

THE PARTICIPLE

260. Read this sentence:

Hearing the noise, the boy woke up.

The word *hearing* qualifies the noun *boy* as an Adjective does.

It is formed from the Verb *hear*, and governs an object.

The word *hearing*, therefore, partakes of the nature of both a Verb and an Adjective, and is called a **Participle**. It may be called a Verbal Adjective.

Def. — A participle is that form of the Verb which partakes of the nature both of a Verb and of an Adjective.

[Or] A participle is a word which is partly a Verb and partly an Adjective.

[Note — The phrase 'Hearing the noise', which is introduced by a Participle, is called a **Participle Phrase**. According to its use here, it is an Adjective Phrase.]

261. Study the following examples of Participles:

1. We met a girl *carrying* a basket of flowers.
2. Loudly *knocking* at the gate, he demanded admission.
3. The child, *thinking* all was safe, attempted to cross the road.
4. He rushed into the field, and foremost *fighting* fell.

The above are all examples of what is usually called the **Present Participle**, which ends in *-ing* and represents an action as *going on* or *incomplete* or *imperfect*.

If the verb from which it comes is Transitive, it takes an object, as in sentence 1.

Notice also that in sentence 2, the Participle is modified by an adverb.

262. Besides the Present Participle, we can form from each verb another Participle called its **Past Participle**, which represents a completed action or state of the thing spoken of.

The following are examples of Past Participles:

Blinded by a dust storm, they fell into disorder.

Deceived by his friends, he lost all hope.

Time *misspent* is time lost.

Driven by hunger, he stole a piece of bread.

We saw a few trees *laden* with fruit.

It will be noticed that the Past Participle usually ends in *-ed*, *-d*, *-t*, *-en*, or *-n*.

Besides these two simple participles, the Present and the Past, we have what is called a **Perfect Participle** that represents an action as completed at some past time; as,

Having rested, we continued our journey.

263. In the following examples the Participles are used as simple qualifying adjectives in front of a noun; thus used they are called **Participle Adjectives**:

A *rolling* stone gathers no moss.

We had a drink of the *sparkling* water.

His *tattered* coat needs mending.

The *creaking* door awakened the dog.

A *lying* witness ought to be punished.

He played a *losing* game.

A *burnt* child dreads the fire.

His *finished* manners produced a very favourable impression.

He wears a *worried* look.

Education is the most *pressing* need of our country.

He was reputed to be the most *learned* man of his time.

From the last two examples it will be noticed that a Participle admits of degrees of comparison.

264. Used adjectivally the past participle is Passive in meaning, while the Present Participle is Active in meaning; as,

a *spent* swimmer = a swimmer who is tired out;

a *burnt* child = a child who is burnt;

a *painted* doll = a doll which is painted;

a *rolling* stone = a stone which rolls.

265. Let us now recapitulate what we have already learnt about the Participle.

(1) A participle is a Verbal Adjective.

(2) Like a Verb it may govern a noun or pronoun; as,

Hearing the noise, the boy woke up. [The noun *noise* is governed by the participle *Hearing*].

(3) Like a Verb it may be modified by an adverb; as

Loudly knocking at the gate, he demanded admission. [Here the participle *knocking* is modified by the adverb *Loudly*.]

(4) Like an adjective it may qualify a noun or pronoun; as,

Having rested, the men continued their journey.

(5) Like an Adjective it may be compared; as,

Education is the *most pressing* need of our time. [Here the participle *pressing* is compared by prefixing *most*.]

266. Below are shown the forms of the different Participles:

Active
Present: loving
Perfect: having loved

Passive
Present: being loved.
Perfect: having been loved.
Past: loved

Uses of the participle

participles are used in various ways.
It has got a number of uses

1. The continuous tenses are formed from the present participle, that is the ing form of the participle.

Which are the continuous tenses?

(a) The Present Continuous Tense.

We use the auxiliary verbs

is, am and are in the formation

of this tense. is is used with singular subjects and are is used with plural subjects.

(a) I am living nearby.

(b) He is playing football

(c) They are walking

Here living, playing and walking are present participles.

one thing important. be is an auxiliary verb. The different forms of be are (is, am, are, was, were, been, being)

So in the formation of the Present Continuous tense we use is, am, and are which are 3 different forms of be. Hence, the present continuous tense is formed from the present participle with the help of the auxiliary verb be.

(b) The Past Continuous Tense

The Past Continuous tense denotes an action that went on for sometime in the past. We use the auxiliary verbs was and were in the formation of

this tense. These are again forms of the verb be. We use was with singular subjects and were with plural subjects.

eg. (1) He was playing football yesterday evening.

(2) The boys were playing football yesterday evening.

We have formed the Past Continuous tense with the Present participle playing. In the process we have taken the help of the auxiliary verb Be.

(3) future continuous tense

The future continuous tense refers to ~~an~~ a future action, which will continue or go on for some time.

We use the auxiliary verbs will be and shall be in the formation of this tense.

Eg 1. Mohan will be watching a film tomorrow evening.

2. We shall be visiting Taj Mahal next summer

We have formed this tense, these sentences using the present participle watching and visiting.

We have also taken the help of be.

Hence, this is the first use of the participle. It is used to form the continuous tenses.

use no 2

we form the Perfect Tenses from the past participle. Together with the past participle we use the verb have. we use have in the Present, Past form and future form.

look at the examples

1. The Present Perfect tense.

This tense denotes an action that has been completed just now. we use the auxiliary verbs has and have in the formation of this tense. Has is used with singular subjects and have is used with plural subjects.

Eg. 1) He has taken his breakfast

2) They have taken the breakfast.

Here we have used the past participle ^{taken} after has or have.

2. Past Perfect Tense

This tense denotes an action that was completed at sometime in the past. We use the auxiliary verb had in the formation of this ~~to~~ tense.

Example

- 1) Akshaya had finished her homework by 9.00 pm yesterday.
- 2) The girls had finished their practice by yesterday evening.

Here we have used the past participle had.

3. Future Perfect tense

- we use the future perfect tense to denote action that will be completed at some time in the future. we use the auxiliary verbs will have and shall have in the formation of this tense

Examples

1. I shall have completed my course by next year.
2. The girls will have finished their final exams by next December

Course प्रोग्राम नव इ बेमस द्वारा
अपूर्ण अपूर्ण सो

Here we have used the past participle after shall have and will have.

So our point is clear.

The perfect tenses are formed using the past participles. We take the help of the auxiliary verb have in this formation of the perfect tenses.

Use No. 3

We form the passive voice from the past participle. In the process, we take the help of the auxiliary verb be.

What is voice? We are familiar with the literary meaning of the word. But the word has a grammatical meaning too. We will study this in detail later. For the time being, I am making you familiar with the concept.

Voice is simply a form of the verb.
This form tells us if the subject
is doing the action or suffering or
receiving the action.

If the verb tells us that - the
subject is doing something, it is in
the ~~Passive Voice~~ Active Voice. But
if the verb tells us that the subject
is receiving the action, it is in
the Passive Voice.

For Example
Maya loves ice-cream.
The verb loves tells us that
- Maya is doing something. Hence, the
verb loves is in the Active Voice.

But if we change the sentence a bit like

Ice-cream is loved by Maya

Here the subject of the sentence is Ice-cream. The verb is loved tells us that the subject ice-cream is not doing anything, but simply receives the action done by Maya. Hence, the verb is loved is in the passive voice.

Here the passive voice is formed with is which is a form of be and the past participle loved.
Now all the 12 tenses have passive forms.

tense

Active form

passive form

1. Simple Present Mohan plays football football is played by Mohan
2. Present Continuous Mohan is playing football. football is being played by Mohan
3. Present Perfect - Mohan has played football. football has been played by Mohan
4. Present Perfect Continuous Mohan has been playing football. football has been played by Mohan
5. Simple Past Mohan played football. football was played by Mohan
6. Past Continuous - Mohan was playing football. football was being played by Mohan
7. Past Perfect Mohan had played football. football had been played by Mohan
8. Past Perfect Continuous - Mohan had been playing football football had been played by Mohan

9. Simple future Mohan will play football. football will be
played by Mohan
10. future continuous Mohan will be playing football. football will be
Tense played by Mohan
11. future perfect - Mohan will have played football - football will have
been played by
Mohan
12. future perfect Continuous Mohan will have been playing football. football will have
been played by
Mohan

Look at the 12 passive forms. They are all formed by the past participles of the verb play. Hence, this is the third use of the participle.

use no 4

participles are used to qualify nouns or pronouns.

Example

1. A rolling stone gathers no moss
2. A lost opportunity never returns
3. A dancing girl delights the audience.

These are the important uses of the participle.