

Lucky

Follow Up

Word Work

Phrasal Verbs - Listening

The story 'Lucky' is written as if the writer was talking to the reader face to face, as a friend. In other words, the language being used is informal and familiar. When British people speak to each other they use lots of idioms and expressions, as people do in all languages. In English, though, this frequently means phrasal verbs, which – we all know – are not the friends of language learners! Let's listen to ten phrasal verbs that Janine uses in her story 'Lucky'. You will hear them being read by the author, in the order in which they appear in the story.

Write down the phrasal verbs you think you hear. You will hear each phrasal verb twice – once in context and once by itself.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Now try to match the phrasal verbs you have written above with the general descriptions given below. (Some of these phrasal verbs may have different meanings in different contexts – you have been warned!)

recognise or discern

become (suddenly?) in love

try to find something (that is hidden?)

ask for a delivery to be brought to you

disconnect or switch off something

substitute

taking care

being friendly

leave a place briefly

arrive at a place (eventually?)

Now use some of the phrasal verbs from the story to complete these sentences. You'll have to make changes for the sentences to be grammatically accurate.

1. She didn't want to go home because she and her aunt were _____ so well.
2. They meant to go to the cinema but _____ at the night club instead.
3. He spent the evening _____ his sister who was feeling ill.
4. I've come to _____ for the girl who went sick.
5. He's just _____ but he'll be back in a minute.

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Phrasal Verbs

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Have you turned that spell-checker off.....?

line 17

She's filling in for Maggie.

line 54

You let me know if they're not looking after you.

line 56

.....his voice is deep and soft and furry my ears can pick it out anywhere.....

line 60

That someone like him could fall for me.

line 81

The others send out for sandwiches.....

line 86

.....and the girls asking if he wants a sandwich when they pop out.....

line 108

.....how did he end up there with me?

line 108

You all getting on OK in the office?

line 118

..... I watched him fish in his pocket for change.

line 177

Now try to match the phrasal verbs underlined above with the general descriptions given below. (Some of these phrasal verbs may have different meanings in different contexts – you have been warned!)

recognise or discern
become (suddenly?) in love
try to find something (that is hidden?)
ask for a delivery to be brought to you
disconnect or switch off something
substitute
taking care
being friendly
leave a place briefly
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Lucky Follow Up Word Work Prepositions

Look at this extract from the story. It uses a lot of prepositions which give exact details of directions and place.

We turned round the corner and went up the next lot of steps. 35 (definitely lucky – the sum of my birth day and month, the 27th of the 8th). There's a desk where you get books stamped then he turned in through an archway into the centre of the building and I followed him in between two tall bookcases in to the middle where it opens up. He looked at me. He was looking at me to see if I liked it. It opens up under a vast round white dome smooth as an egg, with a glass circle at the top.

Underline all the prepositions which can be associated with place or direction. Divide them into two groups – those for people and those for things or objects.

People	Objects
<i>(turned) round</i>	<i>(opens) up</i>

Now complete this paragraph, putting in appropriate prepositions from the extract above (all are used) as required, plus any others you may require.

“Please, go __1__ and sit __2__,” she said, opening the door which led __3__ a marble-floored library, resplendent with books from top to bottom. He instinctively looked __4__ __5__ the light pouring __6__ __7__ the windows surrounding the dome. He entered the room as directed and stood __8__ two circular tables __9__ where he could see __10__ the floor-level window __11__ the garden beyond. He looked back __12__ his hostess, only to see she had mysteriously disappeared. He moved slowly __13__ the side of the room and finally settled himself __14__ __15__ the most comfortable-looking armchair __16__ the room, and waited to see what would happen next.

Lucky Follow Up Word Work Glossary - Listening

Here are some acronyms used in the story. Can you guess what the letters stand for?
(Clue: they are all to do with health!)

AHA
BMJ
NHS

Listen to some words and phrases used in the story. In each case, write down what you hear and then choose one of the three possible meanings you think is the right one. You will hear each word twice.

1. _____
 - a) coughing, unable to breath
 - b) complaining
 - c) speaking very quietly
2. _____
 - a) breathing heavily, with difficulty
 - b) moving quickly to avoid something
 - c) unable to contain any longer
3. _____
 - a) talking with little meaning
 - b) someone asking for money
 - c) facial expression denoting concern
4. _____
 - a) coughing, unable to breath
 - b) speaking very quietly
 - c) complaining
5. _____
 - a) train station in Manchester
 - b) department store
 - c) black and white birds
6. _____
 - a) coughing, unable to breath
 - b) moving quickly to avoid something
 - c) involuntary muscular shaking
7. _____
 - a) sexual pervert
 - b) gold-edged
 - c) pull
8. _____
 - a) cheap pen
 - b) facial expression denoting concern
 - c) flat, even texture

9. _____ a) *as if covered in hair or fur*
b) *facial expression denoting derision*
c) *deep inside*
10. _____ a) *singing with closed mouth*
b) *breathing heavily, with difficulty*
c) *speaking quietly so no one else can hear*
11. _____ a) *nervous laughter*
b) *talking with little meaning*
c) *root vegetable with dark red colour*
12. _____ a) *woman who sleeps with anyone*
b) *rubbish, nonsense*
c) *news of little importance*
13. _____ a) *unable to contain any longer*
b) *involuntary muscular shaking*
c) *singing with closed mouth*
14. _____ a) *(paper)stuck, trapped*
b) *red or pink flower*
c) *turning liquid*
15. _____ a) *speaking quietly so no one else can hear*
b) *turning liquid*
c) *singing with closed mouth*
16. _____ a) *speaking very quietly*
b) *gentle touching*
c) *involuntary muscular shaking*
17. _____ a) *as if covered in hair or fur*
b) *deep inside*
c) *flat, even texture*
18. _____ a) *turning liquid*
b) *gentle touching*
c) *unable to contain any longer*
19. _____ a) *coughing, unable to breath*
b) *unable to contain any longer*
c) *involuntary muscular shaking*
20. _____ a) *speaking quietly so no one else can hear*
b) *old people (disrespectful)*
c) *create darkness, like a shadow*

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Word Work

Glossary

Here are some words and phrases from the story that might need some explanation. The definitions given here are correct for the context of the story, but might have different meanings in different contexts.

absent-minded	<i>forgetful</i>
AHA	<i>Area Health Authority</i>
back and forth	<i>going one way then the other</i>
beetroot	<i>root vegetable with dark red colour</i>
beggar	<i>someone asking for money</i>
biro	<i>cheap pen</i>
bitching	<i>complaining</i>
BMJ	<i>British Medical Journal</i>
bursting	<i>unable to contain any longer</i>
carnation	<i>red or pink flower</i>
chairlady	<i>woman in charge of meeting</i>
chatter	<i>talking with little meaning</i>
choking	<i>coughing, unable to breath</i>
crap	<i>rubbish, nonsense</i>
Debenhams	<i>department store</i>
depths	<i>deep inside</i>
dirty old man	<i>sexual pervert</i>
dodging	<i>moving quickly to avoid something</i>
drag	<i>pull</i>
frown	<i>facial expression denoting concern</i>
furry	<i>as if covered in hair or fur</i>
gasping	<i>breathing heavily, with difficulty</i>
giggle	<i>nervous laughter</i>
gilt	<i>gold-edged</i>
gossip	<i>news of little importance</i>
gulps	<i>large mouthfuls/swallows</i>
humming	<i>singing with closed mouth</i>
if pos	<i>if possible</i>

jammed	<i>(paper)stuck, trapped</i>
let slip	<i>tell something accidentally</i>
lobby	<i>front hall or atrium</i>
magpies	<i>black and white birds</i>
melting	<i>turning liquid</i>
murmuring	<i>speaking very quietly</i>
NHS	<i>National Health Service</i>
old codgers	<i>old people (disrespectful)</i>
puddle	<i>small pool of water</i>
shed darkness	<i>create darkness, like a shadow</i>
slut	<i>sexually amoral; woman who sleeps with anyone</i>
smooth	<i>flat, even texture</i>
sneer	<i>facial expression denoting derision</i>
thee	<i>archaic 'you'</i>
thine	<i>archaic 'your/s'</i>
tickling	<i>gentle touching</i>
trembling	<i>involuntary muscular shaking</i>
Victoria	<i>train station in Manchester</i>
wet myself	<i>so excited that (she) urinates</i>
whispering	<i>speaking quietly so no one else can hear</i>
wonderbras and lipgloss and step-ladder shoes	<i>denoting way of dressing and presenting themselves that the writer consider cheap and provocative.</i>