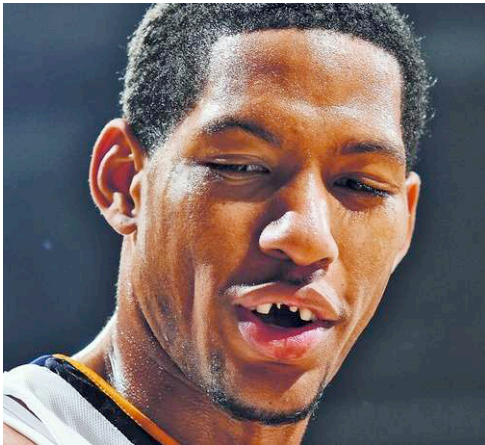


Knock 'em out!



Danny Granger, American professional basketball player for the NBA's Indiana Pacers, famously knocked out his two front teeth in a victorious game against the Boston Celtics on 1 November 2008.

You can say both of these:

- He knocked out two teeth.
- He knocked two teeth out.

BUT only ONE of these is correct - which one?

- He knocked out them.
- He knocked them out.

“Knock out” is a phrasal verb. This is the pattern for phrasal verbs:

- put it away (not ~~put away it~~) - put away the toys & put the toys away
- bring it up - bring up a problem & bring a problem up
- try it out - try out a new way & try a new way out
- give it up - give up smoking & give smoking up
- call him up - call up a friend & call a friend up
- rip her off - rip off a client & rip a client off
- think it over - think over a suggestion & think a suggestion over
- boss them around - boss your husband around & boss around your husband
- make it up - make up a good story & make a good story up

Contrast regular verbs:

- fall for it (not ~~fall it for~~) - fall for a story (drauf reinfallen)
- bump into it - bump into a friend (begegnen)
- get over it - get over a loss (überstehen)
- look at it - look at pictures (anschauen)
- go up it - go up a hill (hochgehen)
- fall down it - fall down the stairs (runterfallen)

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