

Phrasal verbs with *Pull*, Collocations with *Drive*, *Explanation*, *Pair* and *Wear*

Unfinished story

A man was recently pulled over by police as he drove recklessly along a busy city road. The man said he was speeding because he had been abducted by aliens and was desperate to get to the President before they blew up the planet.

The explanation was so implausible that one of the officers got very wound up and asked the driver to get out of the car.

When he got out the police saw that the man was wearing pyjamas and that he had nothing on his feet except a very old pair of socks.

1) Phrasal Verbs

There are a number of phrasal verbs in this text. Find the phrasal verbs and match them with a meaning below.

- To exit =
- To explode and destroy it =
- To stop =

Now try to think of an ending for the story in groups.

2) Collocations

In speaking or writing there are lots of possible word combinations, but some are much more frequently used than others. Where words often combine together we say that they are strong collocations.

Here are some examples.

Adjective + Noun	<i>lucky escape</i>
Verb + Noun	<i>drink beer</i>
Noun + Verb	<i>the car broke down</i>
Adverb + Adjective	<i>extremely expensive</i>
Verb + Adverb	<i>think clearly</i>

Here are some of the words from the text. Choose which of the words in brackets commonly appear with each word.

- He **drove** (carelessly, dangerously, calmly, bad)
- The **explanation** was (irrational, dirty, dangerous, appropriate)
- She was **wearing** (earrings, a happy smile, lipstick, a pretty skirt, a newspaper)
- An old **pair** of (books, shoes, friends, jeans)

3) Which expression in the text means 'to become annoyed'?

4) Phrasal Verbs with 'Pull'

Look at this dictionary definition:

,pull `over phrasal verb

[intransitive] if a vehicle or driver pulls over, they stop by the side of the road

a. [transitive] if the police pull a vehicle over, they order its driver to stop at the side of the road

- 'pull over' shows the versatility and difficulty of phrasal verbs in English. There are often several meanings for one phrasal verb and we can only *pin down* the meaning of a specific use when we see it in context
- These phrasal verbs are very important especially in spoken English. It is not necessary for learners of the language to master all of the phrasal verbs, but the more you know the easier it will be to follow English conversation.
- Notice the difference in the example between the transitive and the intransitive use

Intransitive	<i>subject + verb + particle</i>
Transitive	<i>subject + verb + object + particle</i>

Phrasal verbs with pull

Complete the following sentences using the prepositions below. Some spaces require more than one particle (preposition). You may need to use a dictionary.

out of through out together up
 down away from apart

- a) The military have decided to pull _____ the region.
- b) He said the support of his fans had pulled him _____
- c) She just pulled _____ in front of me without indicating!
- d) Don't worry, your dad's going to pull _____. The accident was bad but he is in good hands now.
- e) The report pulls _____ information from several offices.
- f) The firm is pulling _____ the personal computer business.
- g) The whole company needs to pull _____ to overcome this financial crisis.
- h) Their taxi pulled _____ outside the church.
- i) The local council have decided to pull that old church _____. It is becoming dangerous.
- j) When he tried to kiss her, she pulled _____ him
- k) They kept fighting until one of the boys' mother arrived to pull them _____
- l) I arrived just as the train was pulling _____ the station