

PARTICIPLES

Participles are words created from verbs that are used as adjectives to modify nouns in a sentence. They can also be used as introductions to adverbial phrases.

There are two kinds of participle: present and past. **Present participles** always end in *-ing* and correlate to events taking place in the current tense. The **past participle** can be either regular or irregular and refers to events that have already happened.

Differentiating between participles and gerunds can be a little tricky sometimes because participles can actually function as gerunds.

Participle	Gerund
Annie is <u>singing</u> .	Annie loves <u>singing</u> .
She was <u>running</u> very quickly.	<u>Running</u> is good for exercise.
I saw that he was <u>smiling</u> .	He enjoys <u>smiling</u> .

PRESENT PARTICIPLE EXAMPLE:

In the sentence below, *studying* is a present participle that is working as the beginning of an adverbial phrase in the sentence.

I spent the whole day studying math.

PAST PARTICIPLE EXAMPLE:

In the sentence below, the word *cracked* is the past participle working as an adjective to modify the noun *windows*.

The windows were cracked when the rainstorm came through.