

ADVERBIAL PARTICIPIALS and their PHRASES

○ USAGE:

“Seeing a deer, I stopped my car.”

In conversation, people don't usually use participial phrases as they sound rather formal. In **casual speech**, we would more likely say:

“I saw a deer on the road and I stopped my car.”

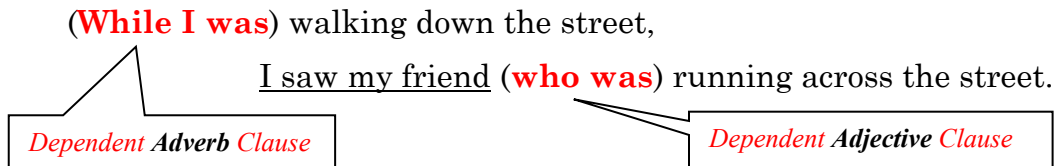
In **writing**, they are very economic, and show sophistication and skill when used well.

○ TERMINOLOGY:

Since the **Dependent Adverb Clause** is reduced and no longer expresses a **subject**, it is no longer a clause. It is now a **phrase**.

Since the verb is reduced to either an **-ed** or **-ing participle** and is no longer conjugated or truly showing tense, we have “**Participial phrase**” or just “**Participial**”.

These “**adverbial phrases**” are different from **adjective** clauses and phrases.



1. usually precede but can follow
2. always non-restrictive
3. embed meaning
4. can produce dangling errors

1. Always follow a noun/pronoun
2. Restrictive & non-restrictive
3. Do not embed meaning

Since the **subject** is not expressed, it **must be the same** as the subject expressed in the main clause; otherwise, the modifying phrase is **DANGLING**.

Remember the rule: “missing subject IS next subject.”

- = (since **I** was) Discussing participial phrases, **I** wrote an example of one.
- = The **student** was working on his grammar, (as **he** was) trying to remember rules.
- ≠ (the **student** was) Feeling sleepy, the student's **sentence** came out incorrect.

○ STRUCTURE:

Since the verb is not fully conjugated, participials are tenseless and require context. The **verb tense** of the sentence is shown in the **main clause**.

Written as an example, this sentence { *showed*
shows
will show } a participial phrase.

Participial phrases have **three** forms, and they can show **negativity** and take on **adverbs**.

1) Active Participles

Working on his grammar, he **got** tired.
Walking home, he **thinks** of another way.
Not *hearing* the news, he **won't** know until tomorrow.
Sometimes *on hearing* sad news, he **would begin** to sing.
Without *knowing* the answer, he **got** it right anyway.

2) Passive Participles

Given the key to the door, he **let** himself in.
Built for speed, this car **will tear** up the road.
Not *heard* coming in, he **went** to bed undisturbed.
Always *told* to smile, he rarely **showed** his sadness.
Used sparingly, whisky can help his mood.



Hearing someone yell fire, I ran.

Having heard someone yell fire, when I opened the door and smelling smoke, I ran.

Note from the above examples that the participle clause normally, but not invariably, comes in front of the main clause.

- *Used sparingly, this face cream should last you until Christmas.*
If you use it sparingly, this face cream should last you until Christmas.
- *Having taken the wrong train, I found myself in Bath, not Bristol.*
Because I had taken the wrong train, I found myself in Bath, not Bristol.
- *Passing the theatre on my right, I walked up the steps and could see all the lights on the Thames ahead of me.*
After I had passed the theatre on my right, I walked up the steps and could see all the lights on the Thames ahead of me.

○ ADJECTIVE CONSTRUCTION / PARTICIPIAL ADJECTIVES

ACTIVE VERBS

This word fascinates me. The fascinating word has been

PASSIVE VERBS

My car was stolen

ADVERBIAL PARTICIPLES - the welldone movie / the overcooked food

