

Participles and Participial Phrases #2

A **participle** is a verb form that often acts as an **adjective** in a sentence. Participles and participial phrases (participles + all closely associated words) can modify nouns, noun phrases, or pronouns.



Present participles always end in -ing.

The roar of the **thundering waterfall** drowned out the rafters' voices.

The participle *thundering* modifies the noun *waterfall*.

Paddling in unison, the rafters maneuvered to the cave hidden behind the waterfall.

The participial phrase *paddling in unison* modifies the noun phrase *the rafters*.

Past participles usually end in -ed, just like the simple past tense of regular verbs.

The community came together to help clean up the **flooded businesses**.

The participle *flooded* modifies the noun *businesses*.

Abigail, inspired by her older siblings, helped to clean the library after the flood.

The participial phrase *inspired by her older siblings* modifies the noun *Abigail*.

Past participles made from irregular verbs may be unchanged from the base verb, or they may end in -d, -t, -en, or -n.

The artist left **written instructions** for her son about how to sell her paintings.

The participle *written* modifies the noun *instructions*.

Sold under odd circumstances, the painting disappeared, never to be seen again.

The participial phrase *sold under odd circumstances* modifies the noun phrase *the painting*.

In each sentence, highlight the participle or participial phrase that is acting as an adjective. Then, underline the part of the sentence that the participle or participial phrase is modifying.

1. The book's **worn pages** revealed Elena's love for rereading her favorite adventure story.
2. The **dripping faucet** in the laboratory torments Kendall every day while she works.
3. **Elected in a landslide**, **Governor Black** celebrated her victory with friends and family.
4. Jake quickly walked past the **garbage bins overflowing** with food containers.
5. The empty **canoe, blown by strong wind gusts**, sailed across the lake toward the waterfall.
6. Each afternoon, Cassie savors one piece from her **chocolate stash stored** in her refrigerator.
7. After many hours of work, Chef Lawrence served a **roasted mushroom pasta** to the food critic.
8. **Trembling with nerves**, **Eleanor** presented her guests with her new, custom blend of tea.
9. Eli discovered his great-grandmother's **journal hidden** in a secret compartment of an old desk.
10. The gardener proudly gestured toward the flame-orange flower of his **blooming rosebushes**.