

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #28

FOCUS Past Participles

A **past participle** is a modifier that defines, describes, or limits another word or words.

CONNECT TO WRITING

A past participle uses a helping verb (be— *is, am, are, was, were*), or (have—*has, have, had*) + a “__ed,” “__d,” “__t,” or “__en” added onto the base form of a verb to describe an action that happened in the past before another action. To avoid confusion, don’t put too many words between a past participle and the word or words it modifies. The helping verb shows past, present, or future actions.

Examples: *I was defeated* by a stronger opponent. *I have defeated* my opponent.

When used as an adjective, the past participle describes a condition in the past.

Example: *Depressed*, the child needed someone to listen to him.

Many of the common past participle forms are irregular and don’t use the “__ed,” “__d,” “__t,” or “__en” ending.

Example: The cat *had caught* a mouse (not *catched* or *caughten*).

PRACTICE

Underline the past participles and their helping verbs in the sentences below.

1. He has carefully listed his reasons for the purchase.
2. Paid a large amount for her services, the woman was happy to help.
3. Built by Native Americans, the caves were interesting.
4. They have never tried to sell any of their artwork.

WRITE

Write a sentence with a present participle acting as a verb and another sentence with a present participle acting as an adjective.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet Answers

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #31 Practice Answers

1. closer 2. harder 3. more 4. worse 5. happier

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #32 Practice Answers

1. quickest 2. more 3. biggest 4. best

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #33 Practice Answers

1. more (less) difficult 2. more outstanding 3. more (less) incredible
4. more ridiculous 5. more (less) suspiciously 6. more (less) suspected 7. more (less) nervously

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #34 Practice Answers

1. most considerate 2. least specifically 3. most carefully 4. most understood
5. most simply 6. least frequently

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #35 Practice Answers

was LV; had HV told; were HV going; did HV not turn LV; to be LV; would HV not have HV
lied; felt LV; had HV; would HV be LV; seems LV; should HV find

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #36 Practice Answers

1. permission 2. possibility 3. requirement 4. need 5. expectation 6. ability
7. advice

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #37 Practice Answers

1. Penny helped at the senior center after school. 2. Cowboys roped and branded their cattle.
3. That radio station played all of my favorite songs. 4. Tamesia touched her left cheek every
time she raised her hand in class.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #38 Practice Answers

1. Larry was enjoying the beautiful sunsets at the beach. 2. They were expecting a lot of money
for their used car. 3. Her friends were sleeping in the living room when the fire alarm sounded.
4. Rosie was going to the movies.