

## Working with Phrasal Verbs

1. For each blank, choose a word from the list below. Some of the words are completions of phrasal verbs based on the verb **work**. Some words in the list might be used more than once; some might need to be changed to the correct tense:

“Detective Jose Chang here,” I heard myself say. It was my first day at work. I didn’t even have a contract yet. The sergeant had only said that “we’d work \_\_\_\_\_ the details later.” Like whether I’d be paid overtime or not... But it was a job, and I was happy to have it. I needed the \_\_\_\_\_, such as health insurance.

The interview had been tough. They had really worked me \_\_\_\_\_, especially on why I had been out of a job for six months. I had worked \_\_\_\_\_ a list of reasons for it, but at the end, I just tried to \_\_\_\_\_ it all over by mentioning that I needed time with my family. Except I hadn’t spoken to my family in five years. In our family, we all have a lot to work \_\_\_\_\_.

I hadn’t mentioned that I had been trying to work \_\_\_\_\_ my anxieties with booze. And then stopped. So, yes, I had tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the issue. It worked.

I do hope this job will work \_\_\_\_\_. What will I do if it doesn’t? I had \_\_\_\_\_ it badly in the homicide division in Chicago. It wasn’t just my own case I had destroyed; my mistake had nearly thrown a wrench \_\_\_\_\_ the works. I had really messed up. Even Mrs. Babsen, my sweet elderly neighbor with six cats, had told me I had \_\_\_\_\_ it all on myself.

I hoped moving home to Tucson would \_\_\_\_\_ my career, which it needed, badly. At least in Tucson they wouldn’t ask me about my name. Everyone would assume my father’s family came to work on the railroads, and my mother’s when the river still had water in it all year and the country was named New Spain.

You just knew I would work \_\_\_\_\_ that last bit, about how the U.S. stole a third of Mexico’s territory in the Mexican-American War, didn’t you? I can get really worked \_\_\_\_\_, thinking about it still.

**over bring gloss up benefits out blow into in through evade jump-start**

2. Please create a dialogue using 10 of the words/phrases in the list below or the phrasal verbs in the exercise above.

larger trends at work

eye-rolling

punch line

over the top

To pull any/your punches

to overstate the case

bent [entrepreneurial bent]

to channel

to streamline

paywall

job security

word of mouth

the more the merrier

to jump-start

to make [the, a] case for

what they wanted out of life

to be struck by

to pull clear (of)

to settle (an argument, a question)

setting themselves up (for)

to face the risks

special interest groups

to plug in

dead-end job

to end up