

Lesson 228

Parts of the Sentence - Verbals - Participles

A **participle** is a **verbal** and is used as an **adjective**. Participles end in various ways. They modify **nouns** and **pronouns** and can precede or follow the word they modify.

A **present participle** always ends with *ing* as does the **gerund**, but remember that it is an adjective. A **past participle** ends with *ed*, *n*, or *irregularly*.

Examples:

played, broken, brought, sung, seeing, having seen, being seen, seen, having been seen

A **participial phrase** is made up of a participle and any complements (**direct objects**, **predicate nominatives**, **predicate adjectives**, or modifiers) like the **gerund**. A **participial phrase** that comes at the beginning of the sentence is always followed by a comma and modifies the **subject** of the sentence.

Participial phrases are useful in combining pairs of sentences.

Instructions: Combine the following sentences using a **participial phrase** at the beginning of the sentence.

1. The flag flapped against the pole. The flag was twisted by the wind.
2. The cat clawed wildly in self-defense. The cat was cornered by two dogs.
3. The food was completely destroyed. It had been covered by the flood for two weeks.
4. Dr. Doolittle commanded the bee to stop the noise. He was annoyed by the humming.

5. We had planned a party for our boss. We were pleased with our bonuses.