

The phrasal verb 'pick up'

■ Choose the correct meaning of the phrasal verb 'pick up' in the sentences below.

Q1. I'm really busy today, I won't be able to pick you up.

- a) to collect someone from a place
- b) to collect from the floor
- c) to correct or criticize what someone says

Q2. I wouldn't mind picking up on what was discussed in last week's meeting.

- a) to collect from the floor
- b) to learn from experience rather than studying
- c) to resume talking about something in greater detail mentioned at a previous time

Q3. She picked up some Spanish when traveling around South America. Impressive!

- a) to collect someone from a place
- b) to learn from experience rather than studying
- c) to resume talking about something in greater detail mentioned at a previous time

Q4. Stop picking me up on these stupid things!

- a) to collect someone from a place
- b) to correct or criticize what someone says
- c) to collect from the floor

Q5. Pick those dirty clothes up and put them in the hamper, they don't belong there.

- a) to collect someone from a place
- b) to correct or criticize what someone says
- c) to collect from the floor

■ Re-write the following sentences by using the phrasal verb 'pick up'

Q6. My mom always corrects my mistakes when I speak.

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Q7. Can you get RAC1 around here?

.....

Q8. Collect your brother from basketball practice after work, please.

.....

Q9. Did you learn anything useful during your internship?

.....

Q10. Let's resume talking about this tomorrow.

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ANSWERS

- A1.** I'm really busy today, I won't be able to pick you up.
a) to collect someone from a place.
- A2.** I wouldn't mind picking up on what was discussed in last week's meeting.
c) to resume talking about something in greater detail mentioned at a previous time.
- A3.** She picked up some Spanish when traveling around South America. Impressive!
b) to learn from experience rather than studying.
- A4.** Stop picking me up on these stupid things!
b) to correct or criticize what someone says.
- A5.** Pick those dirty clothes up and put them in the hamper, they don't belong there.
c) to collect from the floor.
- A6.** My mom always corrects my mistakes when I speak.
My mom always picks me up on my mistakes when I speak.
- A7.** Can you get RAC1 around here?
Can you pick up RAC1 around here?
- A8.** Collect your brother from basketball practice after work, please.
Pick your brother up from basketball practice after work, please.
- A9.** Did you learn anything useful during your internship?
Did you pick up anything useful during your internship?
- A10.** Let's resume talking about this tomorrow.
Let's pick up on this tomorrow. OR: Let's pick this up tomorrow.