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## **Particles in English Phrasal Verbs: The Case of ‘Up’, A Corpus Based Study on the Use of Phrasal Verbs by Pakistani Learners of English**

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**KEYWORDS** Adverbial Particle. Aspect. Lexical Aspect. Phrasal Verb. Telicity

**ABSTRACT** This study aims to analyze the potential effect of the most frequently used particle ‘up’ on the lexical aspect categories of the verbs. This quantitative study explores the percentages at which the main verb suffers the lexical aspectual change induced by this particle in the corpus comprised of essays written by Pakistani English Language Learners. Software AntConc. is used to calculate the frequencies and (statistical) analysis of the particles utilized by Pakistani ELLs so that it can reflect the contemporary state in this field. The results reveal that 6.1 percent of verbs hold the activity feature: these activity verbs lead to becoming achievement verbs (50.4%) or accomplishment verbs (43.5%). It is generally agreed that idiomatic expressions, including phrasal verbs, present great difficulties for language learners. Various reasons include the nature of phrasal verbs themselves, as well as cross linguistic factors.