

CHAPTER-05

PARTICIPLES

A participle is a verb form that can be used (1) as an adjective, (2) to create verb tense, or (3) to create the passive voice.

There are two types of participles:

- Present participle (ending *-ing*)
- Past participle (usually ending *-ed, -d, -t, -en, or -n*).

(Function 1) Participles as Adjectives

Examples of Participles Being Used as Adjectives

Here are some present and past participles being used as adjectives:

The Verb	The Present Participle	The Past Participle
To rise	the rising sun	the risen sun
To boil	the boiling water	the boiled water
To break	the breaking news	the broken news
To cook	the cooking ham	the cooked ham

More Examples of Present Participles as Adjectives

Remember that present participles end in *-ing*. Here are some more examples:

- boiling water
- caring nature

- deserving recipient

Here are some real-life examples of present participles (shaded) being used as adjectives:

- A **laughing** man is stronger than a **suffering** man. (Gustave Flaubert, 1821-1880)
- If you pick up a **starving** dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you. This is the principal difference between a dog and a man. (Mark Twain, 1835-1910)
- The only thing that comes to a **sleeping** man is dreams. (Tupac Shakur)

More Examples of Past Participles as Adjectives

Remember that past participles have various endings, usually *-ed*, *-d*, *-t*, *-en*, or *-n*. Here are some more examples:

- broken window
- painted frame
- destroyed bridge

Here are some real-life examples of past participles (shaded) being used as adjectives:

- A **swollen** eye is God's way of telling you to improve your interpersonal skills.
- Do not waste time staring at a **closed** door.
- I like children...if they're properly **cooked**. (W.C. Fields)
(Don't forget that an adjective can also appear after the noun it is modifying. See [predicate adjectives](#).)

Participle Phrases

It is really common to see participles in [participle phrases](#). A participle phrase also acts like an adjective. In the examples below, the participle phrases are shaded and the participles are in bold:

- The man **carrying** the bricks is my father.
(The participle phrase *carrying the bricks* describes the *the man*.)

- She showed us a plate of scones **crammed** with cream.
(The participle phrase *crammed with cream* describes the scones.)
- **Whistling** the same tune as always, Ted touched the front of his cap with his forefinger as she dismounted.
(The participle phrase *Whistling the same tune as always* describes *Ted*.)
- **Stunned** by the blow, Mike quickly gathered his senses and searched frantically for the pepper spray.
(The participle phrase *Stunned by the blow* describes *Mike*.)

(Function 2) Participles to Form Verb Tense

Participles are not just used as adjectives. They are also used to form verb tenses.

Present Participles in Verb Tenses

Here are the verb tenses that are formed using **present participles** (shaded):

The 4 <u>Past Tenses</u>	Example
<u>simple past tense</u>	I went
<u>past progressive tense</u>	I was going
<u>past perfect tense</u>	I had gone
<u>past perfect progressive tense</u>	I had been going
The 4 <u>Present Tenses</u>	Example
<u>simple present tense</u>	I go

<u>present progressive tense</u>	I am going
<u>present perfect tense</u>	I have gone
<u>present perfect progressive tense</u>	I have been going
The 4 <u>Future Tenses</u>	Example
<u>simple future tense</u>	I will go
<u>future progressive tense</u>	I will be going
<u>future perfect tense</u>	I will have gone
<u>future perfect progressive tense</u>	I will have been going

[Read more about present participles.](#)

Past Participles in Verb Tenses

Here are the verb tenses that are formed using **past participles** (shaded):

The 4 <u>Past Tenses</u>	Example
<u>simple past tense</u>	I went
<u>past progressive tense</u>	I was going
<u>past perfect tense</u>	I had gone
<u>past perfect progressive tense</u>	I had been going

The 4 <u>Present Tenses</u>	Example
<u>simple present tense</u>	I go
<u>present progressive tense</u>	I am going
<u>present perfect tense</u>	I have gone
<u>present perfect progressive tense</u>	I have been going
The 4 <u>Future Tenses</u>	Example
<u>simple future tense</u>	I will go
<u>future progressive tense</u>	I will be going
<u>future perfect tense</u>	I will have gone
<u>future perfect progressive tense</u>	I will have been going

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