

# 88 turn somebody or something down



**Study** Read these sentences carefully.

- ▶ Why did you **turn down** the invitation to Kate and Jim's wedding?
- ▶ I can't believe he **turned** the company's offer **down** flat.
- ▶ She's invited me to join the team and I'm not going to **turn her down**.
- ▶ Their request for funding **was turned down**.
- ▶ I've just **been turned down** for another job.

**Check** Use the sentences in the Study box to help you do these exercises.

## MEANING

**1** Choose the correct meaning of this use of **turn down**:

- a to reject or refuse
- b to remove or destroy

**2** Which of the following can you **turn down**?

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| a an invitation | d a job      |
| b an offer      | e a wedding  |
| c a party       | f a proposal |

## GRAMMAR

There is a grammatical mistake in one of these sentences. Find it and correct it.

- a He turned the invitation down.
- b He turned down my offer.
- c Why did you turn it down?
- d I can't believe he turned down her!
- e My request was turned down immediately.

→ Now check your answers in the key.

## Practise

**1** Complete the following sentences with the correct form of **turn somebody or something down** and one of the objects below.

the band    the plans    the chance    her    a place

- a Every recording company had \_\_\_\_\_ so they produced the album themselves.
- b They were very disappointed when the Council \_\_\_\_\_ for a larger school.
- c Early in his career he \_\_\_\_\_ of playing the title role in a Hollywood movie.
- d Sadly, he had to \_\_\_\_\_ on a graduate course when his mother fell ill.
- e She's so good at her job that I can't imagine any employer \_\_\_\_\_.

**2** Complete the following sentences in a logical way.

- a When my ideas were turned down at the meeting, I was \_\_\_\_\_.
- b Actually I was quite relieved they turned me down for that job, because \_\_\_\_\_.

→ Now check your answers in the key.

## Build your vocabulary

### SYNONYMS

**Reject somebody or something** can be used instead of **turn down**:  
▶ *I've been rejected by every college I applied to.*