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*Verbals*

A verbal is a word that is typically a verb but is being used as a different part of speech in a sentence

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## Participles

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Adjectives are words that describe nouns.

**Mashed potatoes and fried chicken are delicious!**

**Mashed** comes from the verb **mash**.

**Fried** comes from the verb **fry**.

Both are participles since “mashed” describes potatoes and “fried” describes chicken.

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## Past and Present

There are two types of participles: past and present

Past tense participles end in **-ing**

My sister and I wore **matching** jumpsuits to school.

Matching describes the jumpsuits.

Past tense participles usually end in **-ed**

The **frustrated** bird could not catch a worm.

Frustrated describes the bird.

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**Can you find the present tense  
participles below?**

1. The shining sun made for the perfect beach day.
2. The barking dog wanted to play with the other dogs.
3. Sue, cold and complaining, asked to go home early.
4. I was worried about the crying baby next door.
5. The annoying tea kettle made a high-pitched noise.

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**Can you find the past tense  
participles below?**

1. The confused duckling thought the dog was its mother.
2. Teachers comforted the frightened children after the fire drill.
3. Jessica, totally shocked, enjoyed her surprise birthday party.
4. Inspired by her mother, Tanya wants to be a nurse.
5. The damaged fruits are on clearance at the grocery store.

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### Irregular Verbs

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Not all past tense verbs end in -ed.  
There are irregular verbs that break the rules.

It's not **sleeped**. It's **slept**.

More Examples:

#### Hear

Past: Heard

Participle: Heard

#### Choose

Past: Chose

Participle: Chosen

#### Sell

Past: Sold

Participle: Sold

#### Hide

Past: Hid

Participle: Hidden

#### Wear

Past: Wore

Participle: Worn

#### Write

Past: Wrote

Participle: Written

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**Can you find the irregular verbs acting as past tense participles?**

1. The broken vase would cost her \$200 to fix.
2. The puppy, lost and afraid, needed medical attention.
3. My bent straw no longer worked properly.
4. Carla's hidden treasure was buried in Greece.
5. Benny still had hurt feelings over losing the game.

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## Participial Phrase

A phrase that contains a participle and includes all modifiers or objects associated with it

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Johnny, **prepared** for anything, was not afraid of the woods.

**Jumping** up and down, the children waited for Santa Claus.

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**Can you find the participial phrases below?**

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1. Working three jobs, Barb was exhausted.
2. Tim stole from his brother, knowing it was wrong.
3. The trained dog could roll over on command.
4. Faced with adversity, Jake persevered.
5. You should only take the directed amount of medicine.

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### Participle or Gerund?

If gerunds and present tense  
participles both end in **-ing**, how  
do you know which one is which?

**Participles = adjectives**

The *singing* choir held hands.

Singing describes the choir.

**Gerunds = nouns**

The choir's *singing* was beautiful.

Singing is the subject of the sentence.

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**Identify which sentence contains: the  
participle, the gerund, & the progressive verb.**

1. The librarian warned the talking teenagers to stop.
2. The teenagers were talking which made the librarian upset.
3. The teenagers' talking upset the librarian, so she asked them to stop.

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Identify which sentence contains: the  
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1. The librarian warned the **talking** teenagers to stop.  
Participle

2. The teenagers were **talking** which made the librarian upset.  
Progressive verb

3. The teenagers' **talking** upset the librarian, so she asked them to stop.  
Gerund

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Date:

## Participles

**Part 1: Circle the participle in each sentence. Indicate if the participle is past tense or present tense by writing “past” or “present” on the line.**

1. The swinging gate had a broken latch. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Iris wants to take swimming lessons. **PREVIEW**
3. Frozen bananas pair well with peanut butter. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Smiling from ear to ear, Henry won first place in the raffle. \_\_\_\_\_
5. The most visited location in France is Paris. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Opening the door, the bus driver let the students on the bus. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Dorothy, embarrassed by her mistake, turned bright red. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Our teacher said the suggested reading was on pages 46-62 of our textbook. \_\_\_\_\_

9. The snoring dog was asleep for hours. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Any interested students should try out for volleyball. \_\_\_\_\_
11. The marching ants take over the picnic. \_\_\_\_\_
12. My little cousins searched for hidden Easter eggs in our yard. \_\_\_\_\_
13. The most challenging obstacle course took us two hours to complete. \_\_\_\_\_
14. One of my favorite snacks to eat is dried fruit. **PREVIEW**

**Part 2: Underline the participial phrase.**

1. The growing tomatoes weren't ready to be picked.
2. Crossing the road, the chicken arrived at the other side.
3. We couldn't find anything we liked from the listed apartments.
4. The torn newspaper was from the year 1939.
5. The sitting ducks were waiting for some bread to eat.
6. Jamie ran out of the room, crying her eyes out. **PREVIEW**
7. Baked biscuits with butter are the perfect appetizer.
8. My brother, playing computer games in his room, skipped dinner with the family.

**Part 3: Circle the participle and underline the noun that it's describing.**

1. My bruised arm was purple and blue.
2. Hunter, watching television, fell asleep on the couch.
3. The most forgotten fruit is the gooseberry.
4. Jason, drowning in homework, was overwhelmed.
5. The little kids, bouncing off the walls, ate too much sugar.
6. I walk in the park, pushing my baby in the stroller.
7. Enjoying the beautiful day, the old couple held hands on a bench.
8. The retired governor remained involved in local politics.

9. The shining diamond in the window was worth over \$10,000.

10. We ate the burnt popcorn, and it tasted gross.

**Part 4: Identify if the bolded word is a gerund (G), present tense participle (P), or progressive verb (V) by writing your answer on the line.**

1. **Reading** a book is my idea of the perfect night.
2. I am **accompanying** my little brother to his Halloween dance.
3. He stepped through the door, **holding** his keys.
4. Gavin is **beginning** high school in the fall of next year.
5. Monica is interested in **playing** field hockey.
6. **Sitting** in a chair, my grandmother crochets me a sweater.
7. **Building** a business is no easy task.
8. Grace is moving across the country, **breaking** my heart.
9. The teacher is **bringing** pizza to class tomorrow.
10. We heard **whispering** from inside the haunted house.

11. I'm **becoming** more comfortable with participles the more I practice.
12. The **complaining** man wanted a full refund and an apology.

Name:

Date:

## Participles Answer Key

**Part 1: Circle the participle in each sentence. Indicate if the participle is past tense or present tense by writing “past” or “present” on the line.**

1. The swinging gate had a broken latch. present = swinging    past = broken

2. Iris wants to take swimming lessons. present

3. Frozen bananas pair well with peanut butter. past

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