

Participles and Participial Phrases A

5e. A *participle* is a verb form that can be used as an adjective.

PARTICIPLE The **crying** child asked for his mother.

5f. A *participial phrase* consists of a participle together with its modifiers and complements. The entire phrase is used as an adjective.

PARTICIPIAL PHRASE The record **broken by José Canseco** was impressive.

Key

EXERCISE Circle each participle used as an adjective in the following sentences. If the participle has modifiers or complements, underline the complete participial phrase.

Examples 1. Scattered evidence was found in the house.

2. Hammering the nails, Midori envisioned the treehouse she would have.

1. The baking bread smelled delicious.
2. Shaped like a flag, the sand sculpture won first prize.
3. Under a pile of magazines lay the forgotten letter.
4. Frozen blueberries are his favorite dessert.
5. Devoted soccer fans are looking forward to the season.
6. Waking slowly, the dog stretched its legs.
7. From behind the tree came a screeching sound.
8. The lion basking in the sun looked sleepy.
9. Surrounded by the smell of apples, I walked through the orchard.
10. I heard something pounding against the windowpane.
11. Leaping into the air, the dancer thrilled the audience.
12. The athlete, sweating heavily, grabbed a towel and a bottle of water.
13. I did not want to eat the burned potatoes that my sister had cooked.
14. Stapled in the corner, the test booklet contained ten pages.
15. Closely written, the words filled every space on the diary pages.
16. Jake, slipping on a banana peel, let out a shriek.
17. Smiling, I opened my birthday present.
18. Examined by a doctor, his wrist will heal soon.
19. I shook the brightly wrapped gift before opening it.
20. The pet chosen by Trisha is a baby rabbit.

Participial Phrases B

Joy

NAME

CLASS

DATE

5c.

A *participle* is a verb form that can be used as an adjective.

5f.

A *participial phrase* consists of a participle together with its modifiers and complements. The entire phrase is used as an adjective.

EXAMPLE The tree **struck by lightning** has fallen.

EXERCISE Underline once the participles and participial phrases used as adjectives in the following sentences. Then, underline twice the word or words each participle or participial phrase modifies.

Example 1. Excited by the good news, Sherry called all her friends.

1. The clown entertaining the children at the party was funny.

2. He had a surprised look on his face.

3. We were awakened last night by a barking dog.

4. Students participating in the event will meet after school.

5. The woman wandering down the street was wearing a red hat.

6. Surrounded by her closest friends, Jane enjoyed her birthday party.

7. As we entered the room, we noticed the broken vase on the floor.

8. Her dad comforted her with a reassuring smile.

9. The site was a perfect camping place for the night.

10. Startled by the noise, the cat scrambled under the chair.

11. Finally, they could see the train approaching in the distance.

12. Everyone involved in the discussion expressed his or her opinion.

13. We were happy with the services provided by that company.

14. The married couple set out on their honeymoon.

15. When we were young, my friends and I always hoped to find buried treasure.

16. Damaged by the storm, the car no longer ran.

17. The school threw a huge party for the teacher retiring this year.

18. We have to turn in our written work by the end of the week.

19. The man jogging up the hill is my grandfather.

20. Beatriz has always been a committed person.

Key

Name:

Date:

Directions: Combine two or more of these sentences so that the new sentence has a participle or participial phrase.

1. The dishwasher was invented in 1889.
The dishwasher was invented by an Indiana housewife.
The first dishwasher was driven by a steam engine.

The ^{first} dishwasher, driven by a steam engine, was invented by an Indiana housewife in 1889.

2. I took small sips from a can of Coke.
I was sitting on the ground in a shady corner.
I was sitting with my back against the wall.

I was sitting with my back against the wall on the ground in a shady corner, sipping from a can of Coke.

3. I was sitting on the window ledge.
The ledge overlooked the narrow street.
I watched the children.
The children were frolicking in the first snow of the season.

I was sitting on the window ledge, overlooking the narrow street, watching children frolicking in the first snow of the season.

4. The first edition of *Infant Care* was published by the U.S. Government.
The first edition of *Infant Care* was published in 1914.
The first edition of *Infant Care* recommended the use of peat moss for disposable diapers.

The first edition of *Infant Care*, published by the US Gov't in 1914, recommended the use of peat moss...

5. The house sat stately upon a hill.
The house was gray.
The house was weather-worn.
The house was surrounded by barren tobacco fields.

The gray, weather-worn house, surrounded by barren tobacco fields, sat stately upon a hill.

6. I washed the windows in a fever of fear.
I whipped the squeegee swiftly up and down the glass.
I feared that some member of the gang might see me.

Fearing that some member of the gang might see me, I washed the windows in a fever of fear, whipping the squeegee swiftly up and down the glass.

7. Goldsmith smiled.
He bunched his cheeks like twin rolls of toilet paper.
His cheeks were fat.
The toilet paper was smooth.
The toilet paper was pink.

Bunching his cheeks like twin rolls of smooth, pink toilet paper, Goldsmith smiled.

8. The roaches scurried in and out of the breadbox.

The roaches sang chanteys.
The roaches sang as they worked.
The roaches paused only to thumb their noses.
They thumbed their noses jeeringly.
They thumbed their noses in my direction.

Scurrying in and out of the breadbox, singing chanteys as they worked, the roaches

paused only to thumb their noses jeeringly in my direction.

9. The medieval peasant was distracted by war.
The medieval peasant was weakened by malnutrition.
The medieval peasant was exhausted by his struggle to earn a living.
The medieval peasant was an easy prey for the dreadful Black Death.

The medieval peasant

distracted by war, weakened by malnutrition, and exhausted by his struggle to earn a living,

the medieval peasant was an easy prey for the dreadful Black Death.

Eating slowly and steadily, he sucks the rich sardine oil from his fingers with slow and complete relish.