

PARTICIPLES

Participles are formed when we combine an auxiliary verb and a finite verb +ing or ed.

Clouds **had formed** before the storm.

| Present tense | Past tense | Present Participle | Past Participle |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| I play. | I played. | I am playing. | I have played. |

Present participles

They state the continuous nature of the action and usually end in **ing**.

He reads. He is reading. He was reading. He will be reading.

I participate. I am participating. I was participating. I shall be participating.

The present participle can function as an adjective and modify nouns in sentences.

When used with an auxiliary verb like “is,” “am,” “are,” “was,” or “were,” the present participle forms a compound verb that describes an action that is in progress.

OTHER WORDS ENDING IN -ING

GERUND (Verbal noun)

When a word ending in **ing** is used as a noun, it is called a gerund.

A gerund is usually indicated by the word **of**.

The *crying* of the child.

She has a fear of *flying*.

ADJECTIVE

A word may end in **ing** and be used as an adjective.

The crying child alarmed us.

The sky was darkened by flying ants.

What is the difference between gerund and present participle?

Both a gerund and a present participle come from a verb, and both end in –ing. However, each has a different function. A gerund acts as a noun while a present participle acts like a verb or adjective.

Past Participle

They help to make the past tense of a verb.

For regular verbs, adding –ed to the base form the past participle.

Cook – **cooked**

Formed from irregular verbs may have endings like –en, -t, -d and –n.

Burn – **burnt**

Broke – broken

What is the difference between Past Tense and Past Participle?

Past tense is a tense while the past participle is a specific verb form used in the past and present perfect tenses.

Where do we use past participle?

The past participle is used with the verb have/has/had to create the present and past perfect tenses. The past participle form is also used to modify nouns and pronouns.