

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Multi-Word Verbs

Multi-Word Verbs is defined as a verb “followed by a morphologically invariable particle, which functions with the verb as a single grammatical unit” and “behaves to some extent either lexically or syntactically as a single verb” (Quirk, et al, 1985: 1150). MWVs contain one or two particles. Particles are categorized, although sometimes problematic (Darwin & Gray, 1999: 69-71), into two word classes—prepositions and adverbial particles (or special adverbs). Examples of prepositional particles are *of*, *with*, *at*, *from*, *like*, and those of adverbial particles are *back*, *away*, *forward*.

Furthermore, Workman (1993:7) said that in multi-word verb there is literal meaning and non-literal meaning.

- ***Literal meaning***

Look at the following example, where the verb and particle keep their separate literal meaning.

*He **looked up** and saw a plane.*

Here the meaning of the verb and the particle have not changed.

*He **looked up** = He looked + up (in the direction of the sky).*

- ***Non-literal meaning***

Sometimes the addition of the particle(s) creates a multi-word verb that has a different meaning.

*He **looked up** all the new words in the dictionary.*

*In this sentence, **look up** = to had information in a reference book.*

2.2 The Categories of Multi-word Verbs

Quirk (1895:1161) claims that Multi-word verb is categorized into three types, (a) phrasal verbs, (b) prepositional verbs and (c) phrasal-prepositional verbs.

1. Phrasal verbs

Phrasal verb is a combination between the verb and adverb particle. Koprowaski (2005) quoted in Cagri (2012:114) states that “A Phrasal Verb is a phrase which consists of a verb in combination with a preposition or adverb or both, the meaning of which is different from the meaning of its separate parts: ‘look after’, ‘work out’ and ‘make up for’ are all phrasal verbs”. As Floor Jan Aarts (1982:42) cited in Putri A.S (2013 : 4) states that “Phrasal verbs are combinations of a verb and a member of a closed set of adverb”. For example, ***Look for, go out, give up***, and so on. Phrasal verb is one form of the English that should be learned by those who are studying the language, because phrasal verbs are very often used by native speakers in everyday communication. However, the phrasal verb meaning can not be predicted and that's what makes a lot of non-native english speakers have difficulty in learning phrasal verbs. Therefore, Coady (1997) cited in Emilie Riguel (2004 : 113) claims that phrasal verbs have an unpredictable nature, multiword expressions, and especially phrasal verbs that makes the non-English speaker find the difficulties both in understanding and memorizing it. Followed by Moon (1997) and Kao (2001) cited in Mart (2012 : 114) that claim “Phrasal verbs are widely used by native speakers of English but they have been found to be difficult for second language learners to master .”

Carl W. Hart (1999 : 1) claims that there are two categories of Phrasal Verbs, they are *Separable phrasal verbs* and *Inseparable phrasal verb*.

A. Separable Phrasal Verbs

Separable phrasal verbs can be separated by their object. When the object is a noun, it can usually be placed between the verb and the particle or after the particle. However, when the object is a pronoun, it must be placed between the verb and the particle. Both sentences below are correct:

- I **took** my shoes **off**.
- I **took off** my shoes.

However, when a pronoun is used instead of a noun, the pronoun must be placed between the verb and the particle:

- I **took** them **off**.
- ~~I took off them.~~
- She **switched off** the light. OR She **switched** the light **off**.
(Stop a machine or something electrical working)
- He **paid back** the debt. OR He **paid** the debt **back**. (return)
- I have to **clean up** this mess. OR I have to **clean** this mess **up**.
(the act of making a place clean and tidy)

B. Inseparable Phrasal Verbs

Nonseparable phrasal verbs cannot be separated by their object:

- *I ran into Moira on the way home* (Meet by chance)
- Our plane **take off** at 3 pm. (depart)
- I got over the flu, but I don't know if I'll ever get over my broken heart.
(recover from sickness or disappointment)
- My mother promised to look after my dog while I was gone. (take care of)

2. Prepositional verbs

According to Biber et al. (1999:414), PPVs can be viewed as a *lexical verb* + *prepositional phrase* that functions as an adverbial because it is often possible to insert an adverbial between the verb and the prepositional phrase (e.g. *They thought a lot about the proposition*).

Furthermore, "All prepositional verbs take a prepositional object (i.e. the noun phrase occurring after the preposition) and have "two major structural patterns" (Biber et al., 1999, p. 413). The first pattern is as follows: *verb* + *preposition* + *NP* :

He is looking for the boss He fell down the stairs
They asked for the check He thinks about her

The second pattern allows the verb and preposition to be separated by a NP:
verb + *NP* + *preposition* + *NP*

He bases his ideas on love They accused her of being dumb
They reminded her of the time We said hello to the teacher

This second pattern can also be seen in passive constructions “where the noun phrase corresponding to the direct object has been placed in subject position” (e.g. *I think the media is falsely **accused of** a lot of things; People falsely **accuse** the media **of** a lot of things*) (Biber et al., 1999, p. 414).

3. Phrasal-prepositional verbs

While the English phrasal verb prototypically consists of a Verb-Particle, there are some in which an additional particle has been appended to the construction: Verb-Particle-Particle, sometimes called a “phrasal-prepositional verb” (Armstrong, 2004 : 214). The followings are examples of phrasal prepositional verbs :

- *She was a wonderful teacher. We all **looked up to** her.* (respected)
- *Do you **get on with** your neighbours?* (have a good relationship with)
- *We **look forward to** meeting you on the 22nd.* (anticipate with pleasure)

According to Jeff Heid (2013 : 1-2) While phrasal verbs can contain prepositions, these same prepositions can also be used in prepositional phrases. How do we tell the difference ?

Examples: Oscar looked up the word.
 Oscar looked up the road.

In the first example, the preposition *up* is part of the phrasal verb *looked up*, a unit meaning, “find in a dictionary.” In the second sentence, *up the road* is a prepositional phrase (consisting of the preposition *up* followed by its object, *the road*), telling where Oscar looked.

There are also some phrasal verbs that look exactly alike but it has different meanings. Though they look the same, the phrasal verb *work out* can have a different meaning from *work out*. Take a look at these examples:

Examples: Our plan worked out.
 The woman worked out at the gym.

In the first sentence, the phrasal verb functions to show that the plan was successful. In the second sentence, *worked out* signifies that the woman exercised

at the gym. The context of each phrasal verb determines which meaning is used in the sentence.

There are many phrasal verbs in English, each with a different meaning. Rather than trying to memorize them all at once, study them as you find them in your everyday work. For reference, the table below lists several phrasal verbs, their meaning, and examples of their context within a sentence.