

English Participles

English participles have several different functions in the English language. So let's make them clear and easy to understand.

- **What does "participle" mean?**
What is a participle?
- The word **participle** comes from a Latin word which means "a sharing, partaking" (or in other words, **participation**).

- **Participle definition**
- A participle is a **form of the verb** that is used **together** with another verb to form certain tenses.

- **For example:**
I am **eating** an apple.

EATING is a form of the verb E,



It is used together with another verb (AM) to make the present progressive tense.

So EATING is a participle.

- I have **washed** the dishes.

WASHED is a form of the verb WASH.

It is used together with another verb
to make the present perfect tense.

So WASHED is a participle.



E)

n English there are mainly two kinds of participles: the present participle and the past participle.

- **Present participle**
- The present participle ends in "-ing".

Examples of present participles:

Walking

- Helping
- Drinking
- Taking

- The present participle is used together with the verb BE to form the progressive tenses:
Past progressive
- Present progressive
- Future progressive
- Past perfect progressive
- Present perfect progressive
- Future perfect progressive

- **Example sentences:**

They are **dancing** together right now.

- John was **painting** the wall all morning.

- I will be **sleeping** by the time you come back.

- **Past participle**
- The past participle ends in "-d" or "-ed", in case of a regular verb, or differently, in case of an irregular verb.

- **Examples of past participles:**

Walked

- Helped

- Drunk

- Taken

- The past participle is used together with the verb HAVE to form the perfect tenses:

Past perfect

- Present perfect

- Future perfect

- **Example sentences:**
They have **danced** together in the past.
- John had **painted** the wall before he sold the house.
- I will have **fallen** asleep by 8 o'clock tomorrow.
- The past participle is also used together with the verb BE to form passive sentences.

- **Example sentences:**

The wall was **painted** by John.

- The apple was **eaten** by me.

- We were **given** some good advice.

- **Participles as adjectives**
- Both the present participle and the past participle can be used as adjectives.

For example:

Present participle	Past participle
Boring	Bored
Interesting	Interested
Confusing	Confused
Amazing	Amazed
Annoying	Annoyed
Exciting	Excited

Example sentences:

Participles are used together with **helping verbs** (also called auxiliary verbs).

Present participle	Past participle
The movie was very boring .	Why do you look so bored ?
That book was so interesting .	She is very interested in music.
His message was a bit confusing .	I feel quite confused .
What an amazing speech!	We were quite amazed to see her.
You really are annoying . ..	The audience became annoyed .
James has an exciting job.	We are so excited !

