast aside** — *to reject*: All other considerations were cast aside at the suggestion of the manager.

**Catch up with** — *to hurry up and join*: I waited near the crossing so that others could catch up with me.

**Come across** — *to meet by chance*: In the lift, I came across an old friend of mine.

**Come off** — *to take place*: The inauguration of the plant came off on Tuesday.

**Cry down** — *to depreciate, to make little of*: One must not always cry down the views expressed by others.

**Cut down** — *to reduce*: We have taken some effective steps to cut down the expenditure.

**Cut out** — *designed for*: You seem to be cut out to be a teacher.

**Drop in** — *to visit casually*: Please drop in at our place whenever it is convenient to you.

**Eat out** — *to eat in a restaurant*: Today let's eat out for a change.

**Egg on** — *to urge on*: My colleagues egged me on to appear for the interview.

- Fall back on** — *to make use of in an emergency*: If I do not get this job, I can fall back on my father's support.
- Fall in with** — *to agree to*: I found it difficult to persuade the chairman to fall in with my suggestions.
- Fall out** — *to quarrel*: Whenever Karan falls out with his wife, he becomes very tense.
- Fall through** — *to fail to take place*: The project fell through for want of adequate funds.
- Fill in** — *to complete (a form)*: Kindly fill in your name and address here.
- Get off** — *to leave (a bus)*: I got off at Palika Bazar and walked to my office.
- Get on with** — *to agree, to work well together*: The two partners get on very well with each other.
- Get over** — *to recover from*: It took me quite some time to get over my homesickness.
- Get through** — *to succeed in some examination*: She could not get through the interview.  
— *to make a successful phone call*: It took me half an hour to get through to Aman.
- Get up** — *to rise from bed*: I got up at 4 a.m. and went for a morning walk.
- Give up** — *to stop trying*: I know the competition is stiff, but don't give up!
- Go down** — *to be accepted*: Our Finance Minister will go down in history as the most imaginative economist of our country.
- Hold back** — *to keep back, to conceal*: No important symptoms should be held back from the doctor.
- Hold on** — *to wait, particularly on the phone*: Could you hold on for a moment, please?
- Keep up** — *to continue*: This is an excellent result. Keep it up.
- Knock down** — *to hit in a traffic accident*: While crossing the road, she was knocked down by a speeding car.
- Let down** — *to disappoint*: We have high hopes of you. Don't let us down.
- Let off** — *to allow to go free, to release*: In spite of the mistake being serious, he was let off with a warning.
- Look at** — *to examine carefully*: She looked at the pearls and immediately said that they were not real.
- Look for** — *to seek*: We are looking for a competent and sincere office assistant.
- Look forward to** — *to wait for something with pleasure*: I'm looking forward to my sister's wedding.
- Look up** — *to seek information in a book*: If you do not know what this word means, look it up in a dictionary.
- Make out** — *to find out*: I cannot make out the meaning of any of these poems.
- Pull through** — *to get to the end of something difficult and dangerous with some success*: It was a difficult situation but we managed to pull through.
- Put through** — *to connect, on the telephone*: Could you put me through to Mr Khan, please?
- Put up** — *to stay*: Where are you putting up these days?
- Put up with** — *to tolerate*: You will have to put up with this inconvenience for a while.
- Run out** — *to come to an end*: Fuel supplies are sure to run out.