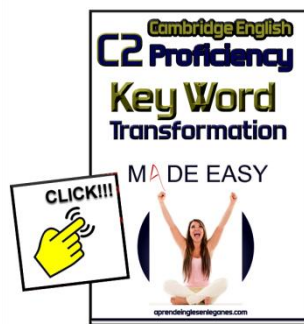


IT AS AN EMPTY OBJECT

We use IT as an “empty” object after certain verbs and in some phrases to introduce a following clause.

We say it is empty because it doesn't refer to anything in particular.

The fairly fixed phrases below have **introductory IT as Object**.



C2 PROFICIENCY

Learn how to do
**Key Word
Transformation
Exercises**

BREAK IT TO SOMEONE THAT : Inform someone about something unpleasant or upsetting.

- The doctor finally **broke it to me that** there was no cure.

DRUM IT INTO SOMEONE THAT : to teach something to someone by frequent repeating.

- They **drummed it into me that** you were not to know.

HAVE IT IN MIND + to inf /that clause (formal) : to intend to do something

- For a long time I **had it in mind to write** a book about my experiences.
- I **had it in mind that** one day I might move to Spain.

I WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST SOMEONE TO DO SOMETHING :

to not be surprised if someone does something bad, because it is a typical thing for that person to do:

- Perhaps Helena told him - I **wouldn't put it past her.** / I **wouldn't put it past him to lie.**

LEAVE IT TOO LATE TO DO SOMETHING : to wait too long to do something

- I hope I haven't **left it too late to apply.** / You've **left it too late to change** your ticket.

LET IT BE KNOWN (formal) : to give information to other people, especially in an indirect way

- He **let it be known**, during dinner, **that** he was on the lookout for a wife.
- I **let it be known that** I was not happy about the decision that had been made.

MAKE IT A POINT TO DO SOMETHING : to do sth deliberately, often with extra effort.

- She **makes it a point to** treat her employees fairly.

MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS TO DO SOMETHING : to make a special effort to do something

- Ruth **made it her business to get** to know the customers.

MAKE IT A HABIT TO DO SOMETHING : to begin to do something regularly or often.

- I have **made it a habit to** listen to audio books on my way to and from work.

MAKE IT A RULE TO DO SOMETHING : to act according to a principle.

- I **make it a rule not to eat** fatty foods.

PUT IT ABOUT THAT : to tell a lot of people something, especially something that is not true

- Someone's been **putting it about that** Dan is leaving.

PUT IT TO SOMEONE THAT : to tell someone your explanation of something.

- I **put it to him that** what we needed was some independent advice.

RUMOUR/LEGEND/WORD HAS IT THAT : used to report what people say or what a story says

- **Rumour has it that** Jim is not his child. / **Word has it that** they may separate.

SEE TO IT THAT : to make sure that something is done

- Can you **see to it that** everyone gets a copy of this memo?

TAKE IT AS A GIVEN THAT : to accept that something is true and not expect it to change

- You can **take it as a given that** there will be champagne at the wedding.

TAKE IT AS READ THAT : to feel certain that sth is true although no one has told you it is true

- You can **take it as read that** we will support the project. / I **took it as read that** you were coming.

TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT : to believe that something is true without making sure

- He just **took it for granted that** he would pass the exam.

TAKE IT THAT : said if you think that what you say is likely to be true, although it is not proved

- I **take it** you've heard about Ben and Carol splitting up.

TAKE IT IN TURNS TO DO SOMETHING : to do something on at a time.

- They **took it in turns to drink** from the water bottle. / We **took it in turns to** keep watch.