

Academic writing style

Exercises

Avoiding two word verbs

There is often a choice in English between a two word verb and a single verb - bring up/raise, set up/establish.

Rewrite the following sentences, replacing the *informal two-word verb* with a more formal equivalent.

1. A primary education system was *set up* throughout Ireland as early as 1831.
2. This will *cut down* the amount of drug required and so the cost of treatment.
3. The material amenities of life have *gone up* in Western society.
4. The press reflected the living culture of the people; it could influence opinion and reinforce existing attitudes but it did not *come up with* new forms of entertainment.
5. Thus, he should have *looked into* how the patient has coped previously.
6. The aggregate of outstanding balances *went up and down* quite violently.
7. In 1947 the Treasury *brought up* the question of excluding South Africa (and India) from the sterling area.
8. Dieters often feel that they should totally *get rid of* high-fat and high-sugar foods.
9. Thus when a Gallic bishop in 576 converted the local Jewish community to Christianity, those who *turned down* baptism were expelled from the city.
10. Western scholars gradually *turned out* a corpus of translations from the Arabic and studies of Islam.
11. Ms Tucker, Lord White's 29-year-old companion, has since *taken* her statement *back*.
12. Discussion of the outcome of experiments that have used this method will be *put off* until Chapter 7.

13. They did not easily accept or *put up with* differences in others.
14. My high-school friend signed up for three years with the army so he could *put away* enough money to go to university and study law.
15. The solitary feeding of insectivores in forests was therefore *put down* to a foraging strategy involving the pursuit of cryptic and easily disturbed prey by singletons.
16. In style, the turn toward abstraction and simplification *came about* earliest with Anquetin and Bernard and next with van Gogh.
17. For Klein that cloudless day never arrived, but he never *gave up* his hope for a just world.
18. Eventually the Irish party was forced to *go back* to Westminster.
19. The court thinks it just and equitable to *give back* the property.
20. The English liked coal fires even though they do not always *give off* much heat.
21. The story told by German propaganda, however, *gave away* nothing of the mounting hopelessness of the 6th Army's position.
22. These exercises can easily be incorporated into an exercise routine, with each *done again* a number of times.
23. Marx took as one of his main tasks the understanding of how this system came into being and this was in order to *find out* why this system had such power.
24. This was before he had read the guidelines on how to *carry out* the research.
25. Still, the pressure to *do* well as an individual made most women believe that the problems they encountered were probably of their own making.