English phrasal verbs are notoriously difficult to learn, but the colourful, entertaining book contextualises them in a memorable and supportive way. Phrasal Verbs in Context presents over 300 phrasal verbs in the context of a humorous story in cartoon form which sustains the reader's interest and concentration. Learning is promoted and reinforced by a serie of vocabulary and preposition exercises that practise and recycle individual items.

The book contains:

- the full cartoon story with accompanying exercises and detailed grammar notes;
- the text reworked as an extended blank-filling exercise;
- an answer key;
- an alphabetical listing of the phrasal verbs covered in the book, cross-referenced to the original text.

The cartoon story has been recorded on cassette, and can also be bought as a book/cassette package.

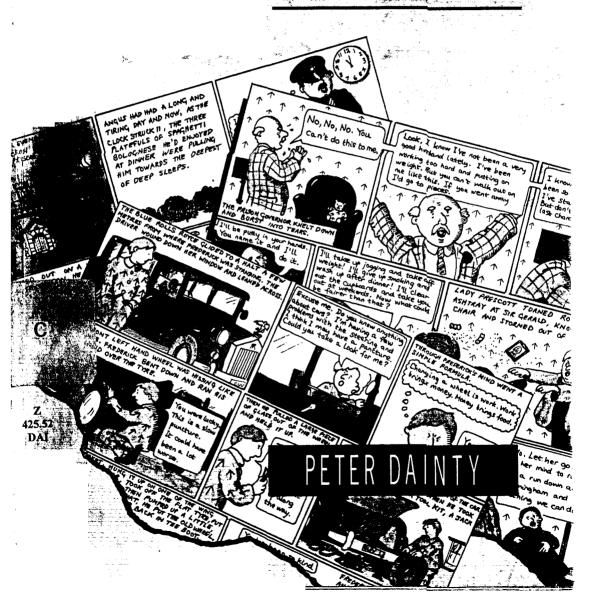
Phrasal Verbs in Context is recommended as supplementary material for Peter Dainty's Passport to Cambridge First Certificate course, or for any other coursebook at First Certificate level.

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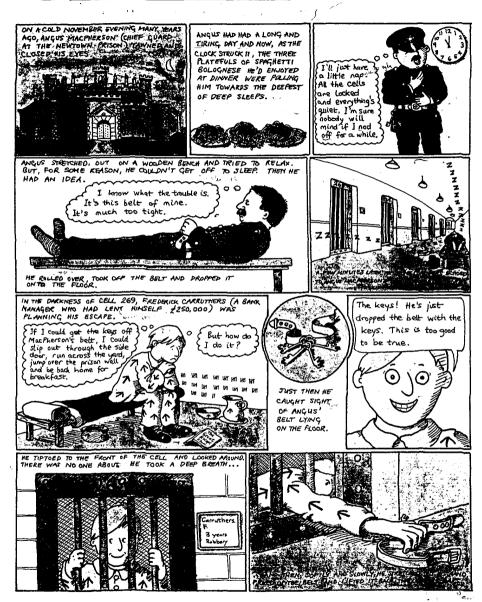




HRASAL ERBS in context



CHAPTER ONE





1 Complete the following sentences using one of the words below.

	breakfast bars	floor wall	keys cell	belt breath	door yard	-
1	He rolled over	*				_
	and dropped			I \	201	
	If I could get th					
4	I could slip o	ut through th	e side	·	1	
	run across tl					
6	jump over th	e prison				
	and be back					
8	He tiptoed to t	he front of the	e	and	l looked aro	und.
9	There was no c	ne about. He	took a deep		,	
10	picked up th	ne belt and lift	ted it back ti	rough the		·
						· br
•	Complete the fo	llouing cont			-concitions	bolow
٠ ١		mowing sent	ences using	one or the p		Delow.
	off	out	up	off	over	
	about	around	across	over	to	
	T			ff		_
	For some reaso				to sleep.	
	He rolled					
	A few minutes sound of Angu					me
	If I could get th				on's belt.	
	I could slip					
	run				-,	
]ump			all and be ba	ck home for	breakfast.
	He tiptoed to t					
	There was no o					
	He picked			d lifted it ba	ack through	the bars.
	_					
No	tes					
1 á	a nap = a short,	light sleep				
2 t	o nod off = to t	all asleep gra	dually			
3 ∖	When talking at Angustook	off the belt a	nd dropped	it onto the	•	



- 4 Two common meanings of slip are...
 - a to move quietly or secretly, trying not to be seen
 - 'I could slip out through the side door...' (Chapter One)

'But whenever my father's back was turned, I would slip out of the house and go and meet Gerald secretly.' (Chapter Eight)

and

b to fall or nearly fall

- ◆ She slipped on a banana skin and sprained her ankle.
- 5 Notice the difference between to jump over, to jump onto and to jump off...
 - a 'I could slip out through the side door, run across the yard, jump over the prison wall and be back home for breakfast.' (Chapter One)

and

- b 'Frederick had...jumped onto a train that was slowing down in front of a set of signals, run down the corridor to avoid the ticket collector and then jumped off again as the train pulled into a station.' (Chapter Five)
- 6 'There was no one about' = Nobody else was there Compare ...

'Lady Prescott got out of the car and looked around. There was no one else about.' (Chapter Fourteen)

and

'Frederick turned his face and looked out at Crawford Street. There were now lots of people about. It was half past three and the local school had just broken up for the day.' (Chapter Twelve)

Note that to look around generally has the idea of looking on all sides, while to look round suggests that the person turns to look at something they couldn't see before.

round can also be an informal word for around.

CHAPTER TWO





3	3 Complete the following sentences using one of the words below.	
	lunchbreak door desk tears cell handkerchief keys Times belt minutes	
	1 He stood up and looked for his	•
•	2 Sir Gerald Prescott was sitting at his reading The	Times.
	3 He's broken out of his and run away.	
	4 I nodded off for a few	·
į	5 Carruthers picked up the belt and took off one of the	
(6 He opened his cell and slipped out through the side	·
	7 Sir Gerald tore up his	
	8and burst into	
	9 Angus took a out of his pocket.	
	10 I'll give up my and go out and look for him and f	nd out
	where he is	
	$q = \mathbf{v}$	
4	4 Complete the following sentences using one of the prepositions belo	w.
	out away off with at	
	to off up out for	
	1 He stood up and looked <u>for</u> his belt.	
:	2 Sir Gerald was sitting his desk reading The Times	•
:	3 Angus rushed in, his red face covered sweat.	
4	4 He's broken of his cell	
;	5and run!	
(6 I nodded for a few minutes.	
	7 Sir Gerald tore his <i>Times</i> and burst into tears.	
1	8 Angus took a handkerchief of his pocket	
	9and handed it Sir Gerald.	
1	10 I shouldn't have taken my belt and nodded off lik	e that.
	Notes	
•	Aotes	
1	dawn can be a noun ('Dawn broke over Newtown Prison') and a verb ('thetruth dawned on him').	
2	There are many phrasal verbs with look. Among the most common a to look for = to try to find to look at = to see; to examine to look after = to take care of	re
	'He stood up and looked for his belt.' (Chapter Two) 'I looked at the cheque. My head was spinning.' (Chapter Eleven)	

'She looks after sick children.' (Chapter Ten)

- 3 to work (something) out = to solve (a problem, puzzle, mystery, etc.)
- 4 to let in (= to allow to enter) is the opposite of to let out (= to allow to leave).

'Governor! Governor! Let me in! Let me in!' (Chapter Two)

'When he came to the prison gates, he knocked on the front door and the night guard let him in.' (Chapter Fifteen)

There was no need for you to run off like that. They were going to let you out anyway.' (Chapter Thirteen)

5 Note the difference between to sit at, to sit back, to sit down, to sit in and to sit up.

'Sir Gerald was sitting at his desk reading The Times.' (Chapter Two)

'Frederick sat back and just watched the volcano erupt.' (Chapter Seven)

'Angus sat down and took a deep breath.' (Chapter Two)

'Here he was, sitting in a Rolls Royce driven by the wife of the governor of the prison he'd just escaped from.' (Chapter Seven)

'He was so ill that he couldn't sit up in bed properly.' (Chapter Ten)

6 to calm down = to relax

'Now calm down. And go through the whole story right from the start.' (Chapter Two)

'By the time they arrived at the outskirts of Birmingham, Lady Prescott had calmed down a little and Frederick was feeling a bit more relaxed.' (Chapter Eight)

7 to make up for (something) = to compensate for (something)

'I'll make up for it. I'll give up my lunchbreak and go out and look for him and find out where he is.' (Chapter Two)

'And, now, there was so much to say, so much to do. So much lost time to make up for.' (Chapter Fourteen)

CHAPTER THREE





5	coat	door coat				marriage '		
	L							
	Lady Presco							
	Yet another	•			-			
	3 And with that he burst into again. 4 I've had enough of all this							
		_						
5	5 I'm leaving you, Gerald! I'm going to break up our and run away.							
6	6 She put on her							
	I'll have a ne							
	I'm going to				·			
9	The cost of r		ne damage	could ru	n into hundr	eds of		
10	I've run out			_, Gerald.				
6	up	with	uр	out	on	7		
	into	of	away	off	about			
	She took		her			-		
	Why don't y							
	I can't help				has run			
	And with th						-*	
	I've had end							
	I'm not goin					er		
		-				our m	arriage.	
	She put			_				
	Money! Mo				e	1		
	l've run_					<u> </u>		
No	otes							
1	Grow up! = 5	stop behav	ing like a c	thild!				
2	to put up wit	th = to tole	rate					
	-			any long	er." (Chapter	Three)		
	_	ve put up			ints about S			

3 A run-down area is poor, dirty and in decline.



- 4 to break up (= to finish) can be used to describe the end of a relationship, a marriage, a school day and a school term.
 - 'I'm going to break up our marriage and run away to a run-down area of Birmingham.' (Chapter Three)
 - 'There were now lots of people about. It was half past three and the local school had just broken up for the day.' (Chapter Twelve)
- 5 The noun *breakdown* and the phrasal verb *to break down* can be used to describe people or machines.
 - 'I'll have a nervous breakdown.' (Chapter Three)
 - 'The bus broke down and all the passengers had to get off and walk.' (Chapter Nine)
- 6 You can also run out of time, money, food and ideas.

CHAPTER FOUR





7	chair weight	room tie	smoking handkerchie	tears f wome	joggir n dinne	ig r
1	The prison g	overnor k	neit down and	burst into _		
2	i've been wo	rking too	hard and putti	ng on		
3	I'll take up _		and tal	e off weigh	t!	
4	l'Il give up _			_		
5	and wash t	ıp after _		_!		
6	Lady Prescot	t knocked	l over a			
7	and storme	ed out of t	the	·		
8	The prison go	ovemor sa	at down and str	aightened h	nis	·
9	can't under	stand		, Angus. I ju	ıst can't mak	e them out
10	Sir Gerald to	ok a		ut of his po	cket.	
3	out away		•	out out	round _on	
1	I've been wo	rking too	hard and puttir	19	We	− eiσht.
		_	on	-		
			l'd go			
	-		a chair,			
			of	he room.		
	Shall I go					
			at	and s	traightened h	nis tie.
			all the t		G	
			men, Angus. I j		ike them	
_						
					•,	-

Notes

1 down often means 'to the ground' or 'to the floor'.

'The prison governor knelt down and burst into tears.' (Chapter Four)

'They promise to pull down the terraced housing and build some new flats.' (Chapter Eight)

'I don't want them tearing down my childhood. They should leave my home alone.' (Chapter Eight)

- He fell down the stairs and twisted his ankle.
- ◆ The boxer was knocked down in the fourth round.
- ◆ They shot down three enemy planes.



2 When talking about weight, a handbrake or a seat belt, to put on is the opposite of to take off.

'I've been working too hard and putting on weight.' (Chapter Four)

◆ That new diet is amazing! I've taken off six kilos in three days.

'Lady Prescott put on the handbrake...' (Chapter Eight)

'The woman got in, put on her seat belt, took off the handbrake...' (Chapter

'Frederick took off his seat belt and tried to get out of the car.' (Chapter Twelve)

- 3 to walk out on = to abandon
- 4 to take up = to start to do (a new job, a new sport, etc.)

'I'll take up jogging and take off weight!' (Chapter Four)

- "And if I was to take up this new challenge," Frederick said, "you'd expect me to keep quiet about the events of two years ago." (Chapter Thirteen)
- 5 'Storming out of a room' is more dramatic than 'walking out of a room'.
- 6 to go after = to run after = to follow

'Shall I go after her?' (Chapter Four)

'If you run away, I'll run after you.' (Chapter Three)

7 to make up your mind = to make a decision

'She's made up her mind to run away to a run-down area of Birmingham.' (Chapter Four)

'It didn't take me long to make up my mind!' (Chapter Eight)

- 8 'I don't know what's got into her' = I don't understand why she is acting so strangely
- 9 to blow up = to lose your temper, to get angry suddenly
- 10 to make (someone) out = to understand (someone); to appreciate what drives or motivates another person

HAPTER FIVE

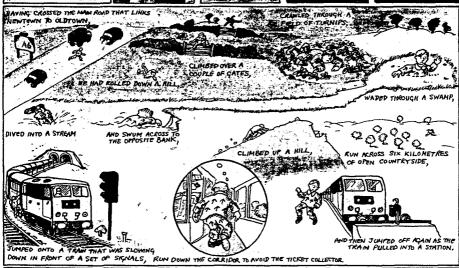












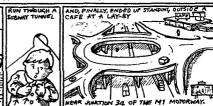
WHILE THE OTHER MISSENGERS ERE GETTING OFF THE TRAIN, FRERERICK HAD SLIPPED THROUGH THE TICKET BARRIE BY SHOWING HIS PRISON JOENTIFICATION BADGE.











IT WAS AT THIS MOMENT THAT HIS PROBLEM! REALLY BEGAN, FREDERICK HAD BEEN RUSHING, ROLLING, RUMNING, JUMPING, CLIMBING, ROLLING, WADING AND SMIMHING FOR SEVERAL MOUNS NOW AND THE LAST MEAL HE'D

HAD WAS THREE BUSCUITS AND A GLASS OF WATER BEFORE ANGUS HAD TURNED OUT THE LIGHT IN HIS CELL. HIS EXHAUSTED BODY WAS BEGINNING TO COMPLAIN.

HIS STONAGH WAS CRYING OUT FOR FOOD AND
HIS THROAT FELT LIKE SANDIMPER, BUT WHAT COULD HE DO? PRISONERS DON'T CARRY MONE AND HE DIDN'T HAVE A PENNY ON KIM.

FREDERICK LOOKED THROUGH THE WINDOWS OF THE CAFE AND FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES HE WENT THROUGH A DREADENL TORTURE.



What have I done to deserve this? Here am I - with my stomach rumbing and my throat perched and I can't even afford a cup of too! How did I get into this mess? And, more to the point how do I get out of it?

CARRUTHERS' TROUBLED MIND AS A BLUE ROLLS ROYCE PULLED INTO THE LAY-BY AND GLIDED TO A HALT.





9 Revision Exercise

In Chapters One to Five, who...

- 1 ...nodded off?
- 2 ...took off his belt?
- 3 ...was sitting at his desk?
- 4 ...rushed in?
- 5 ...sat down?
- 6 ...slipped out through the side door?
- 7 ...tore up his Times?
- 8 ...burst into tears?
- 9 ...took off her coat?
- 10 ...ran out of patience?
- 11 ...knelt down?
- 12 ...turned round?
- 13 ...blows up all the time?
- 14 ...can't make women out?
- 15 ...crawled through a field of turnips?
- 16 ...jumped off a train?
- 17 ...ran across six kilometres of open countryside?
- 18 ...elbowed his way through a group of tourists?
- 19 ...ended up standing outside a café?
- 20 ...pulled into a lay-by?

	KINDLE Y	11:3	
Angus	SiR GERALD	L'ADY Prescott	FREDERICK CARRUTHERS
		rutius i	
			e e
5.7	-		
r [*]			
	v	1	
			' I
		*	
,	~ •		
,			
		ir-	
:			
•			
:			
		× -	

Notes

- 1 In this sense, to run off and to run away have the same meaning.
- 2 to crawl = to move on all fours
- 3 The literal meaning of to wade through is 'to walk through water or mud that is knee or chest high'.

For this reason, storks and flamingoes are known as wading birds.

to wade through can also be used metaphorically with the sense of 'having to read lots of boring information'.

- I had to wade through 500 pages of detailed text before I found what I was looking for.
- 4 to slow down = to reduce your speed gradually

CHAPTER HIVE

5 For buses, trains and planes, to get on is the opposite of to get off.

'While the other passengers were getting off the train...' (Chapter Five)

'The bus broke down and all the passengers had to get off and walk.' (Chapter Nine)

6 Compare...

'Frederick ended up standing outside a café at a lay-by near Junction 34 of the M1 motorway.' (Chapter Five)

'If she found out that he was a convict on the run, perhaps she'd turn him in and then he might end up in cell 269 again.' (Chapter Ten)

'How could a good man end up like this?' (Chapter Twelve)

7 out can mean 'loudly', 'openly', 'publicly', 'noisily' or 'angrily'.

'His stomach was crying out for food.' (Chapter Five)

- ♦ They shouted out the names...
- ◆ He spoke out against injustice...
- ◆ They called out the winning numbers...
- 8 Compare to go through and to go through with.
 - a to go through = to suffer

For the next few minutes, he went through a dreadful torture.' (Chapter Five)

'For the next few months, we went through a really bad patch.' (Chapter Nine)

b to go through with (something) = to do (something) even though you know it will be difficult, frustrating or painful

'I've decided to go through with the trial.' (Chapter Eleven)

9 Compare...

'These were the thoughts running through Frederick Carruthers' troubled mind as a blue Rolls Royce pulled into the lay-by and glided to a halt.' (Chapter Five)

and

'Through Frederick's mind went a simple formula – changing a wheel is work. Work brings money. Money brings food.' (Chapter Six)

CHAPTER SIX





10	window mirror handbrake cloth lay-by glacket hand tyre glass seat belt
	The driver wound down her and leaned across.
	2 Frederick bent down and ran his hand over the
3	B He pulled a large piece of out of the wheel and held it up.
4	He took off his
5	Frederick nodded, smiled and held out his
6	6 He wiped his hands on a
7	The woman put on her,
8	3took off the,
9	looked in the rear-view,
10	and pulled gently out of the
11	out out on on up
	Francisk hant dayin and you his hand
	Frederick bent down and ran his hand the tyre.
	Then he pulled a large piece of glass of the wheel
	and held it
	Frederick nodded, smiled and held his hand.
	6 Perhaps I can drop you somewhere along the way.
(5 But then it suddenly dawned Frederick that the offer of a free ride in a Rolls Royce far away from Newtown might be quite a good idea.
7	The woman got,
8	3put her seat belt,
9	took the handbrake,
10	and then – with a sudden burst of speed – they roared the M1 motorway like a bullet from a gun.
N	otes
1	Compare to hold up (= vertical) and to hold out (= horizontal).
	'Then he pulled a large piece of glass out of the wheel and held it up.' (Chapter Six)
	'I held up my hand and the man from the bank stopped talking.' (Chapter Eleven)
	'Frederick nodded, smiled and held out his hand.' (Chapter Six)



- 2 up can mean...
 - a higher

'He,...jacked up the car...' (Chapter Six)

'She picked up the phone again.' (Chapter Twelve)

b to the end

'By that summer, I'd managed to save up a quarter of a million pounds.' (Chapter Eleven)

'Frederick drank up his coffee...' (Chapter Twelve)

and

c thinking creatively or imaginatively

'At first, I couldn't think what to do, But then – all of a sudden – I came up with an idea.' (Chapter Ten)

'But – each week – I made up some new story to explain the cheques away.' (Chapter Eleven)

3 to drop (someone) off is the opposite of to pick (someone) up.

'Perhaps I could drop you off somewhere along the way.' (Chapter Six)

"...he'd come and pick me up when the classes were over." (Chapter Eight)

4 to let (someone) down = to disappoint (someone), to break a promise

'Frederick's face dropped. He'd been expecting money or food and he felt a bit let down.' (Chapter Six)

'I can't let the children down.' (Chapter Eleven)

- 5 'it suddenly dawned on him that' = he suddenly realised that
- 6 When talking about cars, vans or lorries, to get into is the opposite of to get out of.

'He wiped his hands on a cloth and got into the car.' (Chapter Six)

'Frederick took off his seat belt and tried to get out of the car.' (Chapter Twelve)

7 to pull out of (= to leave) a lay-by, station, etc. is the opposite of to pull into (= to enter) a lay-by, station, etc.

'The woman got in, put on her seat belt, took off the handbrake, put the car into first gear, looked in the rear-view mirror, and pulled gently out of the lay-by.' (Chapter Six)

"...and then jumped off again as the train pulled into a station." (Chapter Five)

8 roar (the noun) and to roar (the verb) are used to describe the sound made by crowds, llons, cars, trains and planes.

'And then – with a sudden burst of speed – they roared onto the M1 motorway like a bullet from a gun.' (Chapter Six)

'The driver put her foot down and the blue Rolls Royce roared on.' (Chapter Seven)

CHAPTER SEVEN

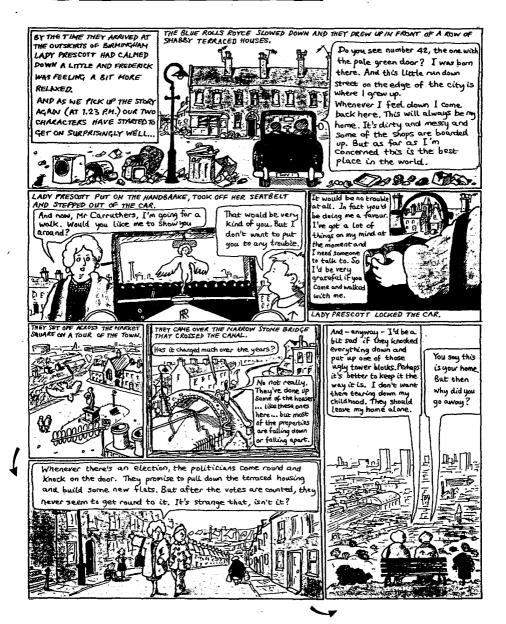




12	volcano	Rolls Royce	wall prison	subject reputation	spine
	Now that		_ rings a bell	I'm sure I've	come across it
_	omewhere be			•	
		ran down his		-	
		He has quite			
		•	_	he's turned in	to a
		up the			: .
				ing to change	
		•		eruj	ot.
		itting in a		-	
	.driven by the scaped from.	e wife of the g	zovernor of the	ne	he'd just
	_	_		_	
13	in t	through ou	ut up	on	
	back f	or ac	cross to	of	
		ul		-	•.
	iow that nam omewhere be	•	I'm sure I've	come	it
	know _		im. He has o	uite a reputatio	n in my field.
					competent stupidity!
				his frozer	lins.
		unds came _			
				•	ying to change the
	ubject,	15 cioretti 110	. 5	"	,g ege
9	.sat	and	l just watche	d the volcano e	erupt.
				e Roiis Royce r	
_		·			
Not	es				
1 0	often means	'to continue'			
	'The blue Roll	s Royce sped	on down the	M1.' (Chaptei	Seven)
					roared on.' (Chapter
		roposing and	I kept on say	ying "no".' (Ch	apter Nine)
		ly Prescott said			
		-		•	remark.' (Chapter

- CHALLER SEVER
 - 2 'That name rings a bell' = I've heard that name before
 - 3 to come across (something) = to come into contact with (something) unexpectedly or by chance
 - 4 Well I never! = That's incredible! What a surprise!
 - 5 'Perhaps you've heard of him' = Perhaps his name is familiar to you
 - 6 'I know of him' = I've heard of him
 - 7 A grunt (the noun) and to grunt (the verb) can also describe the sounds made by a pig and a tennis player.
 - 8 to give up (= to stop or to abandon) can be used with a gerund or a noun.
 - 'So recognising defeat he gave up trying to change the subject, sat back and just watched the volcano erupt.' (Chapter Seven)
 - 'Frederick had given up trying to work out whát was going on.' (Chapter Thirteen)
 - 'I knew that I couldn't give Gerald up.' (Chapter Eight)
 - 9 A few years ago, it was considered 'bad style' to put a preposition at the end of a sentence. Grammar books would tell you that 'To whom did you send the letter?' was better than 'Who did you send the letter to?'
 - But fashions and conventions change and these days it is quite acceptable to end a sentence with a preposition...
 - 'Here he was, sitting in a Rolls Royce driven by the wife of the governor of the prison he'd just escaped from.' (Chapter Seven)
 - 'I knew that I couldn't give Gerald up.' (Chapter Eight)
 - 'I needed more time to think things through.' (Chapter Nine)
 - "... I suppose I needed someone to talk to." (Chapter Ten)
 - 'I can't let the children down.' (Chapter Eleven)
 - 'They might even have let you off.' (Chapter Twelve)
 - 'But where shall I send the papers to?' (Chapter Thirteen)

CHAPTER EIGHT





The story continues...

'Oh, that's simple,' Lady Prescott replied. 'I fell in love. Strange though it may seem, I left Birmingham to be with Gerald Prescott – the gutless, brainless, spineless fool who is now governor of Newtown Prison. You look a bit surprised, Mr Carruthers. Then perhaps I should explain.

There was a time when my husband was a bright, tender young man. It's only recently that he's turned into a workaholic who eats, drinks and sleeps prison life

I met him when I was just eighteen. I was in my last term at school and Gerald was studying at the local technical college. He was absolutely broke and so he'd taken a part-time job at a take-away restaurant called The Birmingham Big Burger Bar. The take-away was in Crawford Street. It was on my way home from school. One day, I went in to get some chips. Gerald was serving behind the counter. He smiled at me and I felt a cold shiver run down my spine.

After that I went to the take-away every day. I wasn't hungry. I just wanted to see Gerald. Anyway, one afternoon he asked me out and we went for a walk in the park. We got on really well and I started seeing him all the time. He used to walk me to school in the morning and he'd come and pick me up when the classes were over. And then – all of a sudden – I fell in love with him. I don't know why. It just happened that way.

When my father found out what was going on, he went crazy. He didn't want his only daughter going out with someone who cooked hamburgers in a takeaway. He told me that I had to stop seeing Gerald straightaway.

I had to make a choice. Should I obey my father and split up with the person I loved? Or should I defy my parents and go on seeing him? It didn't take me long to make up my mind! I knew that I couldn't give Gerald up. And so I had to work out some way of deceiving my parents.

The plan was simple. I pretended that I'd obeyed my father. I said that I'd broken up with Gerald.) Cried for two or three days and went through ten packets of tissues. I stopped eating and slammed lots of doors. I put on a really good show. My parents were completely taken in.

But whenever my father's back was turned, I would slip out of the house and go and meet Gerald secretly, in the park or at the take-away. When I came home, I made up some story or other to explain where I'd been. "I was at a friend's house playing records" or "I was visiting a museum in the centre of the town".

My father seemed happy that I'd suddenly made lots of new friends who had money in their pockets and didn't cook burgers. But he didn't know what I was really up to...'

Lady Prescott suddenly broke off and ~ for the next minute or so – they walked on in silence. Frederick looked straight ahead. He said nothing. There was no need to talk. They crossed a main road and walked past a school. And then, as they turned down a narrow side street. Lady Prescott picked up the story again...



14	love handbrake	childhood seat belt	houses mind	spine workaholic	street Gerald	
	This little run-do	own	on	the edge of the	city is whe	ere I
	Lady Prescott pi	ut on the			•	
	and took off h					
	They've done up		-			
	I don't want the					
6	There was a time only recently tha	e when my hu	sband was a	bright, tender	young man	. It's
7	I felt a cold shive	er run down m	у	·		
8	And then – all o	f a sudden ~ 1	fell in	wi	ith him.	
9	it didn't take me	long to make	up my			
10	I knew that I cou	ıldn't give		up.		
15	out out	out	on	on		
	up up	around	round	at		
	By the time they			_ the outskirts o	of Birmingh	am,
	Lady Prescott ha					
L	And as we pick	up the story as surprisingly		cnaracters nav	e started to	o get
3	This little run-do			he city is where	larew	
•		—·	ine edige of t	ne city is where	81011	
	And now, Mr Ca		going for a w	alk. Would you	i like me to	show
	They've done herebut most (the houseslike down or falling		s .
	But after the vot to it. It's strange		they neve	r seem to get _		
	One afternoon, I the park.	ne asked me _		and we w	vent for a w	alk in
8	When my father	found		what		
9	was going		_, he went o	razy.		
10	He didn't want I who cooked har	nis only daugh	ter going		_ with som	eone
No	tes					

1 to calm down = to relax

'By the time they arrived at the outskirts of Birmingham, Lady Prescott had calmed down a little...' (Chapter Eight)

'Now calm down. And go through the whole story right from the start.' (Chapter Two)

2 to get on with (someone) = to have a good relationship with (someone)

"...our two characters have started to get on surprisingly well." (Chapter Eight)

. 'We got on really well and I started seeing him all the time.' (Chapter Eight)

3 to feel down = to feel depressed

'Whenever I feel down, I come back here.' (Chapter Eight)

'Frederick was staring deep into his coffee. Telling the story of the kidney machines had brought back some painful memories. And he suddenly felt very down.' (Chapter Twelve)

4 to have something on your mind = to be worrled about something

'Lady Prescott paused. There was something on her mind.' (Chapter Ten)

Tive got a lot of things on my mind at the moment and I need someone to talk to." (Chapter Eight)

5 Compare...

'And now, Mr Carruthers, I'm going for a walk. Would you like me to show you around?' (Chapter Eight)

and

'The woman showed them into the Managing Director's office and sniffed again.' (Chapter Twelve)

6 to do up (a flat, house, building, etc.) = to renovate, to repaint, to redecorate, etc.

They've done up some of the houses...like these ones here...but most of the properties are falling down or falling apart.' (Chapter Eight)

- They did up the flat and then sold it.
- 7 to come round (here) = to go round (there) = to visit

'The politicians come round and knock on the door.' (Chapter Eight)

'Gerald went round to see my father. They had a long talk and - somehow - they sorted the whole thing out.' (Chapter Nine)

8 to get round to (= to find the time to do something) is often used in a slightly negative sense, suggesting that someone is too lazy, too uncaring or too selfish to bother to do something...

'But after the votes are counted, they never seem to get round to it. It's strange that, isn't it?' (Chapter Eight)

(Lady Prescott is suggesting that once the politicians are elected, they no longer care about the people who voted for them.)

9 going on = happening

'When my father found out what was going on, he went crazy.' (Chapter Eight)

'He'd realised what had been going on behind his back.' (Chapter Nine)

CHAPTER NINE





The story continues...

Lady Prescott broke off and ~ once again - they walked on in silence.

It was now mid-afternoon and the streets were empty. There was a stillness in the cool summer air, as if the world had paused for thought. No birds sang. No cows mooed. No ducks quacked. No sheep baaed. No dogs woofed. No cats miaowed. In fact, on that bright, soft, tranquil day, there was only one sound to be heard — the low, continuous rumbling of Frederick's empty stomach, for twenty-four hours starved of food.

They walked down a couple of alleyways and then, as they turned into the main road, they came upon a postman riding a bicycle. The bicycle was very old and it had no springs. And so, as he rode across the cobblestones, he seemed to be nodding his head and shaking his head all at the same time.

Lady Prescott was talking again: 'Do you know where we are, Mr Carruthers? This is Crawford Street. And at the end of this row of shops, there's The Birmingham Big Burger Bar ~ where I met Gerald all those years ago. Look, I don't know about you, but I'm starving. Why don't we pop in there and have a late lunch? They serve the best beefburgers in town!'

Frederick seemed a little agitated. 'I could do with a meal too,' he said. 'But I'm afraid I don't have a penny on me. You see, I went out in rather a hurry last night.'

Lady Prescott smiled. 'But you must be my guest, Mr Carruthers. You've gone out of your way to help me and you've put up with all my complaints about Sir Gerald. Paying for lunch will be my way of paying you back for all your kindness. Come on, I insist. I've had a long and difficult day. I'm tired out and very worked up about my husband. I need a good meal to calm me down and I don't want to eat alone.'

Practice

16	penny way	cheek complaints	phone	proposing money	husband back		
1 H	e kept on .		and I kep	ot on saying 'no	·.		
21	took out m	у	and le	t myself in.			
3 A	t that mon	nent, he'd realise	ed what had	l been going or	behind		
h	s						
4 H	e lost his t	emper and slam	med down	the	·		
5 W	/nen Gerale	d was younger, 1	he wasn't e	xactly rolling in			
6 L	ady Presco	tt sighed and sn	niled. A sing	gle tear ran dow	n her		
_		·					
7 i'	m afraid I c	ion't have a		on me.			
8 Y	ou've gone	out of your		to help me			
9 Y	ou've put i	up with all my _	about Sir Gerald.				
10 1	m tired ou	t and very worke	ed up about	my	·		

with 17 out out through at at on school. Gerald asked me to marry him. 1 On my last day _ 2 I needed more time to think things _ proposing. __ a poetry reading in the local 4 I told my father I was going. Town Hall. _ my key and let myself in. behind his back. 6 He'd realised what had been going _ 7 He shouted ___ _____ Newtown and got married in the local church. 8 We eloped _____ 9 They had a long talk and - somehow - they sorted the whole thing _____ all my complaints about Sir Gerald. 10 You've put up __ Notes 1 to turn (someone or something) down = to say 'no' to (an offer, proposal, suggestion or application) 2 to settle down can mean 'to start to live in one place or situation permanently'. 'I was just too young to settle down.' (Chapter Nine) But notice a slightly different meaning in Chapter Fifteen: 'The prisoners had settled down for the night and the jail was locked and 3 to think (something) through = to think (something) over = to consider (a proposal, plan, situation, etc.) very carefully 'I needed more time to think things through.' (Chapter Nine) ""We're going to give you twenty-four hours to think it over," he said." (Chapter Eleven) 4 'I let myself in' = I opened the door with a key 5 it ended up... = the result was... 6 a pregnant pause = an embarrassing silence 7 to sort (something) out = to solve (a problem, issue, argument, dispute, etc.) 'Gerald went round to see my father...and - somehow - they sorted the whole thing out," (Chapter Nine) 'We had a long talk on the phone and we sorted a few things out.' (Chapter Thirteen)

8 to make it up with (someone) =

9 rolling in money = very rich 10 hard up = very poor

to re-establish a friendship or a loving

relationship

33

CHAPTER TEN





The story continues...

Frederick sighed. 'Perhaps you're right,' he said. 'And, after all, what have I got to lose? Well, the truth is that up until two years ago, I was leading a very simple and predictable life. I had a steady job, a beautiful home and a loving family. Then, all of a sudden, something happened that changed everything. My whole world just fell apart.'

Frederick broke off. He seemed a little uneasy.

'Go on.' Lady Prescott said gently.

'Well, it's a very long story,' Frederick replied. 'And I don't really know where to begin.'

'Try the beginning,' said Lady Prescott, putting a straw into her milkshake. 'I'm in no hurry, I'm going to drink this very, very slowly.'

Frederick took a deep breath and picked up the story again. 'My mother is a nurse in a small hospital,' he said. 'She looks after sick children. She's a wonderful, extraordinary woman and she works incredibly hard.

One day, I drove down to the hospital to pick my mother up after work. We were going out to dinner. I parked the car and, as I was walking through one of the wards, I could hear a child crying very softly. I looked across and saw a little boy. He must have been about eight or nine. He was so ill that he couldn't sit up in bed properly. He had to lie against pillows all day long. It was terrible. He was pale, lifeless, too weak to move.

The next day, I rang up the manager of the hospital and asked about the little boy. She told me that all the children in that ward had problems with their kidneys.

"And is there nothing you can do?" I asked.

"I'm afraid not," she said. "What we really need is half a dozen kidney machines. Then the children would be able to get out of bed and walk around the ward. But, unfortunately, the hospital is very short of money. We're so hard up that we can't afford to buy one machine, let alone six. So, I'm afraid the children will just have to suffer."

When I put down the phone, I felt terribly disturbed. It was so sad, so shocking, so unfair. I decided that I had to find a way to help the children. I couldn't stand by and do nothing.

At first, I couldn't think what to do. But then – all of a sudden – I came up with an idea. I was a bank manager and a lot of money passed through my hands. During a normal working day, I would write out ten, maybe twelve, official cheques for different things – stationery, coffee, furniture, stamps and so on. I'd worked at the bank for thirty years, so everybody knew me. And nobody ever checked up on what I was doing. I suppose I had an honest face and they just trusted me!

One afternoon – it was a Wednesday – I called my secretary into the office and told her to cancel my appointments. When she'd left the room, I took the phone off the hook and drew the curtains. Then I took the official cheque book out of the safe and wrote a cheque to myself!

Pay Mr F. Carruthers, £100.00 only Signed Frederick Carruthers.

It was breathtakingly, outrageously simple. A bank manager stealing money from his own bank!

18 Revision Exercise

In Chapters Five to Ten. who...

- 1 ...held out his hand?
- 2 ...felt a bit let down?
- 3 ...took off the handbrake?
- 4 ...was like a dragon breathing fire?
- 5 ...sat back?
- 6 ...put her foot down?
- 7 ...calmed down?
- 8 ...grew up at number 42?
- 9 ...showed Frederick around?
- 10 ...had a lot of things on her mine
- 11 ...worked in a take-away?
- 12 ...kept on proposing?
- 13 ...kept on saying 'no'?
- 14 ...took out a key?
- 15 ...staved up?
- 16 ...stormed out of the house?
- 17 ...eloped to Newtown?
- 18 ...slammed down the phone?
- 19 ...rabbited on?
- 20 ...came up with an idea?

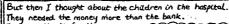
		(o jo)	65	
1	FREDERICK	LADY	Sir	LADY
.		Prescott	GERALD	Prescott's
				FATHER
		-		
-	,			
nd?				

Notes

- 1 to rabbit on = to talk on and on and on and on...
- 2 a bust-up = an argument
- 3 to bottle (something) up inside you is the opposite of 'to get (something) off your chest'.
- 4 Compare...
 - 'My whole world just fell apart.' (Chapter Ten)
 - 'But most of the properties are falling down or falling apart.' (Chapter Eight)
 - 'How could a good man end up like this? He's falling apart.' (Chapter Twelve)
- 5 to break off = to pause; to stop talking
- 6 out often means 'outside the house'.
 - 'Anyway, one afternoon, he asked me out and we went for a walk in the park.' (Chapter Eight)
 - 'We were going out to dinner.' (Chapter Ten)
 - 'And that night, the Carruthers family, Angus Macpherson and Sir Gerald and Lady Prescott dined out in style.' (Chapter Fourteen)

CHAPTER ELEVEN

At the age of 45 I was about to commit my first crime. I looked at the cheque. My head was spining. This was robbery. Was I doing the right thing? Could I get away with it? Should I just tear up the cheque and throw it away? Perhaps I should forget about the whole thing.





So, I took a deep breath, folded the cheque up and put it into my pocket.



I left the office and took a taxi to another branch of the bank. I knew one of the ashiers there. We chatted for a while. And then, with my heart pounding, I paid the cheque into my surrent account. Three days later the payment cleared. I had stolen my first fipo.
The following week I did the whole thing again. Another cheque. The Same

The following week I did the Whole thing again. Another cheque. The same branch. The Same cashier. The same fear. The same excitement when the money was cleared into my account.

And so it went on. Week after week I stole money from the bank and each cheque was a little bigger than the last.



You've no idea how I felt.
I was risking everything I
had - my career, my family
life, my reputation. But,
nothing was going to stop
me now. The image of the little
boy crying on his pillow haunted
me. I couldn't get it out of
my mind. And I had to
do something to help.

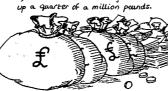


I think the next few weeks were the most exciting of my life. In some strange way I'd suddenly come alive. I was sharp, human, burning with anger. And I suppose I got a bit carried away.

I was soon writing cheques for five and ten thousand pounds. It was crazy. Sometimes, the cashier stemed a bit suspicious. The couldn't work out what the payments were for. But - Boch week - I made up some new story to explain the cheques away, And she fell for it every time.



I suppose it never occurred to her that Frederick Carruthers - her punctual, conscientious friend - could have turned into a common thief, an embezzler, a liar, a man obsessed.



By that summer I'd managed to save

One morning I didn't go into work. I walked into the hospital and wrote out a chegue for every penny I had. The manager went straight out and bought six new kidney machines.







The story continues...

But then - inevitably, I suppose - my luck failed.

Someone at Head Office became suspicious. How could a branch manager afford to donate £250,000 to a hospital?

The Head of Finance went to the central computer and started going through my account. She noticed that I'd been building up large amounts of cash. But how could I save up so much money on the salary I earned? She smelt a rat and, when she looked into the strange dealings on the branch account, she knew that something was wrong.

Anyway, it wasn't long before she'd put two and two together and worked out what I'd been up to. She tipped off the police and, when I turned up for work the next morning, there were three detectives waiting in my office. They took me down to the police station and that was it. I was charged with theft and my world just fell apart. The trial was fixed for December 18th – just one week before Christmas!

Two days before I was due in court, a director of the bank came to see me. He came straight to the point. He offered me a deal. He said they would drop all the charges if I paid the money back.

"But how can I do that?" I asked. "The hospital have spent it all."

"That's simple," the man said. "Tell the hospital that you've changed your mind. Tell them it was all a mistake. Just tell them to send the machines back."

"But what about the children?" I said.

The man shrugged his shoulders. "Our bank is a business, Mr Carruthers. It's not a charity. And if you don't get our money back, you'll end up in jail. It's as simple as that. It's up to you. But you can't have it both ways."

He stood up. "We're going to give you twenty-four hours to think it over," he said. "You don't have to decide right away. You can sleep on it. I'll come back tomorrow and you can tell me what you've decided. But just remember one thing, Mr Carruthers. You can't rip the bank off and expect to get away with it. Life's not like that. And we will hunt you down until we get every penny of our money back. I trust I've made myself clear. Good afternoon."

That night, I lay awake in my cell and thought the whole thing through. Was I being stupid? Should I save my own skin? Was it all worth fighting for? I went over it again and again.

The man from the bank came back the next day. He walked into my cell with a stupid smirk on his face. He was so sure of himself. So confident. He thought I was going to give in without a fight. He sat down and grinned at me. And at that moment, I noticed he had false teeth.

"So, Mr Carruthers," he began. "I trust that you've come to your senses. I've prepared this letter for you to sign. It instructs the hospital to send the items in question back to the factory and..."

I held up my hand and the man from the bank stopped talking.

"You can save your breath," I said. "Put the letter away. I've got no intention of signing it. I've decided to go through with the trial. I can't let the children down. I promised them six kidney machines and I'm not going back on my word."

The man from the bank gaped at me and his false teeth fell out. They crashed noisily onto the floor and rolled under my bed. I bent down, picked them up and handed them back to him.

"I believe these are yours," I said. You should have seen his face!

And so the trial went ahead. I pleaded guilty, the judge sentenced me to three years in jail and that's how! ended up in...! Frederick paused and took a

deep breath, '...in Newtown Prison...from where I escaped at eleven o'clock last night.'

Lady Prescott blinked twice. She didn't seem at all shocked or upset by the fact that Frederick was a convict on the run from her husband's jail. In fact, her one and only concern was for the children in the ward.

Practice

19	account payments	han trial		l olice		cheque office	
1	looked at th	ie			My head	d was spinning.	
2 :	She couldn't	work o	ut what	the		were for.	
	But – each w cheques awa		made up	some i	new	to explain the	
	The Head of I			the cen	tral com	nputer and started going throug	ξh
5 9	She tipped of	f the _			_		
-	and when I detectives wa					orning, there were three	
7 I	f you don't g	et our r	noney b	ack, you	ı'll end ı	up in	
8 '	You can't rip	the			off and e	expect to get away with it.	
91	held up my			and	the mar	n from the bank stopped talkin	g.
10	've decided	to go th	rough v	vith the		•	
20	through up	in of		to for	with for		
1	t's up		yo	u.			
2 1	fhat night, H	ay awal	(e		m	y cell	
3 .	and though	it the w	hole this	ng		·	
4	Was it all wo	rth fight	ing		?		
5	He was so su	re		h	imself.		
61	He thought I	was go	ing to g	ive		without a fight.	
7	I've prepared	this le	tter		у	you to sign.	
8	I've got no ir	tention			sign	ning it.	
9	I've decided	to go tl	nrough _			the trial.	
10	And that's h	ow I end	ded		i	in Newtown Prison.	



Notes

- 1 'It was a bit like launching a ship...' (Chapter Eleven) You can also launch a rocket, a campaign, a new product and an attack.
- 2 'she smelt a rat' = she became suspicious; she realised that something was wrong
- 3 to be up to (something) = to be acting secretly, suspiciously or conspiratorially
- 4 Compare...
 - "...a director of the bank came to see me." (Chapter Eleven)
 - 'He came straight to the point.' (Chapter Eleven)

and

'I trust that you've come to your senses.' (Chapter Eleven)

You can also come to an agreement and to a conclusion.

- 5 'It's up to you' = It's your decision
- 6 to rip (someone) off = to cheat (someone); to trick (someone); to take unfair advantage of (someone)

'You can't rip the bank off and expect to get away with it.' (Chapter Eleven)

- 'And Karen Blackstone got a promise that the Head of Charity Donations would never let on how to rip off the bank.' (Chapter Thirteen)
- 7 to give in = to surrender; to stop fighting

CHAPTER TWELVE





The story continues...

Lady Prescott came back to the table and sat down. 'I made a call to a friend of mine, Mr Carruthers. She'd like to meet you. I said we'd be in her office just after five. So why don't you drink up your coffee and eat up your cheeseburger and finish off the French files, and then we can set off.'

'But where are we going?' Frederick said. 'And who is your friend?'

'For the moment, that must remain a secret,' Lady Prescott replied. 'But she's an important woman and I think she can help you. Oh, and do cheer up, Mr Carruthers. You mustn't worry so much. It'll all work out in the end.'

Frederick drank up his coffee, ate up his cheeseburger, finished off his French fries and then stood up.

They walked back to the car – along Crawford Street, down a couple of side alleys, over the stone bridge that crossed the canal. And a few minutes later, the blue Rolls Royce was on the road again.

Frederick was exhausted. The last twenty-four hours were beginning to catch up with him. And, as the car sped on down the motorway, he closed his eyes and gently nodded off, falling ever deeper into sleep.

.

A couple of hours later, Frederick felt someone tapping on his shoulder. 'Come along, Mr Carruthers,' Lady Prescott said. 'Wake up. We're nearly there.' Frederick woke up with a start. And at first he thought he was still dreaming. Because there – right ahead of them – was a vast glass and metal building that he knew all too well, But this was no dream. And their car was heading straight for the main entrance.

'Where are you taking me?' Frederick shouted. 'This is the Head Office of my old bank. You've set me up, haven't you? You're going to turn me in! I should never have trusted you. Stop the car right now! Let me out!'

Frederick took off his seat belt and tried to get out of the car. But Lady Prescott turned round and dragged him back inside.

'For goodness' sake, calm down, Mr Carruthers,' she said. 'I haven't set you up and I'm nor going to turn you in. And don't get so worked up. You're as bad as my husband. Now just listen to me. When we were in the take-away, I rang up your Head Office and fixed up an appointment with Karen Blackstone. She's a good friend of mine. We went to school together.'

'Karen Blackstone?' Frederick said. 'But she's the Managing Director of the bank.'

'Exactly, Mr Carruthers. And we're on our way to her office. She's going to give you a new job.'

'You must be joking,' said Frederick. 'The bank would never dream of taking me on again. I've got a criminal record for stealing their money.'

'Well, just you walt and see,' Lady Prescott replied. 'I think you're in for a surprise.'

The blue Rolls Royce pulled up in front of a huge skyscraper that seemed to pierce the clouds. They got out of the car and walked through into the main lobby. Then they made their way to the Managing Director's penthouse suite. As the lift rose smoothly to the eighty-ninth floor, Frederick broke out into a cold sweat.

A thousand thoughts were running through his mind. Could he really trust Lady Prescott? Was he walking into a trap? Would the police be there to arrest him again? And what would Karen Blackstone make of his clothes? He stared at himself in the mirror. He wasn't exactly dressed up for the occasion. In the past twenty-four hours, he'd crawled through mud, swum across lakes, climbed up

trees, jumped onto trains, rolled down hills and put a spare wheel onto the blue Rolls Royce. And now, after all that, he looked like a scarecrow in a thunderstorm. The stains on his shirt and his crumpled prison trousers didn't quite fit in with the thick-pile carpet and the soft leather chairs.

When the lift doors opened, they were met by a tall, angular secretary who took one look at Frederick's bedraggled appearance and gave a shrill sniff of disapproval. The woman showed them into the Managing Director's office and sniffed again. Then she turned and closed the door behind her.

Practice

21	clothes office	hours surprise	people start	prison mind	number diary	
		ot out of goi the children			, but what	would have
2 S	he took a ye	ellow		out of the	bag	
3	and looked	l up a		_,	-	
4 T	here were n	ow lots of _		abou	t.	
		s exhausted. catch up wi		enty-four _		were
6 F	rederick wo	ke up with a				
71	think you're	e in for a		·		
8 A	thousand t	houghts wer	e running t	hrough his		
9 A	and what w	ould Karen B	lackstone m	ake of his		?
	he woman s nd sniffed a		n into the M	lanaging Di	irector's	
22	of	of off	up	up	7	
	out	to with	apart	for	}	
21	may have g	ot out		-	might even h prison, but v	ave let you vhat would have
		the children				
					were really q	
		~			alling	
h	aven't you?	•			ne	
		right now! L				
					ou're as bad a	as my husband.
		en				
					aling their m	
10 A	and what w	ould Karen B	lackstone m	nake		his clothes?

Notes

- 1 Note the use of...
 - a to let (someone) off
 - b to get away with (something)
 - c to get out of (doing something)

These three phrasal verbs are used when talking about crime and punishment.

a to let (someone) off = to choose not to punish (someone) for a mistake, sin, error or crime

'They would have reduced your sentence. They might even have let you off.' (Chapter Twelve)

b to get away with (something) = not to be punished for a mistake, sin, error or crime

'But I have to admire what you did. And you nearly got away with it.' (Chapter Twelve)

c to get out of (doing something) = to avoid doing something you dislike or fear

'I may have got out of going to prison, but what would have happened to the children?' (Chapter Twelve)

- 2 to look up (something) = to look (something) up
 - = to find information in a diary, timetable, reference book, etc.

'She took a yellow diary out of the bag and looked up a number.' (Chapter Twelve)

- 3 he was miles away = he was daydreaming; he wasn't concentrating
- 4 Cheer up! = Don't be so sad!
- 5 to get worked up = to become excited, anxious, tense, nervous, etc. (You can also say to be worked up.)

CHAPTER THIRTEEN



The story continues...

'And if I was to take up this new challenge,' Frederick said, 'you'd expect me to keep quiet about the events of two years ago. You wouldn't want me to reveal how I showed up the flaws in your security system. In other words, you want to buy my silence.'

Karen Blackstone was drumming her pencil on the table. 'Let's be practical, Mr Carruthers. Not every convict can leave prison and walk straight back into a job. It's very simple. I need you and you need me. It's a case of you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours. I think we understand each other perfectly!'

And so a deal was struck. Frederick got a new job. And Karen Blackstone got a promise that the Head of Charity Donations would never let on how to rip off the bank.

'You'll have your new contract in the morning,' Karen Blackstone said. 'But where shall I send the papers to?'

The question hung in the air like a vulture. It suddenly dawned on Frederick that he couldn't take up a new job until he'd served out his term in jail. And he just didn't know what to say.

Lady Prescott leaned forward. 'If I could just butt in here,' she said. 'I think I've sorted out that problem, too. I made two phone calls from the take-away, Mr Carruthers. The first was to Karen, as you know. The second was to my husband. And you'll be leaving prison much sooner than you think.'

.

It was now 5.35 and the blue Rolls Royce was coming home.

'Could you tell me what's going on?' Frederick said. 'I'm getting a bit confused.'

'Well, it's all quite simple,' Lady Prescott replied. 'I'm going back to my husband. We had a long talk on the phone and we sorted a few things out.'

'But where does that leave me?' Frederick asked. 'Are you going to turn me in?'

'Not exactly.' Lady Prescott smiled. 'I'm going to smuggle you back into the prison and then the governor's going to let you out.'

Frederick seemed a bit confused. 'I'm not with you,' he said.

Lady Prescott took a deep breath. 'Gerald tells me that you've served two thirds of your sentence. And since you've been a model prisoner, you're now due for parole. There was no need for you to run off like that. They were going to let you out anyway.'

Frederick was getting lost again.

'Let me put it another way,' Lady Prescott said. 'If you'd stayed in, instead of breaking out, the governor would have let you off the last twelve months of your sentence and let you out one year early!'

Frederick's eyebrows collided with each other. The demented goldfish had returned.

Lady Prescott pulled in and stopped the car. 'We'll be there in a few minutes,' she said. T've taken a blanket out of the boot. I think it's time for you to hide.'

Frederick had given up trying to work out what was going on. So, rather sulkily, he climbed over onto the back seat and covered himself up. A few moments later, the blue Rolls Royce moved off again and headed for Newtown.

By the time they arrived at the prison gates, night was falling. Lady Prescott slowed down and stopped the car. Then she wound down her window and leaned across.



Practice

23	3		pro sur		friend Frederick	jal file	
1	K	aren Bla	ckstone	sat dow	n and picked	d up a	
					•	-	, Mr Carruthers.
				_			out what's wrong.
							s people off.
			_		ıs as a		
6	i lt	wouldn	't do us	any harn	n to give aw	ay soi	me of those
	to	worthy	causes	in the co	mmunity.		
7	İt	sudden	ly dawn	ed on		tl	hat
8	3	he coul	dn't tak	e up a ne	w		<u></u>
9		until he	'd serve	d out his	term in		·
10	1	think I'v	e sorted	out that			_, too.
24	L	out	out	out	out	as	7
_	•	off	to	up	through	on	
							Mr Carruthers.
2	: W	/e carrie	d		a surve	y	
3	٠	to find _			_ what's wr	ong.	•
4	T	ne public	sees u	s		selfish	, ruthless and greedy.
5	To	put it b	oluntly,	our imag	e puts peop	le	·
6	В	ut where	shali I	send the	papers		? ·
7	11	think I've	e sorted		t	hat pr	oblem, too.
8	Fr	ederick	had giv	en		_	
9	٠	trying to	o work _				`
10		what w	as going	5	,		
N	ot	es					
1	to	go thro	ugh = to	check			
2				_	' (Chapter ' nvestigation		en) tack and a threat.
3	'n	ne public	c sees u	s as selfis	h, ruthless a	ınd gre	eedy.' (Chapter Thirteen)
				4			as an enemy.' (Chapter Thirteen)
		otice ho	•				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
				or same	ething) as =		
					omething) a	2C ==	
					something)		
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4 Notice how to go on, to carry on and to keep on are followed by a gerund...

 $\mbox{\tt 'Karen Blackstone}$ carried on talking, ignoring that last remark. '(Chapter Thirteen)

'He kept on proposing and I kept on saying "no".' (Chapter Nine)
'Or should I defy my parents and go on seeing him?' (Chapter Eight)

5 Compare...

to show up (something) = to reveal (something) that was previously hidden 'You wouldn't want me to reveal how I showed up the flaws in your security system.' (Chapter Thirteen)

and

to show (someone) up = to embarrass (someone) in public

6 a flaw = a weakness Note also: 'a flawless diamond' and 'a flawless performance'.

7 to let on = to reveal (a secret)

'And Karen Blackstone got a promise that the Head of Charity Donations would never let on how to rip off the bank.' (Chapter Thirteen)
'But don't let on that you managed to break out.' (Chapter Fourteen)

8 to butt in = to interrupt

HAPTER FOURTEEN





THE GUARD SALUTED, PRESSED A

E NUE WOON GATES SWUNG OPEN AND DE PRESCRIT PROVE TWOODER AND THE WE PURSUIT FRAME, THEN SHE TUNNED WAS THE TOTALLEY WHERE SHE SLOWED DOWN AND PARKED THE CAR.

SHE FLASHED HER HEADLIGHTS AND ANGUS - FOR SONE REASON WEARING A FALSE MOUSTACHE AND A PAIR OF DARK GLASSES-CAME OUT FROM BEHIND A LARGE GREY DUSTBIN AND WAVED.



LADY PRESCOTT GOT OUT OF THE CAR AND LOOKED AROUND, THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE ABOUT.



FREDERICK SLIPPED OUT OF THE CAR AND RAN DOWN THE ALLEY.



Welcome back Sir. I'm so glad to see you again. I thought I was going to lase my job when you disappeared. I shouldn't have nodded off you see. It was all my fault.



FREDERICK SMILED AND THEY SLIPPED THROUGH A SIDE GATE INTO THE MAIN WING OF THE PRISON.



AND UNLOCKED CELL 269. THEN HE PUSHED OPEN THE DOOR AND STEPPED BACK.



After you Mr Carrathe After you.



It feels so stronge to be sek here. Six hours ago was in the Birmingham Big Burger Bar eating a cheeseburger and french fries. Three ours Later I was in the Head Office of the bank. And now I'm here in the darkness of a prison cell. It's been quite a day, Angus. I'll be glad when this whole thing is over and I can get ack to my old routine.





MEANTIME HAD CLIMBED THE STEPS TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE. SIR GERALD WAS WAITING NERVOUSLY BY THE DOOR.



THE OCCASION, COMBING HIS HAIR, POLISHING HIS SHOES AND PUTTING ON THE SPOTTED PONK TIE THAT LADY PRESCOTT HAD GIVEN HIM ON THEIR SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSAR

HISTORY DOES NOT RECORD WHAT ISSUES OF POMESTIC IMPORTANCE WERE DISCUSSED THAT EVENING IN THE PRESCOTT HOUSEHOLD. BUT THERE IS A RUMOUR THAT THE NEXT MORNING SIR GERALD WENT OUT AND BOUGHT A NEW PAIR OF RUBBER WASHING UP GLOVES AND A BOOK CALLED HOW TO FLATTEN YOUR STOMACH AND LOSE YOUR DOUBLE CHIN'

The story continues...

That weekend, the governor brought the parole forms down to Frederick's cell. 'I owe you a great deal, Mr Carruthers,' he said. 'Your escape was a blessing in disguise. The events of the last twenty-four hours have taught me a lot. I've come to appreciate just how good my life is. Oh, and by the way, my wife has told me all about the kidney machines and the children in the ward. I think you were very brave. I rang up the Home Office last night and we've fixed up your parole. We're going to give you twelve months off for good behaviour! That means we'll be letting you out on Monday.

Now, there's just one more thing that we have to sort out. The other prisoners don't know that you escaped. Angus and I hushed the whole thing up. So, if anyone asks you where you've been for the past twenty-four hours, just say that we thought you'd gone down with German measles. We took you up to the hospital wing and called in a doctor, but it turned out that you had a rash, or an allergy or something, which cleared up overnight. You can make up any story you like. But don't let on that you managed to break out. Otherwise Angus and I will be out of a job.'

Frederick began to laugh. 'Your secret is safe with me, Governor,' he said. 'And anyway, if anyone found out that I ran away, I couldn't get parole. So it's in my interests to hush everything up too!'

* * * * * * * * *

Dawn broke over Newtown Prison. It was Monday, and Frederick Carruthers was going home. Sir Gerald, Lady Prescott and Angus stood by the front gates to see him off. They shook hands and talked for a few minutes. Then the huge iron gates swung open and Frederick walked out onto the street.

It was a strange feeling to be truly free again – like having a canvas and a brush and not knowing what to paint. But Frederick was looking forward to doing the simple things again – walking the dogs after Sunday lunch, browsing in bookshops, fishing in the canal,

The family were there to meet him. They'd stood by him through all the ups and downs of the past two years. And, now, there was so much to say, so much to do. So much lost time to make up for.

* * * * * * * * *

A few days later, a table was reserved at the best Italian restaurant in Newtown. And that night, the Carruthers family, Angus Macpherson and Sir Gerald and Lady Prescott dined out in style.

There was only one topic of conversation — but that's often the way at the best parties. Frederick told the story of the night of his escape — how he had swum across a river, crawled through a field of turnips and jumped on and off trains. Angus described how he'd broken out in a cold sweat when he'd woken up and found out that Frederick had managed to break out and run off. Sir Gerald explained how they'd made up a story that Frederick had gone down with a particularly contagious form of German measles in an attempt to hush up news of the breakout. And Lady Prescott recounted the story of driving into a lay-by and coming across a shabby down-and-out with such a kindly, honest face.

Practice

				_	_	
25	parole life	breakout coast	rash river	trains belt	Frederick behaviour	
1 7	The	is.	clear And	d Mr Macob	erson is waiting	t for you
		the keys off		-	-	g for you.
	-				· 	íc
			-	•	good	13,
					or an allers	·
						5y.
		ind out that				
	rederick tok	i the story o	(the thgri	OI IIIS ESCA	pe – how he ha	u swum across
		d on and off				
9 /		voken up and			h	ad managed
		d tried to hu	ich un new	s of the		
10.	on Geraid ha	o thea to he	ish up nevi	.3 Of title		•
					- -1	
26	across			of up	}	
	out	out c	out c	on on	J	
1	Angue took t	the keys		his he	It and unlocked	CP11 760
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		anaged to b				
		, if anyone fo				
						•
	_	interests to	-	_		
	•	ne Carruthers		•	nerson and Sir (:	erald and
8	Frederick tol	d the story $_$		the	night of his esc	ape -
9	how he ha	d swum		a river	•	
10	and jumpe	ed	8	and off train	5,	
			•			
No	tes					
		to make you				
2 N	Note these th	iree commoi	n natterns			
	go out and		, par			*
	go out to					
	go out for					*, *
	'Sir Gerald' (Chapter Fo		d bought a	new pair o	f rubber washin	g-up gloves'
	◆ She went	out to get s	ome fruit			
	• They wen	t out for a m	eal			



- 3 'I owe you a great deal...'
 Notice similar collocations such as...
 - I owe you an apology.
 - +1 owe you £100.
 - ♦ I owe you an explanation.
- 4 Hushi = Re quieti

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to hush (something) up = to keep (something) quiet
= to keep (information) secret
```

5 In the following sentences, off = free.

'Frederick had run across the prison yard, climbed over a wall and run off into the night.' (Chapter Five)

"...the governor would have let you off the last twelve months of your sentence..." (Chapter Thirteen)

'We're going to give you twelve months off for good behaviour!' (Chapter Fourteen)

Note also:

- We get an hour off for lunch.
- ♦ a day off, a week off, a month off, etc.
- 6 'We...called in a doctor.' (Chapter Fourteen)
 You can also call in a plumber, an engineer or an expert.
- 7 'We thought you'd gone down with German measles...' (Chapter Fourteen) You can also go down with flu, mumps, measles and malaria.
- 8 Note the similarity between to end up and to turn out phrasal verbs used when the result is surprising, shocking or unexpected.

'How could a good man end up like this?' (Chapter Twelve)

'But it turned out that you had a rash or something...' (Chapter Fourteen)

HAPTER FIFTEEN





HE STOOD OF AND SAID GOODEYE TO MIS CARRUTHERS, THE CHILDREN, SIR GERALD AND LADY PRESCOTT. THEN HE TURNED AND THANKED PREDERICK FOR THE MEAL.



ANGUS BLUSHED A DEEP SHADE OF RED AND LOOKED DOWN AT THE FLOOR, HE DID UP HIS COAT. FREDERICK SMILED AND PATTED HIM ON THE SHOULDER.



ANGUS LEFT THE RESTAURANT AND WALKED BACK ALONG THE PEACEFUL STREETS NEWTOWN.

WHEN HE CAME TO THE PRISON GATES HE KNOCKED ON THE FRONT DOOR AND THE



PUT ON HIS UNIFORM, AND THEN WENT THROUGH THE CORRIDORS CHECKING THE CELLS AND TURNING OFF THE LICHTS.



EVERYTHING WAS IN ORDER. THE PRISONERS HAD SETTLED DOWN FOR THE NICHT AND THE JAIL WAS LOCKED AND STILL



ANGUS YAWNED AND SAT DOWN ON A SMALL WOODEN BENCH. HE WAS TIRED. AND NOW - AS THE CLOCK STRUCK 11 -THE FRENCH FRIES, THE WELSH RABBIT MADE WITH BLUE CHEESE, THE SCOTCH EGG COVERED WITH FRENCH DRESSING, THE STEAK (WELL DONE) AND THE THREE PLATEFULS OF SPACHETTI BOLOGNESE HE'D ENJOYED AT DINNER WERE PULLING HIM TOWARDS THE DEEPEST OF DEEP SLEEPS.





A FEW MINUTES LATER THE STONE CORRIDORS ECHOED TO ANGUS MACPHERSON'S UNMISTAKEABLE SNORES.







Practice

27 Revision Exercise

In Chapters Eleven to Fifteen, who...

- 1 ...was falling apart?
- 2 ...looked up a number?
- 3 ...looked out at Crawford Street?
- 4 ...nodded off in the blue Rolls Royce?
- 5 ...looked like a scarecrow in a thunderstorm?
- 6 ...went through Frederick's file?
- 7 ...threw away thirty years of hard work?
- 8 ...showed up the flaws in the bank's security system?
- 9 ...butted in?
- 10 ...was due for parole?
- 11 ...was waiting for Frederick?
- 12 ...took the keys off his belt?
- 13 ...sat down?
- 14 ... put on a spotted pink tie?
- 15 ...stood up?
- 16 ...clocked on?
- 17 ...put on his uniform?
- 18 ...went through the corridors?
- 19 ...turned off the lights?
- 20 ...nodded off in Newtown Prison?

				7 8	A COMPA	
-	FREDERICK	LADY PRESCOT _T	Karen Blackstone	Angus	SIR GERALD	
	,					
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Notes

- 1 to do up (your coat, shirt, jacket, top button, etc.) is the opposite of to undo (your coat, shirt, jacket, top button, etc.)
- 2 to go through = to check

Compare...

'Angus went through the corridors checking the cells...' (Chapter Fifteen) and

'The Head of Finance went to the central computer and started going through my account.' (Chapter Eleven)

- 3 Welsh rabbit = cheese on toast
- 4 to run off with (something) = to steal (something) and then run away

CHAPTER ONE

Practice

On a cold November evening many years ago, Angus M_{α} chief guard at the Newtown Prison) yawned and closed his eyes.

Angus had had a long and tiring day and now, as the clock struck eleven, the three platefuls of spaghetti bolognese he'd enjoyed at dinner were pulling him towards the deepest of deep sleeps.

'I'll just have a little nap,' he thought to himself. 'All the cells are locked and everything's quiet. I'm sure nobody will mind if I nod __1_ for a while.'

Angus stretched <u>2</u> on a wooden bench and tried to relax. But, for some reason, he couldn't get off to sleep. Then he had an idea. 'I know what the trouble is,' he said to himself. 'It's this belt of mine. It's much too tight.'

He rolled 3, took 4 the belt and dropped it 5 the floor.

A few minutes later, the stone corridors echoed to ${\rm Angus\ Macpherson}$'s unmistakable snore.

In the darkness of cell 269, Frederick Carruthers (a bank manager who had lent himself \$250,000\$) was planning his escape.

'If I could get the keys <u>6</u> Macpherson's belt,' he said to himself, 'I could slip <u>7</u> through the side door, run <u>8</u> the yard, jumb <u>9</u> the prison wall and be back home for breakfast. But how do I do it?'

Just then, he caught sight of Angus's belt lying ___10_ the floor. 'The keys!' Carruthers whispered. 'He's just dropped the belt with the keys. This is too good to be true.'

He tiptoed to the front of his cell and looked <u>11</u>. There was no one <u>12</u>. He took a deep breath. And then, softly and slowly, he stretched <u>13</u> his hand, picked <u>14</u> the belt and lifted it back through the bars...

• • • • • • • • • • • • • •

CHAPTER TWO

Practice

Dawn broke over Newtown Prison. Angus stretched, yawned and half opened his eyes. 'I feel much better now,' he said to himself. 'I think that little nap did me good.'

He stood <u>15</u> and looked <u>16</u> his belt. But, for some reason, it wasn't on the floor where he'd dropped it. He yawned again and thought about going back to sleep. But then, to his surprise, he suddenly saw his belt hanging on a key which was in the lock of the open door of cell 269.

Angus blinked twice. 'Something's wrong here!' he said to himself. 'But what is it?'

Gradually, shockingly, horrifyingly, the awful truth dawned on him.

When Angus had at last worked __17_ what had happened, he rushed down the corridor and ran __18_ the steps to the prison governor's office. With his heart pounding, he banged on the door. 'Governor, Governor!' he shouted. 'Let me in! Let me in!

Sir Gerald Prescott was sitting 19 his desk, reading The Times.

'Come _____,' he said. 'The door's open.'

Angus rushed 21, his red face covered with sweat.

'What's the matter, Macpherson?' the prison governor asked. 'You look a bit upset.'

'It's Frederick Carruthers,' Angus shouted. 'He's broken out of his cell and run away, and it was all my fault!'

'Now calm <u>22</u>, 'Sir Gerald said. 'And go <u>23</u> the whole story very slowly right from the start.'

Angus sat down and took a deep breath. 'Well, Sir,' he began. 'Last night I stretched **24** on a wooden bench near cell 269. I took **25** my belt and dropped it onto the floor. Then I nodded **26** for a few minutes.

While I was asleep, Carruthers stretched out his hand, picked <u>27</u> the belt and took off one of the keys. He opened his cell and slipped out through the side door.'

'But that's terrible!' the prison governor screamed, tearing <u>28</u> his *Times* and bursting <u>29</u> tears.

Angus took a handkerchief out of his pocket and handed it to Sir Gerald. 'Now, now, Sir,' he said. 'There's no need to cry. It wasn't your fault that Carruthers escaped. I shouldn't have taken 30 my belt and nodded 31 like that. But don't worry, Governor! I'll make up 32 it. I'll give 33 my lunchbreak and go out and look 34 him and find 35 where he is.'

• • • • • • • • • • • • •

CHAPTER THREE

Practice

At that moment, Lady Prescott, the wife of the prison governor, arrived.

'For goodness sake stop crying, Gerald,' she said, taking <u>36</u> her coat. 'Pull vourself together man! What's wrong with you? Why don't you grow 37?'

'I can't help it,' the governor replied. 'Yet another of my prisoners has run away. That's the fifth one this week. Why don't they like it here? Is it the prison food? Or the colour of the walls? Or my after-shave? I wish I knew.' And with that he burst __38__ tears again.

'That's it,' Lady Prescott said, putting <u>39</u> her coat. 'I've had enough of all this nonsense. I hate to see a grown man cry and I'm not going to put up <u>40</u> it any longer. I'm leaving you, Gerald! I'm going to break up our marriage and run <u>41</u> to a run-down area of Birmingham.'

But you can't do that!' the prison governor cried. 'If you run away to a run-42 area of Birmingham, I'll have a nervous breakdown.'

'That's your problem, not mine,' Lady Prescott replied. 'I'm going to walk out of that door and you'll never see me again!'

'But I won't let you go!' Sir Gerald shouted. 'If you run away, I'll run 43 you.'

'If I run away to a run- 44 area and you run 45 me,' Lady Prescott replied, 'I'll run over you in my car.'

'OUR car,' the governor corrected her. 'You should remember that we bought it together. But you must be careful, my dear. If you run away to a run- <u>46</u> area of Birmingham and I run <u>47</u> you and you run <u>48</u> me in the car, you might then run into a tree, and the cost of repairing the damage could run <u>49</u> hundreds of pounds.'

'Money! Money! Money! That's all you care about!' Lady Prescott screamed. 'Here am I threatening to break <u>50</u> our marriage and run <u>51</u> to a run-<u>52</u> area of Birmingham, and all you can think <u>53</u> is the cost of repairing the car – OUR car – if you run <u>54</u> me and I run <u>55</u> you and then run <u>56</u> a tree! That's so typical of you! Self! Self! Self! Me! Me! Me! I've had enough. I've run <u>57</u> of patience, Gerald. I'm off.'

CHAPTER FOUR

Practice

'No, No, No, You can't do this to me,' the prison governor shouted, kneeling down and bursting __58__ tears. 'Look, I know I've not been a very good husband lately. I've been working too hard and putting __59__ weight. But you can't walk out on me like this. If you went away, I'd go to pieces. I know what the problem is! I've been so wrapped up in my work that I've started to take you for granted. But don't leave me. Give me one last chance. I'll make __60__ for it! I'll be putty in your hands. You name it and I'll do it. I'll take up jogging and take __61__ weight! I'll give __62__ smoking and wash __63__ after dinner! I'll clear out the cupboards and take you out at weekends. Now what could be fairer than that?'

Lady Prescott turned <u>64</u>, threw an ashtray <u>65</u> Sir Gerald, knocked <u>66</u> a chair and stormed <u>67</u> of the room.

'Shall I go after her?' Angus asked from somewhere behind the armchair.

'No,' Sir Gerald replied softly, picking <u>68</u> the ashtray and putting it back on the table. 'Let her go. She's made <u>69</u> her mind to run <u>70</u> to a run-<u>71</u> area of Birmingham, and there's nothing we can do.'

The prison governor sat __72_ and straightened his tie.

And, with that, Sir Gerald took a handkerchief out of his pocket, blew his nose and, not for the first time, burst __76__ tears.

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CHAPTER FIVE

Practice

After he had slipped <u>78</u> through the side door, Frederick had run <u>79</u> the prison yard, climbed over a wall and run off into the night.

Having crossed the main road that links Newtown to Oldtown, he had rolled down a hill, climbed over a couple of gates, crawled 80 a field full of turnips, waded 81 a swamp, dived into a stream and swum 82 to the opposite bank, climbed up a hill, run across six kilometres of open countryside, jumped onto a train that was slowing down in front of a set of signals, run down the corridor to avoid the ticket collector and then jumped 83 again as the train pulled into a station.

While the other passengers were getting <u>84</u> the train, Frederick had slipped <u>85</u> the ticket barrier by showing his prison identification badge and shouting, 'I'm a train engineer. I'm a train engineer. Let me through!

Then he'd elbowed his way **86** a group of tourists, rushed down a flight of steps, run **87** a subway tunnel and, finally, ended up standing outside a cafe at a lay-by near function 34 of the M1 motorway.

It was at this moment that his problems really began. Frederick had been rushing, rolling, running, jumping, climbing, crawling, wading and swimming for several hours now and the last meal he'd had was three biscuits and a glass of water before Angus had turned 88 the light in his cell. His exhausted body was beginning to complain. His stomach was crying out for food and his throat felt like sandpaper. But what could he do? Prisoners don't carry money and he didn't have a penny 89 him.

Frederick looked through the windows of the cafe and for the next few moments he went through a dreadful torture. 'What have I done to deserve this?' he thought. 'Here am I – with my stomach rumbling and my throat parched, and I can't even afford a cup of tea! How did I get into this mess? And, more to the point, how do I get out of it?'

These were the thoughts running 90 Frederick Carruthers' troubled mind as a blue Rolls Royce pulled into the lay-by and glided to a halt.

CHAPTER SIX

Practice

The blue Rolls Royce glided to a halt a few metres from where Frederick was standing. The driver wound down her window and leaned __91__.

'Excuse me,' she said. 'Do you know anything about cars? I'm having a few problems with the steering and I think I may have a puncture. Could you take a look for me?'

'Yes, of course,' Frederick said, and through his mind went the simple formula: 'Changing a wheel is work. Work brings money. Money brings food.'

The front left-hand wheel was hissing like a snake. Frederick bent down and ran his hand over the tyre. 'You were lucky,' he said. 'This is a slow puncture. It could have been a lot worse.'

Then he pulled a large piece of glass <u>92</u> of the wheel and held it up. 'That's what caused the problem,' he said. 'You must have picked it up along the way.'

Frederick walked to the back of the car and opened up the boot. Then he took 93 the spare wheel, a tool kit, a jack and a pump. He took 94 his jacket, hung it up on one of the wing mirrors, jacked up the car, took 95 the flat tyre, put 96 the spare wheel which he then pumped up a little, and finally, having done all that, he put the old wheel, the tool kit, the jack and the pump back in the boot.

'You've been so kind,' the lady said.

Frederick nodded, smiled and held __97_ his hand.

'Now, can I give you a lift anywhere? I'm on my way to Birmingham, Would that be any good for you? Perhaps I can drop you off somewhere along the way.

Frederick's face dropped. He'd been expecting money or food and he felt a bit let down. But then it suddenly dawned __98_ him that the offer of a free ride in a Rolls Royce far away from Newtown might be quite a good idea.

'That's very kind of you,' he said, wiping his hands on a cloth and getting into the car. 'Birmingham would be just fine.'

• • • • • • • • • • • • •

CHAPTER SEVEN

Practice

The steering's fine now, 'the lady said, as the blue Rolls Royce sped __102_down the M1. 'I'm very grateful to you, Mr...er...'

'Carruthers, Frederick Carruthers.

'Now that name rings a bell,' the woman said. 'I'm sure I've come 103 it somewhere before. But I can't quite place it. And so, tell me, Mr Carruthers, what do you do?'

Frederick paused. He looked <u>104</u> of the window and waved his hand in a rather vague way. 'l... er... I'm in prisons,' he said.

'Well I never! Isn't that a coincidence!' the woman replied. 'So is my husband. Perhaps you've heard <u>105</u> him. His name is Sir Gerald Prescott.'

Frederick sank lower in his seat. 'Your husband?' he said, as a cold shiver ran 106 his spine. 'Your husband is Sir Gerald Prescott? The governor of Newtown Iail?'

'That's right!' the woman replied. 'Do you know him?'

'Er... not personally,' Frederick said. 'But I... em... know <u>107</u> him... He has quite a reputation in my field.'

'Does he? Does he indeed?' the driver said, with a soft and bitter laugh. 'Well, I'm sure it's a reputation for childish, incompetent stupidity! My husband has the intelligence of a pineapple and the imagination of a do-nut.'

Lady Prescott's voice grew louder as she warmed to her subject. 'Sir Gerald is the weakest, the stupidest, the meanest and the most selfish man to walk this earth.'

Frederick wanted to move on to another topic like the weather or the price of cauliflowers, but it was no good. Lady Prescott was getting carried away and there was just no stopping her now.

'Sir Gerald's nickname is Niagara because he keeps bursting <u>108</u> tears,' she screamed, like a dragon breathing fire. 'When I first met him he was a tiger, but he's turned <u>109</u> a kitten. He's a stubborn, ignorant jelly and he drives me <u>110</u> the wall.'

Frederick sat in a state of shock, trying to squeeze words through his frozen lips. But it was just no good. His mouth opened and closed like a demented goldfish. And although he did manage a few incoherent grunts, none of the sounds came out right. So – recognising defeat – he gave up trying to change the subject, sat __111_ and just watched the volcano erupt.

Frederick's mind was not at peace. Here he was sitting 112 a Rolls Royce driven by the wife of the governor of the prison he'd just escaped 113. He was mumbling, his stomach was rumbling, his confidence was crumbling, and Lady Prescott was grumbling.

'Perhaps I should have stayed in my cell,' he thought, as the driver put her foot down and the blue Rolls Royce roared __114__.

• • • • • • • • • • • • •

CHAPTER EIGHT

Practice

By the time they arrived at the outskirts of Birmingham, Lady Prescott had calmed __115_ a little and Frederick was feeling a bit more relaxed.

And, as we pick <u>116</u> the story again (at 1.23 p.m.), our two characters have started to get <u>117</u> surprisingly well...

The blue Rolls Royce slowed <u>118</u> and they drew <u>119</u> in front of a row of shabby terraced houses.

'Do you see number 42, the one with the pale green door?' Lady Prescott said. 'I was born there. And this little run-120 street on the edge of the city is where I grew 121. Whenever I feel 122, I come 123 here. This will always be my home. It's dirty and messy and some of the shops are boarded 124. But as far as I'm concerned, this is the best place in the world.' Lady Prescott put 125 the handbrake, took 126 her seat belt and

'That would be very kind of you,' Frederick replied. 'But I don't want to put you to any trouble.'

'It would be no trouble at all,' Lady Prescott said. 'In fact, you'd be doing me a favour. I've got a lot of things on my mind at the moment and I need someone to talk to. So I'd be very grateful if you came and walked with me.'

Lady Prescott locked the car and they set <u>129</u> across the market square on a tour of the town.

'Has it changed much over the years?' Frederick asked, as they came <u>130</u> the narrow stone bridge that crossed the canal.

No, not really, 'Lady Prescott replied. 'They've done <u>131</u> some of the houses...like these ones here... but most of the properties are falling <u>132</u> or falling <u>133</u>. Whenever there's an election, the politicians come <u>134</u> and knock <u>135</u> the door. They promise to pull <u>136</u> the terraced housing and build some new flats. But after the votes are counted, they never seem to get <u>137</u> to it. It's strange that, isn't it?

And – anyway – I'd be a bit sad if they knocked everything <u>138</u> and put <u>139</u> one of those ugly tower blocks. Perhaps it's better to keep it the way it is. I don't want them tearing <u>140</u> my childhood. They should leave my home alone.'

'You say this is your home,' Frederick said. 'But then why did you go 141?' Oh, that's simple,' Lady Prescott replied. 'I fell in love. Strange though it may seem, I left Birmingham to be with Gerald Prescott – the gutless, brainless, spineless fool who is now governor of Newtown Prison. You look a bit surprised, Mr Carruthers. Then perhaps I should explain.

There was a time when my husband was a bright, tender young man. It's only recently that he's turned <u>142</u> a workaholic who eats, drinks and sleeps prison life.

I met him when I was just eighteen. I was in my last term at school and Gerald was studying at the local technical college. He was absolutely broke and so he'd

taken a part-time job at a take-away restaurant called The Birmingham Big Burger Bar. The take-away was in Crawford Street. It was on my way home from school. One day, I went 143 to get some chips. Gerald was serving behind the counter. He smiled 144 me and I felt a cold shiver run 145 my spine.

After that, I went to the take-away every day. I wasn't hungry. I just wanted to see Gerald. Anyway, one afternoon he asked me <u>146</u> and we went for a walk in the park. We got <u>147</u> really well and I started seeing him all the time. He used to walk me <u>148</u> school in the morning and he'd come and pick me <u>149</u> when the classes were over. And then – all of a sudden – I fell <u>150</u> love with him. I don't know why. It just happened that way.

When my father found <u>151</u> what was going <u>152</u>, he went crazy. He didn't want his only daughter going <u>153</u> with someone who cooked hamburgers in a take-away. He told me that I had to stop seeing Gerald straightaway.

I had to make a choice. Should I obey my father and split <u>154</u> with the person I loved? Or should I defy my parents and go <u>155</u> seeing him? It didn't take me long to make <u>156</u> my mind! I knew that I couldn't give Gerald <u>157</u>. And so I had to work <u>158</u> some way of deceiving my parents.

The plan was simple. I pretended that I'd obeyed my father. I said that I'd broken <u>159</u> with Gerald. I cried for two or three days and went <u>160</u> ten packets of tissues. I stopped eating and slammed lots of doors. I put <u>161</u> a really good show. My parents were completely taken <u>162</u>.

But whenever my father's back was turned, I would slip <u>163</u> of the house and go and meet Gerald secretly, in the park or at the take-away. When I came home, I made <u>164</u> some story or other to explain where I'd been. "I was at a friend's house playing records" or "I was visiting a museum in the centre of the town".

My father seemed happy that I'd suddenly made lots of new friends who had money in their pockets and didn't cook burgers. But he didn't know what I was really **_165_** to...'

Lady Prescott suddenly broke <u>166</u> and – for the next minute or so – they walked <u>167</u> in silence. Frederick looked straight ahead. He said nothing. There was no need to talk. They crossed a main road and walked past a school. And then, as they turned <u>168</u> a narrow side street, Lady Prescott picked <u>169</u> the story again...

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CHAPTER NINE

Practice

On my last day at school, Gerald asked me to marry him. As you can imagine, I felt tremendously flattered. But I turned him <u>170</u>. I told him I was just too young to settle <u>171</u>. I needed more time to think things <u>172</u>. For the next few months we played a sort of game. He kept <u>173</u> proposing and I kept <u>174</u> saying "no".

But then one night – it was May 10th – everything changed. I told my father I was going to a poetry reading in the local Town Hall. In fact, I slipped __175_ of the side door and went to the cinema with Gerald. When the film was over, we caught the last bus home but – along the way – the bus broke __176_ and all the passengers had to get __177_ and walk.

It was four miles from the city centre <u>178</u> my house and by the time we got home, it was very late. Gerald saw me to the door, kissed me on the cheek and then said goodnight.

It was now two o'clock in the morning. I took <u>179</u> my key and let myself <u>180</u> as quietly as I could. My father was waiting for me in the hall. He normally went to bed at about eleven but – that night – he'd decided to stay <u>181</u> until I got <u>182</u>.

He was furious. He'd seen Gerald bringing me to the door and – at that moment – he'd realised what had been going <u>183</u> behind his back. I'd never seen my father so angry. I thought he was going to hit me! So, I ran past him and went straight up to bed.

The next morning at breakfast, we had a huge row. He shouted at me. I shouted at him. And it ended up with me packing a suitcase and storming 184 of the house. I went straight round to Gerald's flat and we decided to run 185. Can you imagine it? Me and Gerald running 186!

Anyway, to cut a long story short, we eloped to Newtown and got married in the local church. It was a very quiet wedding. Just me, Gerald, the vicar and a couple of witnesses. All very romantic!

As soon as the service was over, I rang up my parents to tell them what we'd done. My father was stunned and hurt. He lost his temper and slammed down the phone. For the next few months, we went <u>187</u> a really bad patch. I didn't go back to the house and whenever I rang home there were long pregnant pauses. It was all very awkward.

But then one day, Gerald went <u>188</u> to see my father. They had a long talk and – somehow – they sorted the whole thing <u>189</u>. I made it <u>190</u> with my parents, and since then, we've been very close.

And I suppose that now – looking back – I can appreciate what my mother and father were going <u>191</u>. I was their only daughter and they didn't think my husband was good enough for me. After all, when Gerald was younger, he wasn't exactly rolling in money. He was so hard <u>192</u> that he'd use the same tea bag for a week. He owned three socks and they all had holes in them. His shirt sleeves were frayed and his trousers were held <u>193</u> with string.'

Lady Prescott sighed and smiled. A single tear ran down her cheek. 'Ah, those were happy days,' she said.

Lady Prescott broke off and – once again – they walked on in silence. It was now mid-afternoon and the streets were empty. There was a stillness in

the cool summer air, as if the world had paused for thought. No birds sang. No cows mooed. No ducks quacked. No sheep based. No dogs woofed. No cats miaowed. In fact, on that bright, soft, tranquil day there was only one sound to be heard – the low, continuous rumbling of Frederick's empty stomach, for twenty-four hours starved of food.

They walked down a couple of alleyways and then, as they turned 194 the main road, they came upon a postman riding a bicycle. The bicycle was very old and it had no springs. And so as he rode across the cobblestones, he seemed to be nodding his head and shaking his head all at the same time.

Lady Prescott was talking again: 'Do you know where we are, Mr Carruthers? This is Crawford Street. And at the end of this row of shops, there's The Birmingham Big Burger Bar – where I met Gerald all those years ago. Look, I don't know about you, but I'm starving. Why don't we pop in there and have a late lunch? They serve the best beefburgers in town!'

Frederick seemed a little agitated. 'I could do with a meal too,' he said. 'But I'm afraid I don't have a penny <u>195</u> me. You see, I went out in rather a hurry last night.'

Lady Prescott smiled. 'But you must be my guest, Mr Carruthers. You've gone out of your way to help me and you've put __196_ with all my complaints about Sir Gerald. Paying __197_ lunch will be my way of paying you back for all your kindness. Come __198_, I insist. I've had a long and difficult day. I'm tired __199_ and very worked __200_ about my husband. I need a good meal to calm me down and I don't want to eat alone.'

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CHAPTER TEN

Practice

Lady Prescott was right about the food. It was definitely the best burger that Frederick had ever tasted. But that was hardly surprising. He was so hungry that he could have eaten the serviettes and the cheap blue plastic tray.

Lady Prescott looked <u>201</u> her watch. 'It's three o'clock,' she said. 'I've been rabbiting <u>202</u> about my problems for over an hour now. Look, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to burden you. It's just that after my bust-up with Sir Gerald, I suppose I needed someone to talk to.'

She paused. There was something on her mind.

'Mr Carruthers, I want to ask you a question,' she began, her voice now somewhat colder than before. 'When I drove into that lay-by, you were standing 203 with your hands in your pockets looking like a down-and-out. But you have an honest, kindly face and you're obviously an intelligent man. So how did you end 204 like that? There must be something wrong. And I think it's time for you to tell me the truth. Why were you wandering 205 near the motorway with no money in your pocket and those very strange clothes?'

Frederick said nothing. He looked down at the table and stirred his coffee with a spoon. He didn't know what to do. He wanted to explain things, but he wasn't sure whether he could trust Lady Prescott. After all, she was the wife of the governor of the prison he'd just escaped from. If she found 206 that he was a convict on the run, perhaps she'd turn him 207. And then he might end up in cell 269 again.

Frederick looked up. 'You're right of course,' he said, breaking the silence. 'It is strange that I should be drifting <u>208</u> with nowhere to go. And yes, I am in trouble. But if I told you what I've gone through in the past few months, you might get angry. And that would make things worse.'

Lady Prescott finished 209 her French fries and smiled.

Frederick sighed. 'Perhaps you're right,' he said. 'And, after all, what have I got to lose? Well, the truth is that up until two years ago, I was leading a very simple and predictable life. I had a steady job, a beautiful home and a loving family. Then, all of a sudden, something happened that changed everything. My whole world just fell apart.'

Frederick broke off. He seemed a little uneasy.

'Go on,' Lady Prescott said gently.

'Well, it's a very long story, Frederick replied. 'And I don't really know where to begin.'

'Try the beginning,' said Lady Prescott, putting a straw into her milkshake. 'I'm in no hurry. I'm going to drink this very, very slowly.'

Frederick took a deep breath and picked up the story again. 'My mother is a nurse in a small hospital,' he said. 'She looks <u>212</u> sick children. She's a wonderful, extraordinary woman and she works incredibly hard.

One day, I drove down to the hospital to pick my mother up after work. We

were going out to dinner. I parked the car and, as I was walking <u>213</u> one of the wards, I could hear a child crying very softly. I looked <u>214</u> and saw a little boy. He must have been about eight or nine. He was so ill that he couldn't sit <u>215</u> in bed properly. He had to lie against pillows all day long. It was terrible. He was pale, lifeless, too weak to move.

The next day, I rang up the manager of the hospital and asked about the little boy. She told me that all the children in that ward had problems with their kidneys.

"And is there nothing you can do?" I asked.

"I'm afraid not," she said. "What we really need is half a dozen kidney machines. Then the children would be able to get __216__ of bed and walk __217__ the ward. But, unfortunately, the hospital is very short of money. We're so hard __218__ that we can't afford to buy one machine, let alone six. So, I'm afraid the children will just have to suffer."

When I put down the phone, I felt terribly disturbed. It was so sad, so shocking, so unfair. I decided that I had to find a way to help the children. I couldn't stand by and do nothing.

At first, I couldn't think what to do. But then – all of a sudden – I came <u>219</u> with an idea. I was a bank manager and a lot of money passed <u>220</u> my hands. During a normal working day, I would write out ten, maybe twelve, official cheques for different things – stationery, coffee, furniture, stamps, and so on. I'd worked at the bank for thirty years, so everybody knew me. And nobody ever checked <u>221</u> on what I was doing. I suppose I had an honest face and they just trusted me!

One afternoon – it was a Wednesday – I called my secretary into the office and told her to cancel my appointments. When she'd left the room, I took the phone off the hook and drew the curtains. Then I took the official cheque book out of the safe and wrote a cheque to myself!

Pay Mr F. Carruthers, £100.00 only Signed Frederick Carruthers.

It was breathtakingly, outrageously simple. A bank manager stealing money from his own bank!

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CHAPTER ELEVEN

Practice

At the age of forty-five, I was about to commit my first crime. I looked <u>222</u> the cheque. My head was spinning. This was robbery. Was I doing the right thing? Could I get away with it? Should I just tear <u>223</u> the cheque and throw it away? Perhaps I should forget about the whole thing.

But then I thought <u>224</u> the children in the hospital. They needed the money more than the bank. I was stealing it for them.

So, I took a deep breath, folded the cheque <u>225</u> and put it into my pocket. I left the office and took a taxi to another branch of the bank. I knew one of the cashiers there. We chatted for a while. And then, with my heart pounding, I paid the cheque into my current account. Three days later, the payment cleared. I had stolen my first £100.

The following week, I did the whole thing again. Another cheque. The same branch. The same cashier. The same fear. The same excitement when the money was cleared into my account.

And so it went <u>226</u>. Week after week, I stole money from the bank and each cheque was a little bigger than the last.

You've no idea how I felt. I was risking everything I had – my career, my family life, my reputation. But nothing was going to stop me now. The image of the little boy crying on his pillow haunted me. I couldn't get it out of my mind. And I had to do something to help.

I think the next few weeks were the most exciting of my life. In some strange way, I'd suddenly come alive. I was sharp, human, burning with anger. And I suppose I got a bit carried away.

I was soon writing cheques for five and ten thousand pounds. It was crazy. Sometimes, the cashier seemed a bit suspicious. She couldn't work <u>227</u> what the payments were for. But – each week – I made <u>228</u> some new story to explain the cheques away. And she fell for it every time. I suppose it never occurred to her that Frederick Carruthers – her punctual, conscientious friend – could have turned into a common thief, an embezzler, a liar, a man obsessed. By that summer, I'd managed to save <u>229</u>, a quarter of a million pounds.

One morning, I didn't go into work. I walked into the hospital and wrote out a cheque for every penny I had. The manager went straight out and bought six new kidney machines.

A few days later, we had a small ceremony in the ward. It was a bit like launching a ship, or opening a bridge! I unwrapped the machines, plugged them in and switched them <u>230</u>. And then, as the lights flashed, the children gave me a round of applause that seemed to go on forever. I felt very proud. It was the best moment of my life.

But then - inevitably, I suppose - my luck failed.

Someone at Head Office became suspicious. How could a branch manager afford to donate £250,000 to a hospital?

The Head of Finance went to the central computer and started going <u>231</u> my account. She noticed that I'd been building up large amounts of cash. But how could I save <u>232</u> so much money on the salary I earned? She smelt a rat and, when she looked into the strange dealings on the branch account, she knew that something was wrong.



Anyway, it wasn't long before she'd put two and two together and worked 233 what I'd been 234 to. She tipped 235 the police and, when I turned up for work the next morning, there were three detectives waiting in my office. They took me down to the police station and that was it. I was charged with theft and my world just fell 236. The trial was fixed for December 18th just one week before Christmas!

Two days before I was due in court, a director of the bank came to see me. He came straight to the point. He offered me a deal. He said they would drop all the charges if I paid the money back.

"But how can I do that?" I asked. "The hospital have spent it all."

"That's simple," the man said. "Tell the hospital that you've changed your mind. Tell them it was a mistake. Just tell them to send the machines back."

"But what about the children?" I said.

The man shrugged his shoulders. "Our bank is a business, Mr Carruthers. It's not a charity. And if you don't get our money back, you'll end up in jail. It's as simple as that. It's up to you. But you can't have it both ways."

He stood up. "We're going to give you twenty-four hours to think it 237," he said. "You don't have to decide right away. You can sleep on it. I'll come back tomorrow and you can tell me what you've decided. But just remember one thing, Mr Carruthers. You can't rip the bank 238 and expect to get away with it. Life's not like that. And we will hunt you down until we get every penny of our money back. I trust I've made myself clear. Good afternoon."

That night, I lay awake in my cell and thought the whole thing **239**. Was I being stupid? Should I save my own skin? Was it all worth fighting for? I went over it again and again.

The man from the bank came back the next day. He walked into my cell with a stupid smirk on his face. He was so sure of himself. So confident. He thought I was going to give in without a fight. He sat down and grinned _______ me. And at that moment, I noticed he had false teeth.

"So, Mr Carruthers," he began. "I trust that you've come to your senses. I've prepared this letter for you to sign. It instructs the hospital to send the items in question back to the factory and..."

I held 241 my hand and the man from the bank stopped talking.

"You can save your breath," I said. "Put the letter away. I've got no intention of signing it. I've decided to go **_242_** with the trial. I can't let the children down. I promised them six kidney machines and I'm not going back on my word."

The man from the bank gaped at me and his false teeth fell out. They crashed noisily onto the floor and rolled under my bed. I bent down, picked them **243** and handed them back to him.

"I believe these are yours," I said. You should have seen his face!

And so the trial went ahead. I pleaded guilty, the judge sentenced me to three years in jail and that's how I ended <u>244</u> in...' Frederick paused and took a deep breath, '...in Newtown Prison... from where I escaped at eleven o'clock last night.'

Lady Prescott blinked twice. She didn't seem at all shocked or upset by the fact that Frederick was a convict on the run from her husband's jail. In fact, her one and only concern was for the children in the ward.

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CHAPTER TWELVE

Practice

There's one thing I don't understand,' Lady Prescott said. 'Why didn't you tell the court what you did with the money? Then they would have seen things in a different light. They would have reduced your sentence. They might even have let you off.'

'I thought of that,' Frederick replied. 'But then the judge would have ordered the hospital to sell the machines and pay the money back. And that was the last thing I wanted. I may have got <u>245</u> of going to prison, but what would have happened to the children? I couldn't take that risk.'

A silence fell between them. Frederick was staring deep into his coffee. Telling the story of the kidney machines had brought back some painful memories. And he suddenly felt very down.

'How could a good man end up like this?' Lady Prescott thought. 'He's falling **247**. I must help him. I can't just stand by and do nothing.'

And with that, she suddenly stood <u>248</u> and picked <u>149</u> her bag. 'Would you excuse me, Mr Carruthers?' she said. 'I have a couple of calls to make.'

Lady Prescott walked over to the pay-phone in the corner of the room. She took a yellow diary out of the bag and looked up a number. Then she picked **250** the receiver, put some coins into the slot and started dialling.

Frederick turned his face and looked <u>251</u> at Crawford Street. There were now lots of people about. It was half past three and the local school had just broken <u>252</u> for the day. A young girl came in and ordered some chips.

Lady Prescott finished her first call and put down the phone. Then she turned <u>253</u> and looked across at Frederick. He was miles away, staring out of the window. She picked <u>254</u> the phone again and dialled a second number.

A few minutes later, she was <u>255</u>. 'Is that Newtown Prison?' she whispered. 'This is Lady Prescott. I want to speak to my husband.'

Lady Prescott came <u>256</u> to the table and sat down. 'I made a call to a friend of mine, Mr Carruthers. She'd like to meet you. I said we'd be in her office just after five. So why don't you drink <u>257</u> your coffee and eat <u>258</u> your cheeseburger and finish <u>259</u> the French fries and then we can set off.'

'But where are we going?' Frederick said. 'And who is your friend?'
'For the moment, that must remain a secret,' Lady Prescott replied. 'But she's an important woman and I think she can help you. Oh, and do cheer <u>260</u>, Mr Carruthers. You mustn't worry so much. It'll all work <u>261</u> in the end.'

Frederick drank <u>262</u> his coffee, ate <u>263</u> his cheeseburger, finished <u>264</u> his French fries and then stood up.

They walked back to the car – along Crawford Street, down a couple of side alleys, over the stone bridge that crossed the canal. And a few minutes later,

blue Rolls Royce was on the road again.

Frederick was exhausted. The last twenty-four hours were beginning to catch up with him. And as the car sped <u>265</u> down the motorway, he closed his eyes and gently nodded <u>266</u>, falling ever deeper into sleep.

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A couple of hours later, Frederick felt someone tapping on his shoulder. 'Come along, Mr Carruthers,' Lady Prescott said. 'Wake up. We're nearly there.'

Frederick woke <u>267</u> with a start. And at first he thought he was still dreaming. Because there – right ahead of them – was a vast glass and metal building that he knew all too well. But this was no dream. And their car was heading straight for the main entrance.

'Where are you taking me?' Frederick shouted. 'This is the Head Office of my old bank. You've set me <u>268</u>, haven't you? You're going to turn me in! I should never have trusted you. Stop the car right now! Let me <u>269</u>!'

Frederick took <u>270</u> his seat belt and tried to get out of the car. But Lady Prescott turned round and dragged him back inside.

For goodness sake, calm down, Mr Carruthers,' she said. 'I haven't set you **_271**_ and I'm not going to turn you in. And don't get so worked **_272**. You're as bad as my husband. Now, just listen to me. When we were in the take-away, I rang up your Head Office and fixed up an appointment with Karen Blackstone. She's a good friend of mine. We went to school together.'

'Karen Blackstone?' Frederick said. 'But she's the Managing Director of the bank.'

'Exactly, Mr Carruthers. And we're on our way to her office. She's going to give you a new job.'

'You must be joking,' said Frederick. 'The bank would never dream of taking me on again. I've got a criminal record for stealing their money.'

'Well, just you wait and see,' Lady Prescott replied. 'I think you're in for a surprise.'

The blue Rolls Royce pulled <u>273</u> in front of a huge skyscraper that seemed to pierce the clouds. They got out of the car and walked through into the main lobby. Then they made their way to the Managing Director's penthouse suite. As the lift rose smoothly to the eighty-ninth floor, Frederick broke out into a cold sweat.

A thousand thoughts were running **__274_** his mind. Could he really trust Lady Prescott? Was he walking into a trap? Would the police be there to arrest him again? And what would Karen Blackstone make **__275_** his clothes? He stared at himself in the mirror. He wasn't exactly dressed **__276_** for the occasion. In the past twenty-four hours, he'd crawled **__277_** mud, swum **___278_** lakes, climbed **__279_** trees, jumped onto trains, rolled down hills and put a spare wheel onto the blue Rolls Royce. And now, after all that, he looked like a scarecrow in a thunderstorm. The stains on his shirt and his crumpled prison trousers didn't quite fit in with the thick-pile carpet and the soft leather chairs.

When the lift doors opened, they were met by a tall, angular secretary who took one look at Frederick's bedraggled appearance and gave a shrill sniff of disapproval. The woman showed them into the Managing Director's office and sniffed again. Then she turned and closed the door behind her.

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CHAPTER THIRTEEN

Practice

With the introductions over, Karen Blackstone sat down and picked <u>280</u> a pencil.

'Right, let's get down to business,' she said. 'I've been going <u>281</u> your file, Mr Carruthers. As far as I can see, you were a model employee – punctual, industrious, conscientious, loyal. Then came the incident with the kidney machines and you threw away thirty years of hard work. But there are two things in your favour. You know the bank inside out and you're obviously committed to charity work. And that makes you just the person we're looking for.'

'What do you mean?' asked Frederick. 'I don't understand.'

'Then let me explain,' Karen Blackstone said. 'Over the past few months, the bank has run into some problems. For some reason, we've been losing a lot of business. It's a worrying trend. And so – last week ~ we carried out a survey to find out what's wrong. We discovered, Mr Carruthers, that the bank is not universally loved. It seems that because we don't sponsor operas or football teams or dog shows, people think we're mean. The public sees us as selfish, ruthless and greedy. To put it bluntly, our image puts people 282

But this can't go <u>283</u>. And so something has to change. I want the bank to come across in a more human, caring way. I want people to look on us as a friend, not as an enemy. I want people to come to us with their problems...'

'... and with their cash!' Frederick said.

Karen Blackstone carried <u>284</u> talking, ignoring that last remark. 'Now, when I heard the story of you and the kidney machines, it set me thinking. We make a solid return on our capital. And it wouldn't do us any harm to give <u>285</u> some of those profits to worthy causes in the community... hospitals, voluntary groups, youth clubs, and so on.

Just think of it, Mr Carruthers. Just think of all the good we could do!'

'And just think of it, Mrs Blackstone,' Frederick said. 'Just think of all that tax-deductible, cheap publicity.'

The Managing Director smiled and then picked **286** her theme again.

'And this is where you come in, Mr Carruthers. I'd like you to come back to the bank and set the whole thing <u>287</u>. I'm offering you a new job – Head of Charity Donations.'

'And if I was to take up this new challenge,' Frederick said, 'you'd expect me to keep quiet about the events of two years ago. You wouldn't want me to reveal how I showed **288** the flaws in your security system. In other words, you want to buy my silence.'

Karen Blackstone was drumming her pencil on the table. 'Let's be practical, Mr Carruthers. Not every convict can leave prison and walk straight back into a job. It's very simple. I need you and you need me. It's a case of you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours. I think we understand each other perfectly!'

And so a deal was struck. Frederick got a new job. And Karen Blackstone got a promise that the Head of Charity Donations would never let **_289** how to rip **_290** the bank.

'You'll have your new contract in the morning,' Karen Blackstone said. 'But where shall I send the papers to?'

The question hung in the air like a vulture. It suddenly dawned on Frederick that he couldn't take <u>291</u> a new job until he'd served <u>292</u> his term in jail. And he just didn't know what to say.

Lady Prescott leaned forward. 'If I could just butt in here,' she said. 'I think I've sorted _293_ that problem too. I made two phone calls from the take-away, Mr Carruthers. The first was to Karen, as you know. The second was to my husband. And you'll be leaving prison much sooner than you think.'

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It was now 5.35 and the blue Rolls Royce was coming home.

'Could you tell me what's going <u>294</u>?' Frederick said. 'I'm getting a bit confused.'

'Well, it's all quite simple,' Lady Prescott replied. 'I'm going back to my husband. We had a long talk on the phone and we sorted a few things 295...'

'But where does that leave me?' Frederick asked. 'Are you going to turn me in?'

'Not exactly.' Lady Prescott smiled. 'I'm going to smuggle you back into the prison and then the governor's going to let you <u>296</u>.'

Frederick seemed a bit confused. 'I'm not with you,' he said.

Lady Prescott took a deep breath. 'Gerald tells me that you've served two thirds of your sentence. And since you've been a model prisoner, you're now due for parole. There was no need for you to run off like that. They were going to let you 297 anyway.'

Frederick was getting lost again.

'Let me put it another way,' Lady Prescott said. 'If you'd stayed in, instead of breaking **298**, the governor would have let you off the last twelve months of your sentence and let you **299** one year early!'

Frederick's eyebrows collided with each other. The demented goldfish had returned.

Lady Prescott pulled in and stopped the car. 'We'll be there in a few minutes,' she said. 'I've taken a blanket out of the boot. I think it's time for you to hide.'

Frederick had given up trying to work <u>300</u> what was going <u>301</u>. So, rather sulkily, he climbed over onto the back seat and covered himself up. A few moments later, the blue Rolls Royce moved <u>302</u> again and headed for Newtown.

By the time they arrived at the prison gates, night was falling. Lady Prescott slowed down and stopped the car. Then she wound down her window and leaned <u>303</u>.

73

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

Practice

'Good evening, Mr Thomas,' she said. 'And how are you tonight?'

The guard smiled. 'I'm fine thanks, Ma'am. We're very glad to see you again.' He saluted, pressed a button and waved the car through.

The huge iron gates swung open and Lady Prescott drove through into the main prison square. Then she turned down a dimly-lit alley, where she slowed down and parked the car.

She flashed her headlights and Angus – for some reason wearing a false moustache and a pair of dark glasses – came <u>304</u> from behind a large grey dustbin and waved.

Lady Prescott got out of the car and looked <u>305</u>. There was no one else about. 'You can come out now, Mr Carruthers,' she whispered. 'The coast is clear. And Mr Macpherson is waiting for you.'

Frederick slipped 306 of the car and ran down the alley.

'Welcome back, Sir,' Angus said. 'I'm so glad to see you again. I thought I was going to lose my job when you disappeared. I shouldn't have nodded 307, you see. It was all my fault.'

Frederick smiled and they slipped <u>308</u> a side gate into the main wing of the prison. Angus took the keys off his belt and unlocked cell 269. Then he pushed open the door and stepped back.

'After you, Mr Carruthers,' he said. 'After you.'

Frederick walked into the cell and sat down. 'It feels so strange to be back here,' he said. 'Six hours ago, I was in The Birmingham Big Burger Bar eating a cheeseburger and French fries. Three hours later, I was in the Head Office of the bank. And now I'm here in the darkness of a prison cell. It's been quite a day, Angus. I'll be glad when this whole thing is over and I can get back to my old routine.'

Lady Prescott in the meantime had climbed the steps to the governor's office. Sir Gerald was waiting nervously by the door.

He'd obviously dressed <u>309</u> for the occasion, combing his hair, polishing his shoes and putting <u>310</u> the spotted pink tie that Lady Prescott had given him on their silver wedding anniversary.

History does not record what issues of domestic importance were discussed that evening in the Prescott household. But there is a rumour that the next morning Sir Gerald went out and bought a new pair of rubber washing—311_gloves and a book called *How to Flatten Your Stomach and Lose Your Double Chin*.

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That weekend the governor brought the parole forms down to Frederick's cell.

'I owe you a great deal, Mr Carruthers,' he said. 'Your escape was a blessing in disguise. The events of the last twenty-four hours have taught me a lot. I've come to appreciate just how good my life is. Oh, and by the way, my wife has told me all about the kidney machines and the children in the ward. I think you were very brave. I rang up the Home Office last night and we've fixed _312_your parole. We're going to give you twelve months off for good behaviour!

That means we'll be letting you 313 on Monday.

Now, there's just one more thing that we have to sort out. The other prisoners don't know that you escaped. Angus and I hushed the whole thing 314. So, if anyone asks you where you've been for the past twenty-four hours, just say that we thought you'd gone down with German measles. We took you up to the hospital wing and called in a doctor, but it turned 315 that you had a rash, or an allergy or something, which cleared 316 overnight. You can make 317 any story you like. But don't let on that you managed to break 318. Otherwise Angus and I will be out of a job.

Frederick began to laugh. Your secret is safe with me. Governor,' he said. 'And anyway, if anyone found <u>319</u> that I ran <u>320</u>, I couldn't get parole. So it's in my interests to hush everything <u>321</u> too!'

* * * * * * * * *

Dawn broke over Newtown Prison. It was Monday and Frederick Carruthers was going home. Sir Gerald, Lady Prescott and Angus stood by the front gates to see him off. They shook hands and talked for a few minutes. Then the huge iron gates swung open and Frederick walked out onto the street.

It was a strange feeling to be truly free again – like having a canvas and a brush and not knowing what to paint. But Frederick was looking forward to doing the simple things again – walking the dogs after Sunday lunch, browsing in bookshops, fishing in the canal.

The family were there to meet him. They'd stood by him through all the ups and downs of the past two years. And, now, there was so much to say, so much to do. So much lost time to make up __322_.

• • • • • • • • • •

A few days later, a table was reserved at the best Italian restaurant in Newtown. And that night, the Carruthers family, Angus Macpherson and Sir Gerald and Lady Prescott dined out in style.

There was only one topic of conversation — but that's often the way at the best parties. Frederick told the story of the night of his escape – how he had swum __323__ a river, crawled __324__ a field of turnips and jumped on and __325__ trains. Angus described how he'd broken out into a cold sweat when he'd woken __326__ and found __327__ that Frederick had managed to break __328__ and run __329__ . Sir Gerald explained how they'd made __330__ a story that Frederick had gone down with a particularly contagious form of German measles in an attempt to hush __331__ news of the breakout. And Lady Prescott recounted the story of driving into a lay-by and coming __332__ a shabby downand-out with such a kindly, honest face.

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CHAPTER FIFTEEN

Practice

At 10.30, just after the fourth course, but some time before the fifth, Angus looked 333 his watch and sighed.

'I'll have to go now,' he said. 'I'm on duty in half an hour.'

He stood <u>334</u> and said goodbye to Mrs Carruthers, the children, Sir Gerald and Lady Prescott. Then he turned and thanked Frederick for the meal.

'Thank you, Angus,' Frederick replied. 'None of this would have been possible if you hadn't let me escape. You've changed my life. I owe you a lot.'

Angus blushed a deep shade of red and looked down at the floor. 'All's well that ends well,' he said, doing <u>335</u> his coat. Frederick smiled and patted him on the shoulder.

Angus left the restaurant and walked back along the peaceful streets of Newtown. When he came to the prison gates, he knocked on the front door and the night guard let him in. Angus clocked on, put on his uniform, and then went through the corridors checking the cells and turning off the lights.

Everything was in order. The prisoners had settled down for the night and the jail was locked and still.

Angus yawned and sat down on a small wooden bench. He was tired. And now ~ as the clock struck eleven – the French fries, the Welsh rabbit made with blue cheese, the Scotch egg covered with French dressing, the steak (well done) and the three platefuls of spaghetti bolognese he'd enjoyed at dinner were pulling him towards the deepest of deep sleeps.

'I'll just have a little nap,' he thought to himself. 'I'm sure nobody will mind if I nod off for a while.'

He stretched out, took off his belt and dropped it onto the floor.

A few minutes later, the stone corridors echoed to Angus Macpherson's unmistakable snores.

Meanwhile, in the darkness of cell 269, Angela Richardson, (an athlete who had run off with the membership fees of her local sports club) was planning her escape.

But that - as they say - is another story...



Vocabulary Exercises

Exercise 1

- 1 belt
- 2 floor
- 3 keys
- 4 door
- 5 yard
- 6 wall
- 7 breakfast
- 8 cell
- 9 breath
- 10 bars

Exercise 2

- 1 off
- 2 over
- 3 to
- 4 off
- 5 out
- 6 across
- 7 over
- 8 around
- 9 about
- 10 up

Exercise 3

- 1 belt
- 2 desk
- 3 cell
- 4 minutes
- 5 keys
- 6 door
- 7 Times
- 8 tears
- 9 handkerchief
- 10 lunchbreak

Exercise 4

- 1 for
- 2 at
- 3 with
- 4 out
- 5 away
- 6 off
- 7 up
- 8 out
- 9 to
- 10 off

Exercise 5

- 1 coat
- 2 prisoners
- 3 tears 4 nonsense
- 5 marriage
- 6 coat
- 7 breakdown
- 8 door
- 9 pounds
- 10 patience

Exercise 6

- 1 off
- 2 up
- 3 away 4 into
- **5** of
- 6 with
- 7 up
- 8 on
- 9 about

10 out

Exercise 7

- 1 tears
- 2 weight
- 3 jogging
- 4 smoking
- 5 dinner
- 6 chair
- 7 room
- 8 tie
- 9 women
- 10 handkerchief

Exercise 8

- 1 on
- 2 out
- 3 away
- 4 round
- 5 over
- **6** out
- 7 after
- 8 down
- 9 up
- 10 out

Exercise 9 (Revision)

- 1 Angus
- 2 Angus
- 3 Sir Gerald
- 4 Angus
- 5 Angus (Chapter Two). Sir Gerald (Chapter Four)
- 6 Frederick
- 7 Sir Gerald
- 8 Sir Gerald
- 9 Lady Prescott
- 10 Lady Prescott 11 Sir Gerald
- 12 Lady Prescott 13 Lady Prescott
- 14 Sir Gerald
- 15 Frederick
- 16 Frederick
- 17 Frederick 18 Frederick
- 19 Frederick
- 20 Lady Prescott

Exercise 10

- 1 window
- 2 tyre
- 3 glass
- 4 jacket
- 5 hand
- 6 cloth
- 7 seat belt
- 8 handbrake
- 9 mirror
- 10 lay-by

Exercise 11

- 1 over
- 2 out
- **3** up
- 4 out
- 5 off
- **6** on
- **7** in
- 8 on
- 9 off
- 10 onto

Exercise 12

- 1 name
- 2 spine
- 3 reputation
- 4 kitten
- 5 wall
- 6 sounds

- 7 subject
- 8 volcano
- 9 Rolls Royce .
- 10 prison

Exercise 13

- 1 to
- 2 across
- 3 of
- 4 for
- 5 in
- 6 through
- **7** out
- 8 up
- 9 back
- 10 on

Exercise 14

- 1 street
- 2 handbrake
- 3 seat belt 4 houses
- 5 childhood
- 6 workaholic
- 7 spine
- 8 love
- 9 mind
- 10 Gerald

Exercise 15

- 1 at
- 2 on
- **3** up
- 4 around
- **5** up
- 6 round
- 7 out
- 8 out
- 9 on
- 10 out

Exercise 16

- 1 proposing
- 2 key
- 3 back
- 4 phone
- 5 money
- 6 cheek
- 7 penny
- 8 way
- 9 complaints
- 10 husband





Exercise 17

- 1 at
- 2 through
- 3 on
- 4 to
- 5 out
- **6** on
- 7 at
- 8 to
- 9 out
- 10 with

Exercise 18 (Revision)

- 1 Frederick
- 2 Frederick
- 3 Lady Prescott
- 4 Lady Prescott
- 5 Frederick
- 6 Lady Prescott
- 7 Lady Prescott
- 8 Lady Prescott
- 9 Lady Prescott
- 10 Lady Prescott
- 11 Sir Gerald
- 12 Sir Gerald
- 13 Lady Prescott
- 14 Lady Prescott
- 15 Lady Prescott's father
- 16 Lady Prescott
- 17 Sir Gerald and Lady Prescott
- 18 Lady Prescott's father
- 19 Lady Prescott
- 20 Frederick

Exercise 19

- 1 cheque
- 2 payments
- 3 story
- 4 account
- 5 police
- 6 office
- 7 iail
- 8 bank
- 9 hand
- 10 trial

Exercise 20

- 1 to
- 2 in
- 3 through
- 4 for
- 5 of
- **6** in

- 7 for
- 8 of
- 9 with
- 10 up

Exercise 21

- 1 prison
- 2 diary
- 3 number
- 4 people 5 hours
- 6 start
- 7 surprise
- 8 mind
- 9 clothes
- 10 office

Exercise 22

- 1 off
- 2 of
- 3 with 4 apart
- 5 up
- 6 out
- 7 up
- 8 to
- 9 for
- 10 of

Exercise 23

- 1 pencil
- 2 file
- 3 survey
- 4 image
- 5 friend
- 6 profits
- 7 Frederick
- 8 job
- 9 jail
- 10 problem

Exercise 24

- 1 through
- 2 out
- 3 out
- 4 as
- **5** off
- 6 to
- 7 out
- 8 up
- 9 out
- 10 on





Exercise 25

- 1 coast
- 2 belt
- 3 life
- 4 behaviour
- 5 rash
- 6 parole
- 7 river
- 8 trains
- 9 Frederick
- 10 breakout

Exercise 26

- 1 off
- 2 on
- 3 out
- 4 out
- 5 away
- **6** up
- **7** out
- **8** of
- 9 across
- 10 on

Exercise 27 (Revision)

- 1 Frederick
- 2 Lady Prescott
- 3 Frederick
- 4 Frederick
- 5 Frederick
- 6 Karen Blackstone
- 7 Frederick
- 8 Frederick
- 9 Lady Prescott
- 10 Frederick
- 11 Angus
- 12 Angus
- 13 Frederick (Chapter Fourteen), Angus (Chapter Fifteen)
- 14 Sir Gerald
- 15 Angus
- 16 Angus
- 17 Angus
- 18 Angus
- 19 Angus
- 20 Angus

Cloze Test

Chapter One

- 1 off
- 2 out
- 3 over
- 4 off 5 onto
- 6 off
- 7 out
- a out
- 8 across
- 9 over
- 10 on
- 11 around
- 12 about
- 13 out
- 14 up

Chapter Two

- 15 up
- 16 for
- 17 out
- 18 up
- 19 at
- **20** in
- **21** in
- 22 down
- 23 through
- 24 out
- **25** off
- 26 off 27 up
- 28 up
- 29 into
- 30 off
- 30 OII
- 31 off
- **32** for
- 33 up
- **34** for
- **35** out

Chapter Three

- 36 off
- **37** up
- 38 into
- 39 on
- 40 with
- 41 away
- **42** down
- 42 down
- 44 down
- 45 after
- 45 arter
- **46** down



48 over 96 on **49** into 97 out **50** up **98** on 99 on 51 away 100 out 52 down 53 about 101 onto 54 after **55** over **Chapter Seven 56** into 102 on 57 out 103 across 104 out **Chapter Four** 105 of **58** into 106 down **59** on 107 of **60** up 108 into 109 into 61 off **62** up 110 up 111 back **63** up 64 round 112 in **65** at 113 from 114 on **66** over **67** out 68 up **Chapter Eight 69** up 115 down 70 away 116 up 71 down . 117 on 72 down 118 down **73** into 119 up **74** up 120 down **75** out 121 up **76** into 122 down 123 back **Chapter Five** 124 up **77** out 125 on **78** out 126 off 79 across 127 out 80 through 128 around 81 through 129 off 130 over 82 across 83 off 131 up 84 off 132 down 133 apart 85 through 86 through 134 round 87 through 135 on **88** out 136 down 137 round 89 on 90 through 138 down 139 up 140 down **Chapter Six** 141 away 91 across 142 into 92 out 143 in 93 out 144 at 94 off

95 off

.....

145 down



146 out 147 on 148 to 149 up 150 in 151 out 152 on 153 out 154 up 155 on 156 up 157 up 158 out 159 up 160 through 161 on 162 in 163 out 164 up 165 up 166 off 167 on 168 down 169 up

Chapter Nine

170 down 171 down 172 through 173 on 174 on 175 out 176 down 177 off 178 to 179 out 180 in 181 up 182 in 183 on 184 out 185 away 186 away 187 through 188 round

189 out 190 up 191 through 192 up 193 up 194 into 195 on 196 up 197 for 198 on

199 out 200 up **Chapter Ten** 201 at 202 on 203 around **204** up 205 around 206 out 207 in 208 around 209 off 210 up 211 off 212 after 213 through 214 across 215 up 216 out 217 around 218 up 219 up

Chapter Eleven

220 through 221 up

222 at 223 up 224 about **225** up 226 on 227 out 228 up 229 up 230 on 231 through 232 up 233 out 234 up 235 off 236 apart 237 over 238 off 239 through 240 at 241 up 242 through 243 up 244 up

Chapter Twelve

245 out 246 off





247 apart 248 up 249 up 250 up 251 out 252 up **253** round 254 up 255 through 256 back 257 up 258 up 259 off 260 up 261 out 262 up 263 up 264 off 265 on 266 off **267** up 268 up 269 out 270 off 271 up 272 up 273 up 274 through **275** of 276 up 277 through 278 across 279 up

Chapter Thirteen

280 up 281 through 282 off 283 on 284 on 285 away 286 up 287 up **288** up 289 on 290 off **291** up 292 out 293 out 294 on 295 out 296 out 297 out 298 out 299 out

300 out 301 on 302 off 303 across

Chapter Fourteen

304 out 305 around 306 out 307 off 308 through **309** up 310 on 311 up 312 up 313 out **314** up 315 out 316 up 317 up 318 out 319 out 320 away 321 up 322 for 323 across 324 through 325 off **326** up 327 out 328 out 329 away 330 up 331 up

Chapter Fifteen

332 across

333 at 334 up 335 up

PHRASAL VERB LIST

	The second secon	
ask about	The next morning, I rang up the hospital to ask about the little boy.	10
ask out	One afternoon, he asked me out and we went for a walk in the park.	8
bang on	With his heart pounding, he banged on the door.	2
be about	There were now lots of people about.	12
be back	I could slip out through the side door, run across the yard,	
	jump over the prison wall and be back home for breakfast.	1
be in for	I think you are in for a surprise.	12
be off	I've run out of patience. I'm off.	3
be over	When the film was over, we caught the last bus home.	9
be up to	My father seemed happy, but he didn't know what I was really up to.	8
be with	Frederick seemed a bit confused. 'I'm not with you,' he	
	said.	13
bend down	Frederick bent down and ran his hand over the tyre.	6
blow up	She blows up all the time.	4
board up	It's dirty and messy and some of the shops are boarded up.	8
bottle up	You shouldn't just bottle it up inside you.	10
breakdown	If you run away to a run-down area of Birmingham, I'll have a nervous breakdown.	3
break down	The bus broke down and all the passengers had to get off and walk.	9
break off	Lady Prescott broke off and – once again – they walked on in silence.	9
break out into	Frederick broke out into a cold sweat.	12
break out of	He's broken out of his cell and run away.	2
break up	It was half past three and the local school had just broken up for the day.	12
break up	I'm going to break up our marriage and run away to a run-down area of Birmingham.	3
break up with	I said that I'd broken up with Gerald.	8
bring back	Telling the story of the kidney machines had brought back some painful memories.	12
build up	She noticed that I'd been building up large amounts of cash.	11
burst into	Sir Gerald took a handkerchief out of his pocket, blew his nose and, not for the first time, burst into tears.	4
bust-up	After my bust-up with Sir Gerald, I just needed someone to talk to.	10
butt in	Lady Prescott leaned forward. 'If I could just butt in here,' she said.	13
call in	We took you up to the hospital wing and called in a doctor.	14



THEAST VICTOR

call into	One afternoon, I called my secretary into the office.	10
calm down	'Now calm down,' Sir Gerald said. 'And go through the whole story very slowly right from the start.'	2
care about	Money! Money! That's all you care about.	3
carry away	Lady Prescott was getting carried away and there was just no stopping her now.	7
carry out	We carried out a survey.	13
catch up with	The last twenty-four hours were beginning to catch up with him.	12
check up on	Nobody checked up on what I was doing.	10
cheer up	Oh, and do cheer up, Mr Carruthers. You mustn't worry so much.	12
clear out	I'll clear out the cupboards and take you out at the weekends.	4
clear up	It turned out that you had a rash, or an allergy or something, which cleared up overnight.	14
climb up	Frederickclimbed up a hill.	5
climb over	·He had climbed over a couple of gates.	5
clock on	Angus clocked on, put on his uniform and then went through the corridors, checking the cells and turning off the lights.	15
come across	I'm sure I've come across it somewhere before.	7
come along	'Come along, Mr Carruthers!' Lady Prescott said. 'Wake up. We're nearly there.'	12
come back	Whenever I feel down, I come back here.	8
come in	'Come in,' he shouted. 'The door's open.'	. 2
come in	And this is where you come in, Mr Carruthers.	13
come out	'You can come out now, Mr Carruthers,' she whispered. 'The coast is clear.'	14
come out	He did manage a few incoherent grunts, but none of the sounds came out right.	. 7
come out from	Angus came out from behind a large, grey dustbin and waved.	14
come round	Whenever there's an election, the politicians come round and knock on the door.	8
come to	When he came to the prison gates, he knocked on the front door and the night guard let him in.	15
come to	I trust you've come to your senses.	11
come up with	Then – all of a sudden – I came up with an idea.	10
come upon	They came upon a postman riding a bicycle.	9
crash onto	They crashed noisily onto the floor and rolled under my bed.	، 11
crawl through	Frederickcrawled through a field full of turnips.	5
cry out	His stomach was crying out for food and his throat felt like sandpaper.	5



dawn on	Gradually, shockingly, horrifyingly, the awful truth dawned on him.	2
dine out	And that night, the Carruthers family, Angus	
	Macpherson and Sir Gerald and Lady Prescott dined out in style.	14
dive into	Frederick had dived into a stream and swum across to	
	the opposite bank.	5
do up	'All's well that ends well,' he said, doing up his coat.	15
do up	They've done up some of the houses, but most of the properties are falling down or falling apart.	8
down-and-out	You were standing around with your hands in your pockets looking like a down-and-out.	10
drag back	Lady Prescott turned round and dragged him back inside.	12
draw up	The blue Rolls Royce slowed down and they drew up in front of a row of shabby, terraced houses.	8
dress up	Sir Geraldhad obviously dressed up for the occasion, combing his hair, polishing his shoes and putting on the spotted pink tie that Lady Prescott had given him	
	on their silver wedding anniversary.	14
drift around	It is strange that I was drifting around with nowhere to go.	10
drink up	Frederick drank up his coffee, ate up his cheeseburger, finished off his French fries and then stood up.	12
drive down to	One day I drove down to the hospital to pick my mother up after work.	10
drive into	When I drove into that lay-by, you were standing around with your hands in your pockets.	10
drop off	I'm going to Birmingham. Perhaps I can drop you off somewhere along the way.	6
drop onto	He rolled over, took off the belt and dropped it onto the floor.	Í
eat up	Frederick drank up his coffee, ate up his cheeseburger, finished off his French fries and then stood up.	12
echo to	A few minutes later, the stone corridors echoed to Angus Macpherson's unmistakable snore.	1
end up	He ended up standing outside a cafe in a lay-by near	5
explain away	Junction 34 of the M1 motorway. I made up some new story to explain the cheques	-
fall apart	away. They've done up some of the houses, but most of the	11
	properties are falling down or falling apart.	8
fall down	They've done up some of the houses, but most of the properties are falling down or falling apart.	8
fall out	The man from the bank gaped at me and his false teeth fell out.	11
fall for	She fell for it every time.	11
feel down	Whenever I feel down, I come back here.	8.
find out	When my father found out what was going on, he	
	went crazy.	8



fit in with	finished off his French fries and then stood up. The stains on his shirt and his crumpled prison trousers	1
	didn't quite fit in with the thick-pile carpet and the soft leather chairs.	1.
fix up	When we were in the take-away, I rang up your Head Office and fixed up an appointment with Karen	
	Blackstone.	1.
fold up	I took a deep breath, folded up the cheque and put it into my pocket.	1
get away with	Could I get away with it?	1
get back to	I'll be glad when this whole thing is over and I can get back to my old routine.	1.
get carried		
away	And I suppose I got a bit carried away.	1
get down to	'Right, let's get down to business,' she said.	1
get in	The woman got in, put on her seat belt and looked in the rear-view mirror.	
get in	That night, he'd decided to stay up until I got in.	
get into	'That's very kind of you,' he said, wiping his hands on a cloth and getting into the car.	
get into	I don't know what's got into her lately.	
get into	How did I get into this mess?	
get off	the other passengers were getting off the train.	
get off	If I could get the keys off Macpherson's belt	
_	But, for some reason, he couldn't get off to sleep.	
get on	We got on really well and I started seeing him all the time.	
get out of	How do I get out of this mess?	
get out of	I might have got out of going to prison, but what would have happened to the children?	1
get out of	Lady Prescott got out of the car and looked around.	1
get round to	But when the votes are counted, they never seem to get round to it.	
give away	it wouldn't do us any harm to give away some of those profits to worthy causes in the community.	1
give in	He thought I was going to give in without a fight.	1
give up	I'll give up smoking and wash up after dinner.	•
give up	I knew that I couldn't give Gerald up.	
go after	'Shall I go after her?' Angus asked, from somewhere behind the armchair.	
go ahead	And so the trial went ahead.	1
go away	If you went away, I'd go to pieces.	
go back on	I'm not going back on my word.	1
go down with	We thought you'd gone down with German measles.	1
go for ˙	He asked me out and we went for a walk in the park.	
go in	One day, I went in to get some chips.	
go into	One morning, I didn't go into work.	1



go on	Or should I defy my parents and go on seeing him?	8
go on	She went on like a dragon breathing fire.	7
go on	When my father found out what was going on, he went crazy.	8
go on	'Go on,' Lady Prescott said gently.	10
go on	And so it went on.	11
go out	I went out in rather a hurry last night.	9
go out of	You've gone out of your way to help me.	9
go out to	Then one night, we went out to the cinema.	9
go out with	He didn't want his only daughter going out with someone who cooked hamburgers in a take-away.	8
go over	I went over it again and again.	11
go round to	I went straight round to Gerald's flat and we decided to run away.	9
go through	'Now calm down,' Sir Gerald said. 'And go through the whole story very slowly right from the start.'	2
go through	For the next few months, we went through a really bad patch.	9
go through	They went through my account.	11
go through	Angus clocked on, put on his uniform and then went through the corridors, checking the cells and turning off the lights.	15
go through	I cried for two or three days and went through ten packets of tissues.	8
go through with	I've decided to go through with the trial.	11
go to .	I went to the hospital to pick my mother up after work.	10
grow up	And this little run-down street on the edge of the city is where I grew up.	8
hand back	I bent down, picked them up and handed them back to him.	11
hand to	Angus took a handkerchief out of his pocket and handed it to Sir Gerald.	2
hang up	Frederick took off his jacket and hung it up on one of the wing mirrors.	6
hard up	He was so hard up that he'd use the same tea bag for a week.	9
have on	I'm afraid I don't have any money on me.	9
head for	But this was no dream. And their car was heading straight for the main entrance.	12
hear of	Perhaps you've heard of him. His name is Sir Gerald Prescott.	7
hold out	frederick nodded, smiled and held out his hand.	6
hold up	His trousers were held up with string.	9
hold up	Then he pulled a large piece of glass out of the tyre and held it up.	6
hunt down	And we will hunt you down until we get every penny of our money back.	11





hush up	Angus and I hushed the whole thing up.	14
jack up	Frederick took off his jacket, jacked up the car, took off the flat tyre and put on the spare wheel.	· 6
jump off	Frederick jumped off as the train pulled into a station.	5
jump onto	Frederick jumped onto a train that was slowing down in front of a set of signals.	5
jump over	I could slip out through the side door, run across the yard, jump over the prison wall and be back home for breakfast.	1
кеер оп	Gerald kept on proposing and I kept on saying 'no'.	9
kneel down	'You can't do this to me,' the prison governor shouted, kneeling down and bursting into tears.	4
knock down	I'd be a bit sad if they knocked everything down and put up one of those ugly tower blocks.	8
knock on	When he came to the prison, he knocked on the front door and the night guard let him in.	15
knock over	Lady Prescott turned round, threw an ashtray at Sir Gerald, knocked over a chair and stormed out of the	
	room.	4
know about	Do you know anything about cars?	6
know of	I know of him He has quite a reputation in my field.	7
lay-by	He ended up standing outside a café in a lay-by near Junction 34 of the M1 motorway.	5
lean across	The driver wound down her window and leaned across.	6
let down	I can't let the children down.	11
let in	When he came to the prison, he knocked on the front door and the night guard let him in.	15
let on	but just don't let on that you managed to break out.	14
let off	They might even have let you off.	12
let out	Stop the car right now. Let me out!	12
let through	I'm a train engineer. Let me through.	5
lie against	He had to lie against pillows all day long.	10
look across	I looked across and saw a little boy.	10
look after	She looks after sick children.	10
look around	Lady Prescott got out of the car and looked around.	14
look at	I looked at the cheque. My head was spinning.	11
look back	I suppose that now – looking back – I can appreciate what my parents were going through.	. 9
look down	Angus blushed a deep shade of red and looked down at the floor.	15
look for	Angus stood up and looked for his belt.	2
look in	The woman got in, put on her seat belt and looked in the rear-view mirror.	6
look on as	I want people to look on us as a friend, not an enemy.	13
look out of	Frederick looked out of the window and waved his hand in a rather vague way.	7
look through	Frederick looked through the windows of the café.	· 5



look up	Frederick looked up. 'You're right, of course,' he said, breaking the silence.	10
look up	She took a yellow diary out of the bag and looked up a number.	12
make out	I can't understand women, Angus. I just can't make them out.	4
make up your mind	She's made up her mind to run away to a run-down area of Birmingham and there's nothing we can do.	4
make up	I made up some story or other to explain where I'd been.	8
make up	I made it up with my parents.	9
make up for	Give me one last chance. I'll make up for it.	4
move off	The blue Rolls Royce moved off and headed for Newtown.	13
move on to	Frederick wanted to move on to another topic like the weather or the price of cauliflowers.	7
nod off	I'm sure nobody will mind if I nod off for a while.	1
open up	He walked to the back of the car and opened up the boot.	6
pass through	I was a bank manager and a lot of money passed through my hands.	10
pay back	Paying for lunch will be my way of paying you back for all your kindness.	9
pay for	Paying for lunch will be my way of paying you back for all your kindness.	9
pay off	After two years in jail, you've paid off your debt.	12
pick up	He stretched out his hand, picked up the belt and lifted it back through the bars.	1
pick up	I went to the hospital to pick my mother up after work.	10
pick up	Frederick took a deep breath and picked up the story again.	10
pick up	You must have picked it up along the way.	6
plug in	I unwrapped the machines, plugged them in and switched them on.	11
pop in	Why don't we pop in here and have a late lunch?	9
puli down	They promise to pull down the terraced housing and build some new flats.	8
pull in	Lady Prescott pulled in and stopped the car.	13
pull into	Frederick jumped off as the train pulled into a station.	5
pull into	a blue Rolls Royce pulled into the lay-by and glided to a halt.	5
pull out	Then he pulled a large piece of glass out of the tyre and held it up.	6
pull out	She pulled gently out of the lay-by.	6
pull up	The blue Rolls Royce slowed down and they pulled up in front of a shabby terraced house.	8
pump up	Frederick put on the spare wheel and pumped it up a little.	6
put away	Put the letter away. I've got no intention of signing it.	11



put back .	'No,' Sir Gerald replied softly, picking up the ashtray and putting it back on the table.	4
put down	When I put down the phone, I felt terribly disturbed.	10
put down	\ldots the driver put her foot down and the blue Rolls Royce roared on,	7
put into	The woman took off the handbrake, looked in the rearview mirror and put the car into first gear.	6
put into	'Try the beginning,' said Lady Prescott, putting a straw into her milkshake.	10
put off	To put it bluntly, our image puts people off.	13
put on	'That's it,' Lady Prescott said, putting on her coat. 'I've had enough of all this nonsense.'	3
put on	put on her seat belt	6
put on	put on the spare wheel	6
put on	Lady Prescott put on the handbrake, took off her seat belt and stepped out of the car.	8
put on	I've been working too hard and putting on weight.	4
put on	I put on a really good show.	8
put up	I'd be a bit sad if theyput up one of those ugly tower blocks.	8
put up with	I hate to see a grown man cry and I'm not going to put up with it any longer.	3
rabbit on	I've been rabbiting on about my problems for over an hour now.	10
ride across	And as he rode across the cobblestones, he seemed to be nodding his head and shaking his head at the same time.	9
ring up	The next morning, I rang up the hospital to ask about the little boy.	10
rip off	You can't rip the bank off and expect to get away with it.	11
roar onto	She pulled gently out of the lay-by and then – with a sudden burst of speed – roared onto the M1	
	motorway like a bullet from a gun.	6
roll down	Frederickrolled down a hill.	5
roll over	He rolled over, took off the belt and dropped it onto the floor.	1
run across	I could slip out through the side door, run across the yard, jump over the prison wall and be back home for breakfast.	· 1
run after	If you run away, I'll run after you.	3
run away	I'm going to break up our marriage and run away to a run-down area of Birmingham.	3
run-down	She's made up her mind to run off to a run-down area of Birmingham and there's nothing we can do.	4
run down	He smiled at me and I felt a cold shiver run down my spine.	8
run down	Frederick hadrun down the corridor to avoid the ticket collector.	5



run into	The bank has run into some problems.	13
run into	If you run away to a run-down area and I run after you and you run over me in our car, you might then run	
	into a tree and the cost of repairing the damage might	
	run into hundreds of pounds.	3
run off	She's made up her mind to run off to a run-down area of Birmingham and there's nothing we can do.	4
run out of	I've run out of patience. I'm off.	3
run over	Frederick bent down and ran his hand over the tyre.	6
run over	If you run away to a run-down area and I run after you and you run over me in our car, you might then run into a tree	3
run through	These were the thoughts running through Frederick Carruthers' troubled mind as a blue Rolls Royce pulled into the lay-by and glided to a halt.	5
run up	Angus ran up the steps to the prison governor's office.	2
rush down	Angusrushed down the corridor.	2
rush in	Angus rushed in, his red face covered with sweat.	2
save up	By that summer, I'd managed to save up a quarter of a million pounds.	11
see as	The public sees us as selfish, ruthless and greedy.	13
see off	Sir Gerald, Lady Prescott and Angus stood by the front gate to see him off.	14
send back	Just tell them to send the machines back.	11
serve out	It suddenly dawned on Frederick that he couldn't take up a new job until he'd served out his term in jail.	13
set off	Lady Prescott locked the car and they set off across the market square.	8
set up	This is the Head Office of the bank. You've set me up, haven't you?	12
set up	I'd like you to come back to the bank and set the whole thing up.	13
settle down	I told him I was just too young to settle down.	9
settle down	The prisoners had settled down for the night and the jall was locked and still.	15
show around	And now, Mr Carruthers, I'm going for a walk. Would you like me to show you around?	8
show up	I showed up the flaws in your security system.	13
sit at	Sir Gerald was sitting at his desk reading <i>The Times</i> .	2
sit back	Frederick sat back and watched the volcano erupt.	7
sit down	Angus sat down and took a deep breath.	2
sit in	Frederick was sitting in a Rolls Royce driven by the wife of the governor of the prison he had just escaped from.	7
sit up	He was so ill that he couldn't sit up in bed properly.	10
slam down	He lost his temper and slammed down the phone.	9
slip out	I could slip out through the side door, run across the yard, jump over the prison wall and be back home for	
	breakfast.	1





slip through *	Frederick slipped through the ticket barrier by showing his prison identification badge.	5
slow down	Frederick jumped onto a train that was slowing down in front of a set of signals.	5
sort out	There's just one more thing that we have to sort out.	14
split up	Should I obey my father and split up with the person I loved?	8
speed on	The blue Rolls Royce sped on towards Birmingham.	7
stand around	When I drove into that lay-by, you were standing around with your hands in your pockets.	10
stand by	I couldn't stand by and do nothing.	10
stand by	They'd stood by him through all the ups and downs of the past two years.	14
stand up	Angus stood up and looked for his belt.	2
stay in	If you'd stayed in instead of breaking out, the governor would havelet you out one year early!	13
stay up	He normally went to bed at about eleven, but that night he had decided to stay up until I got in.	9
step back	Then he pushed open the door and stepped back.	14
step out of	Lady Prescott put on the handbrake, took off her seat belt and stepped out of the car.	8
stretch out	Angus stretched out on a wooden bench and tried to relax.	1
storm out of	Lady Prescott turned round, threw an ashtray at Sir Gerald, knocked over a chair and stormed out of the room.	4
swim across	Frederick hadswum across to the opposite bank.	5
switch on	plugged them in and switched them on	11
take-away	He'd taken a part-time job at a take-away restaurant called The Birmingham Big Burger Bar.	8
take in	My parents were completely taken in.	8
take off	He rolled over, took off the belt and dropped it onto the floor.	1
take off	I'll take up jogging and take off weight.	4
take on	The bank would never dream of taking me on again.	12
take out	I'll clear out the cupboards and take you out at weekends.	4
take out	Sir Gerald took a handkerchief out of his pocket, blew his nose and, not for the first time, burst into tears.	4
take up	I'll take up jogging and take off weight.	4
take up	And if I was to take up this new challenge	13
talk to	I needed someone to talk to.	10
tear down	I don't want them tearing down my childhood.	8
tear up	'But that's terrible,' the prison governor screamed, tearing up his <i>Times</i> and bursting into tears.	2
think over	We're going to give you twenty-four hours to think	
think through	it over. He had to give me more time to think things through.	11 9



throw at	Lady Prescott turned round, threw an ashtray at Sir Gerald, knocked over a chair and stormed out of the room.	4
throw away	Should I just tear up the cheque and throw it away?	11
tip off	She tipped off the police, and when I turned up for work the next morning, there were three detectives waiting in my office.	11
tire out	I'm tired out and very worked up about my husband.	9
turn round	Lady Prescott turned round, threw an ashtray at Sir Gerald, knocked over a chair and stormed out of the room.	4
turn down	I felt very flattered, but at first I always turned him down.	9
turn down	as they turned down a narrow side street, Lady Prescott picked up the story again.	8
turn in	If she found out that he was a convict on the run, perhaps she would turn him in.	10
turn into	as they turned into the main road	9
turn into	It's only recently that he's turned into a workaholic who eats, drinks and sleeps prisons.	8
turn out	but it turned out that you had a rash, or an allergy or something, which cleared up overnight.	14
turn off*	Angus clocked on, put on his uniform and then went through the corridors checking the cells and turning off the lights.	15
turn out*	Angus had turned out the light in his cell.	5
turn up	When I turned up for work the next morning, there were three detectives waiting in my office.	11
wade through	Frederick hadwaded through a swamp	5
wait for	My father was waiting for me in the hall.	9
wake up	Frederick woke up with a start.	12
walk around	Then the children would be able to get out of bed and walk around the ward.	10
walk into	I walked into the hospital and wrote out a cheque for £250,000.	11
walk into	Was I walking into a trap?	12
walk on	They walked on in silence.	9
walk out of	I'm going to walk out of that door and you'll never see me again.	3
walk out on	You can't walk out on me like this.	4
walk over to	Lady Prescott walked over to the pay-phone in the comer of the room.	12
walk through	As I was walking through one of the wards, I could hear a child crying very softly.	10
wander around	Why were you wandering around near the motorway with no money in your pocket and those very strange	
	clothes?	10

^{*} In these two sentences, turn out and turn off have the same meaning.



warm to	Lady Prescott's voice grew louder as she warmed to her subject.	7
wash up	l'll give up smoking and wash up after dinner.	4
wave through	The guard saluted, pressed a button and waved the car through.	14
wind down	The driver wound down her window and leaned across.	6
work out	When Angus had at last worked out what had happened, he rushed down the corridor and ran up the steps to the prison governor's office.	2
wrap up in	I've been so wrapped up in my work that I've started to take you for granted.	4



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