

GET phrases

● Replace the **bold** words or phrases with a phrase using *get* in the correct form.

- 1 Please could you **throw away** all the old clothes you don't wear any more. _____
- 2 It's embarrassing when someone tells the punchline to a joke, everyone laughs, and you don't **understand it!** _____
- 3 My family love **meeting up** at Christmas. _____
- 4 What do you think is the best way to **move from one place to another** in this city? _____
- 5 Once my brother-in-law starts talking to you it's practically impossible to **escape!** _____
- 6 I thought we'd made it clear that we'd meet at the restaurant, but she **misunderstood** and was waiting for us to pick her up. _____
- 7 They've only just met, but they **already have a very good relationship.** _____
- 8 It really **annoys** me when you eat my chips. _____
- 9 I tried to explain the problem to my father, but **I just can't make him understand.** _____
- 10 My parents always let my little sister **do whatever she wants** – that's why she's so spoiled. _____
- 11 Not having enough time for myself really **depresses me.** _____
- 12 Martha was dumped by her ex-boyfriend and now she wants to **take revenge** on him. _____
- 13 If I **had the opportunity** to go and live abroad, I think I'd probably take it. _____
- 14 I've told him time after time that I don't want to go out with him, but he just doesn't seem to **hear what I'm saying!** _____
- 15 She **had a terrible surprise** when she discovered that she had been adopted as a baby. _____
- 16 Both of my parents are **becoming older**, but they still lead very active lives. _____
- 17 It's not easy **managing to live** on a student grant, especially in a big city. _____
- 18 I tried to walk past him but he wouldn't **move to the side to let me pass.** _____

a In this song the singer's new lover gives examples of how a man can leave his lover. Listen to the song, and answer the questions.

- 1 Where is the problem, according to the woman?
How does she think the man will find the solution?
- 2 What do you think these phrases in the second verse mean?
It's really not my habit to intrude.
I hope my meaning won't be lost or misconstrued.
- 3 Write down two of the men's names you can hear in the chorus, and one of the ways that they leave their lover.
- 4 How does the man seem to feel about breaking up with his partner?
- 5 In the final verse, what does she suggest they both do?
What does she think will happen in the morning?

b Now listen again with the lyrics and check your answers.

50 Ways to Leave Your Lover

'The problem is all inside your head,' she said to me
'The answer is easy if you take it logically
I'd like to help you in your struggle to be free
There must be fifty ways to leave your lover.'

She said 'it's really not my habit to intrude
Furthermore, I hope my meaning won't be lost or
misconstrued
So I'll repeat myself, at the risk of being crude
There must be fifty ways to leave your lover
Fifty ways to leave your lover.'

Chorus

You just slip out the back, Jack
Make a new plan, Stan
You don't need to be coy, Roy
Just listen to me / Just get yourself free
Hop on the bus, Gus
You don't need to discuss much
Just drop off the key, Lee
And get yourself free.

Ooo slip out the back, Jack
Make a new plan, Stan
You don't need to be coy, Roy
Just listen to me
Hop on the bus, Gus
You don't need to discuss much
Just drop off the key, Lee
And get yourself free.



She said 'It grieves me so to see you in such pain
I wish there was something I could do to make you
smile again.'
I said 'I appreciate that and would you please explain
About the fifty ways?'

She said 'Why don't we both just sleep on it tonight
And I believe in the morning you'll begin to see the
light?'
And then she kissed me and I realized she probably
was right
There must be fifty ways to leave your lover
Fifty ways to leave your lover.

Chorus



c Look at the highlighted phrases, and with a partner say what you think they mean.

Song facts

This song, from the album *Still Crazy After All These Years*, was a big hit for the singer Paul Simon. In a 1975 interview, Simon told the story of this song: 'I woke up one morning in my apartment on Central Park and the opening words just popped into my mind: "The problem is all inside your head, she said to me..." That was the first thing I thought of. So I just started building on that line.' According to Simon's younger brother Eddie (from the same interview), Paul made this song up while teaching his son how to rhyme.