

THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE

The **participial phrase** is always used as an adjective phrase to modify a noun or pronoun. It includes the participle together with its modifiers, objects, or predicate words.

The present participle form *always* ends in *-ing*, but the endings for past perfect and passive perfect participles may vary.

ex. Walking rapidly, we reached the town in fifteen minutes.

Annoyed by the noise, the teacher spoke sharply to the class.

Tom, having won the chess game, looked up happily.

Having won every game but one, Ohio State now led the Big Ten.

Identifying Participial Phrases. Underline the participial phrase in each of the following sentences. Watch for past and present participles.

Example: Mr. Flynn, annoyed by Joe's question, answered him impatiently.

1. Having been on the road for four days, the Todds were exhausted.
2. That hymn, sung by many generations of churchgoers, is my favorite.
3. Climbing slowly, we approached the top of the hill.
4. Surprised by my question, Mrs. Osmond blushed.
5. Phil, worn out by his long trip, slept for twelve hours.
6. Watching me closely, the dog came toward me.
7. Staring out the window at the rain, Bob became more and more impatient.
8. Having been hurt in the first game, Al sat on the bench for the rest of the season.
9. The plates, brought from Denmark by my grandmother, are on display in the dining room.
10. The cookies, baked this morning, were all gone by five o'clock.
11. Having come out in the cool night air, Mr. Troy looked up at the sky.
12. The children, waiting for the play to begin, grew bored.
13. Working hard all day, the boys finished the job by dinner time.
14. Driven from their homelands, many people each year seek refuge in the United States.
15. Jumping up and down, the cheerleaders urged the team on.
16. The basketball team, encouraged by its performance in the semifinals, went on to the finals.
17. Having recorded the results of the experiment, Kate closed her notebook.
18. We saw an old woman walking up the path.
19. Having been told of her job offer, Kathy smiled happily.
20. Having spent each afternoon at the beach, Alice soon had a nice tan.

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