

Examples:

We will be *learning* about the French Revolution today.

The *stolen* goods were found after three days.

The *forgotten* palace was discovered by the archaeologists.

Note: Participles function as finite verbs only if they are preceded by an appropriate auxiliary verb.

Examples:

They had been *talking* for a very long time.

1. Underline the participles in the following sentences. Mention A if they function as an adjective and V if they function as the main verb.

- (a) The spoilt milk ruined the pancakes. ✓
- (b) The detective solved yet another puzzling mystery. ✓

✓

A



- (c) The mail had been sent to the bank manager a week ago.
- (d) We are reading *The Diary of Anne Frank* for our project.
- (e) Soha bought new running shoes for her mother.
- (f) They will be refurbishing the entire apartment next month.
- (g) The children were very excited to meet the badminton champion.
- (h) The police could not catch up with the speeding vehicle.

There are two types of participles.

- Present participle
- Past participle

Look at the following sentences.

She will be joining the new school after a few days.

Samaira would be the opening batsman for our team.

The portrait of the smiling woman attracted a lot of visitors to the museum.

In the first sentence, *joining* is preceded by the auxiliary verb *will be* and acts as the verb of the sentence. It denotes the future progressive form.

surfaces.

2. Fill in the blanks with appropriate participle forms of the verbs given in brackets.

- (a) Howling (howl) in pain, the dog limped back to its mother.
- (b) My grandfather always told us interesting (interest) stories.
- (c) Anish still has pain in his broken (break) leg.
- (d) The issues encountered (encounter) seem unfathomable.
- (e) The submitting (submit) documents have to be collected by the end of the day.
- (f) My friends and I love to gaze at the twinkling (twinkle) stars at night.
- (g) Wasim and I were looking (look) after the injured (injure) bird.
- (h) We were asked (ask) to take our seats in the waiting (wait) hall.

3. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate participle forms of the verbs given in the box.

carry

wash

recover

burn

walk

tear

present

wait

colour

win

- (c) The winning team would get a chance to meet Sania Mirza.
- (d) We could easily recognise the smell of the burnt cake from afar.
- (e) If presenting in an engaging manner, the presentation would garner more support.
- (f) While recovering from dengue, Joel was advised to include more fruits in his diet.
- (g) Washed fabrics should not be carried with white clothes.
- (h) Tearing the cardboard box, the magician walked towards the stage.

Now, read the following sentences.

Singing a cheerful rhyme, the class ended their day.

Painted in pastel colours, the nursery looked like a dream!

Worried by the delay, we decided to check on him again.

In the first sentence, the participle *singing* is followed by the noun phrase *a cheerful rhyme* that functions as the object of the participle. Together, they form a participle phrase that modifies the subject *the class* in the sentence. Similarly, in the second and third sentences, the participles *painted* and *worried* are the head words of the phrases where the prepositional phrases *in pastel colours* and *by the delay* modify the participles. These participle phrases describe the noun *the nursery* and modify the verb *decided*.

There are three types of participle phrases.

- Present participle phrases have present participles as their head words. For example, *quickly counting all the notes*.

4. Combine the pairs of sentences using participles. One has been done for you.

(a) Farhan ran to the nearest pharmacy. He bought the medicines.

Running to the nearest pharmacy, Farhan bought the medicines.

(b) Siddharth finished reading the book. He wrote a book report on it.

Having finished reading the book, Siddharth wrote a book report on it.

(c) The traveller found it difficult to carry the luggage uphill. He walked slowly.

Having found it difficult to carry the luggage uphill, the traveller walked slowly.

(d) Guha thanked her friends profusely. She unwrapped the gift.

Thanking her friends profusely, Guha unwrapped the gift.

(e) Jagriti reached the small town. She looked for accommodation.

Looking for accommodation, Jagriti reached the small town.

(f) I was flipping through the magazine. I found an old picture of Elvis Presley as a child.

Flipping through the magazine, I found an old picture of Elvis Presley as a child.

(g) Garima threw the clothes aside. She searched for the gold earrings in the cupboard.

Throwing the clothes aside, Garima searched for the gold earrings in the cupboard.

(h) The principal realised that Saba was telling the truth. The principal did not penalise her.

5. Fill in the blanks with participle phrases of your own, following the instructions given in brackets. One has been done for you.

(a) Moving towards the port, the ship brought the stranded fishermen home.

(Present participle phrase)

(b) After the disaster, the monument was renovated by the government.

(Past participle phrase)

(c) The palace looked magnificent after the painting. (Past participle phrase)

(d) As the water was spread on the ground, Sandhya could not enter the classroom.

(Perfect participle phrase)

(e) Kanishk looked very smart because of his jeans. (Present participle phrase)

(f) As he did nothing, Gurmeet did not want to be blacklisted as a defaulter.

(Perfect participle phrase)

(g) At the end, Jeremy ran towards the finishing line.

(Present participle phrase)

(h) Due to his performance, the coach decided to train Zaheera for the nationals.

(Past participle phrase)