

MAIRO VERGARA

ADVANCED PHRASAL VERBS COURSE

Lesson 37 | Transcript

Hi. It's winter in South Africa. It's really cold and wet outside but fortunately I'm inside sitting next to my lovely fire. I have my hot water bottle on my lap and a fluffy blanket over my knees. So I'm ready to talk to you about the next three phrasal verbs. Our three phrasal verbs today are 'come out', 'come along' and 'back away'. Let's start with the first phrasal verb 'come out'.

Now 'come out' has a bunch of different meanings and we'll have to work through them one by one. Hopefully by the end of this section on 'come out' you'll understand all the different meanings. Let's start with the first meaning which is the literal meaning. The literal meaning of 'come out' is to move from one position to another. Now those of you who watched the previous video, the riding video that I shot last week, will remember that I went for a trot amongst the lemon orchids. What you didn't see in that video was how the horse was startled by a bird that suddenly came out the lemon orchid, appeared in full view of the horse and startled the horse. Horses are very sensitive to sudden movements in their environment. So this heron came out the orchid. It moved from one position to another.

The second meaning of 'come out' is to go somewhere; to accompany someone or people somewhere, usually to socialize. Sample sentence:

Come out with us – we're going to dance the night away.

It's interesting to note that humans are spatial beings. We associate the word 'in' with our homes, our flats, our rooms and 'out' with anywhere else. When we say we dine in, we mean we dine at home but when we dine out, we dine somewhere else. When we welcome someone into our homes we say 'please come in' but when they want us to leave our homes

to go somewhere, they say ‘come out with us’. So it’s all a matter of spatial orientation.

The third meaning of ‘come out’ is to be published. And to illustrate this sample sentence, I have invited a young novelist Dylan Ranger to talk to me about his debut novel

‘Olenzo when is your debut fantasy novel coming out?’

‘It comes out September 2016’

‘That’s exciting hey?’ ‘I’m very excited’

‘What is the title?’

‘It’s the first book of the Arcane Ascension series. Its title is Mystery of the Forgotten ...’

‘Oh wow, would you like to give us a sneak preview of the cover?’

‘Sure’

‘There it is. Dramatic hey?’

The fourth meaning of ‘come out’ is to appear and in order to illustrate this meaning I’ll quickly pop outside, we’ll go into the garden and I’ll film a sample sentence for you. These beautiful Chasmanthe flowers come out in July every year. They are indigenous to the Western Cape where I live. Just made it. It started raining again but now you know what Chasmanthe looks like. South Africa is blessed with an amazing variety of incredible Indigenous plants. Once a year tourists flock to our west coast for instance, where thousands, actually, millions of flowers carpet the landscape. It is a fantastic sight. So if you ever come this way, make sure to go and see the flowers when they come out.

The fifth meaning of ‘come out’ is to become known. Sample sentence:

I hope your secret does not come out. If it comes out, it will be all over the media.

This sentence carries the meaning of hiding and revealing. You try to hide a secret but then it comes out – it is revealed, it becomes known. And we live in a world where the media is obsessed with revealing secrets.

The sixth meaning of ‘come out’ is to express an opinion. Sample sentence: ‘The man came out in favor of municipal reforms’. So in this sentence, the man expressed an opinion in favor of reforms.

The seventh meaning of ‘come out’ is to say something in a certain way and very often you regret the way in which you say it. Here’s a sample sentence:

I’m sorry if that sounded rude, I really didn’t mean it. The words just came out. It just came out like that, it wasn’t meant to be rude.

So yes, I don’t know if you’ve heard the idiom ‘to put your foot in your mouth’. It doesn’t literally mean to put your foot in your mouth. No, it means to say something that offends or hurts someone else and usually you don’t mean to offend or hurt. It just comes out. So, think before you speak.

Meaning eight: to achieve a desirable end product. Sample sentence:

The dress she made came out beautifully.

So she set out to make a beautiful dress and she succeeded. It came out exactly as she had planned.

Meaning nine: to wash out. Sample sentence:

I have washed that white table cloth three times and still, the red wine stains won’t come out.

The second phrasal verb we’ll discuss is ‘come along’. And this one also has several meanings so bear with me. The first meaning is to accompany someone. Here’s the sample sentence:

Please come along when we visit the Dahlia display on Mainau Island, Germany's most famous flower island, situated in Lake Constance.

A few years ago in 2014, I had the opportunity to see this magnificent Dahlia display. 12,500 flowers. 250 different types of dahlias. And I'll take you on a quick photographic tour and share some of the pictures I took of that display.

Come along' also means to arrive at a place. Here's an example:

Please don't panic, we'll be on time. The bus will come along in five minutes, don't worry.

So yes, the meaning of that is that the bus will arrive at the place where they are in five minutes.

Meaning three: to exist.

Their life changed irrevocably when their first child came along.

That's very, very true. When you have your first child, you're elated but it also means that your life is no longer your own, your body is no longer your own, your time is no longer your own but what an incredible journey. I've undertaken that journey and I don't regret one minute of it.

Meaning number four, and that is to make progress, to come along, to make progress. Sample sentence:

How is your building project coming along?

Now you could answer this question in the following way:

It's coming along nicely thank you.

Or you could be honest because face it, very few building projects come along nicely. I can vouch for that. I remember when we renovated our home a few years ago, there were three power drills, pneumatic drills, and five hammers hammering away and an angle grinder screaming in my

ears and I really regretted not moving out of the house. It wasn't coming along the way I had hoped it would.

And then the last meaning we'll discuss is 'hurry up'. Come along, hurry up. Sample sentence:

Come along, we don't have all day. We're going to be late.

You can only stay cooped up in the house for so long. So I've decided to drive out to the farm of my friend Derek's to film the next phrasal verb. Our third phrasal verb is 'back away' and fortunately 'back away' only has two meanings so we won't be here all day explaining 'back away' but first, a little bit about this beautiful olive lane in which I'm standing. It's estimated to be about 110 years old. This farm was established in 1688 so it's one of the oldest farms in South Africa and as I've explained, I'm going to rope in my friend Derek to talk about the snakes that often come down from the mountain behind me and he will illustrate the literal meaning of the word, of the phrasal verb 'back away'.

'Derek, what do you do when you encounter a snake on your farm?'

'Sonja, I pick it up'

'no, no, no, no!... anyway we've got to use the phrasal verb 'back away' so you can't pick it up. I'll try again. What do we do, or what do you do when you encounter a snake on your farm?'

'Sonja, very important, no sudden movements and back away slowly

'Thanks, that's much better advice'

The figurative meaning of 'back away' is to withdraw your support for an idea or a plan that you had previously supported. Here's a sample sentence:

The executive committee backed away from their plan to raise property taxes substantially when there was a public outcry.

Right, and that's all for today. Thanks for coming out with me, coming along to this beautiful place and now I'm going to say goodbye and back away slowly.