This exercise will give you some practice with phrasal verbs such as give up or put up with. If you can master phrasal verbs, your English will sound much more natural, as English-speakers use them a lot in everyday speech.

In the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, phrasal verbs are shown in alphabetical order at the end of the entry for their main verb (e.g. give, put).

Read the following questions and choose the logical answer to each one. You should use each answer one time only. The first one has been done for you.

**A. What would you do if...?**
1. boss announced an early-morning meeting  
   a) I’d take it up.
2. you were too tired to continue exercising  
   b) I’d pick it up.
3. your aunt phoned you and left a message  
   c) I’d give up.
4. you decided you might like stamp collecting  
   d) I’d show up.
5. you found out your diet was working  
   e) I’d brush up on it.
6. you wanted your friends to see a particular movie  
   f) I’d call her up.
7. you had left your car at a garage to be repaired  
   g) I’d keep it up.
8. you were going to have a quiz on a chapter in your English textbook  
   h) I’d play it up.

**B. What would you do if...?**
1. someone said something really bad about you  
   a) I’d call it off.
2. the bus you were on arrived at your stop  
   b) I’d show it off.
3. you found out your fiancé was seeing someone else  
   c) I’d put it off.
4. you won a luxury car in a competition  
   d) I’d carry it off.
5. you had arranged an unnecessary meeting  
   e) I’d get laid off.
6. you needed to give a really important speech  
   f) I’d brush it off.
7. your company announced that it was closing  
   g) I’d get off.
8. you didn’t have enough money to buy a new coat  
   h) I’d break it off.

**C. What would you do if...?**
1. you were feeling angry about something trivial  
   a) I’d get rid of it.
2. you really needed a vacation  
   b) I’d get ahead.
3. you had difficulty dealing with someone at work  
   c) I’d get in.
4. you really wanted to join a certain club  
   d) I’d get over it.
5. you had a lot of trash in your apartment  
   e) I’d get by.
6. you had spent too much time away from work  
   f) I’d try to get along with them.
7. you had barely enough money for expenses  
   g) I’d get away.
8. you put a lot of effort into your career  
   h) I’d get back.

If you want to see phrasal verbs in a natural context on the CD-ROM, simply click on the “Examples bank” to see thousands of real-life sentences from books and newspapers. And there’s lots more practice in the “Exercises” section.
Teacher’s Notes

12 What Would You Do If...?

Time: 20 minutes

Aims:
- To develop an understanding of phrasal verbs.
- To prepare students for TOEFL®/TOEIC® examinations.

1. Introduce the activity by discussing the difference in meaning of some closely related phrasal verbs (e.g. call up, call on, call for or take up, take on, take over).

2. Ask students to work on their own, matching each set of questions and answers.

3. Divide students into groups, where they can share, compare, and discuss their answers with other learners.

4. Ask the groups to look up the phrasal verbs they are unsure of in the dictionary.

Answers:

A. 1. d; 2. c; 3. f; 4. a; 5. g; 6. h; 7. b; 8. e

B. 1. f; 2. g; 3. h; 4. b; 5. a; 6. d; 7. e; 8. c

C. 1. d; 2. g; 3. f; 4. c; 5. a; 6. h; 7. e; 8. b