

Down in multi-word verbs ★★

(★ = Basic ★★ = Intermediate ★★★ = Advanced)

Grammar Bite (read this)

For definitions of words in CAPITALS,
go to grammarbites.co.uk/definitions

Worksheet (do this)

Here are three different ways we use **down** in MULTI-WORD VERBS.

1 Move in a downward direction: ↓



The plane touched down at 6.15.

Touch down (planes)
and *come down*, *go down*, *lie down*, *run down*, *sit down*, *walk down*...
and *put – down*, *take – down*...

2 Get less, reduce



As time passed, the fire gradually died down.

calm down, *simmer down*, *settle down*, *slow down*...

3 Withdraw, retire



“I will step down to make way for a younger candidate.”

back down, *bow down*, *climb down*, *stand down*, *step down*

These are the main ways of using **down**.

Complete these sentences with the right form of the one of the verbs:

back down *calm down* *put - down*
walk down

- 1 “Don’t get so excited! Please, _____ !”
- 2 She realised she could never defeat him, so she decided to _____.
- 3 Don’t hold the kitten like that, _____ it _____!
- 4 “As you _____ the hill, you will see the most amazing view.”

die down *go down* *slow down*
step down

- 5 He _____ the stairs to the bottom.
- 6 After seven years in the post, the chairman decided _____.
- 7 We watched the fire gradually _____ as the evening wore on.
- 8 “You are entering a 20 mph speed area; _____.”

lie down *settle down* *take – down*
back down

- 9 Now the exhibition has finished, we can _____ the pictures _____ and return them.
- 10 She was tired so she _____ on the sofa and went to sleep.
- 11 “You have stated your opinion, and it will seem cowardly _____ now!”
- 12 “All right, class, you’ve had your fun, now _____ and do some work.”

Sign up for your free weekly Grammar Bite at
www.Grammarbites.co.uk

¹For DEFINITIONS, go to www.grammarbites.co.uk/definitions