



## Participles

The participles are:

- a) present participles (playing, running, etc.),
- b) past participles (played, written, etc.) and
- c) perfect participles (having written, etc.).

- ◆ Present and past participles can be used as adjectives.

The **present participle (-ing)** describes what somebody or something is (it answers the question 'What kind?'). The **past participle (-ed)** describes how somebody feels (it answers the question 'How do you feel?').

e.g. It's a very **tiring** job. (What kind of job? Tiring.)

He's very **tired**. (How does he feel? Tired.)

Participles can also be used:

- ◆ **to express time.**  
e.g. *After doing/having done her homework, she watched TV.*  
*Having done her homework, she watched TV.*  
(=After she had done her homework, she watched TV.)  
*He broke his arm (while) playing hockey.*  
(=He broke his arm while he was playing hockey.)
- ◆ **to express reason.**  
e.g. *Being late, Adam took a taxi.*  
(=Because he was late, Adam took a taxi.)  
*Having spent all her money, Pam asked for a loan.*  
(=Because she had spent all her money, Pam asked for a loan.)
- ◆ **instead of a relative pronoun and full verb.**  
e.g. *The man standing at the door is my boss.*  
(=The man who is standing at the door is my boss.)  
*The information presented in the article was invaluable.*  
(=The information which was presented in the article was invaluable.)
- ◆ **instead of the past simple in narratives when we describe actions happening immediately one after the other.**  
e.g. *Seeing the shadow, he screamed.*  
(=He saw the shadow and he screamed.)
- ◆ **to avoid repeating the past continuous in the same sentence.**  
e.g. *She was climbing up a ladder carrying a bucket.*  
(=She was climbing up a ladder and she was carrying a bucket.)

### I. Choose the correct answer.

1. Have you read that new book yet?

Only some of it. It's very **bored** / **boring**.

2. Did you enjoy your holiday?

Oh, yes. It was very **relaxed** / **relaxing**.

3. I'm going to a lecture tonight. Do you want to come?

No thanks. I'm not **interested** / **interesting** in the subject.

4. Did you hurt yourself when you felt?

No, but it was very **embarrassed** / **embarrassing**.

5. Shall I turn off the lights?

No. I'm **frightened** / **frightening** of the dark.

6. Was mother upset when you broke her vase?

Not really, but she was very **annoyed** / **annoying**.

7. How do you feel today?

I still feel very **tired** / **tiring**.

8. I haven't seen Mr Green for several days.

Neither have I. It's a bit **worried** / **worrying**.

### II. Choose the correct answer.

- 1.        the film at least a dozen times, he knew it almost by heart.
  - Having been seen
  - Seeing
  - Having seen

- 2.           that it was useless to argue with him, I dropped the subject.
  - Having been seen
  - Seeing
  - Having seen
  
- 3. She turned to me for help,           how to deal with the problem.
  - not having known
  - not knowing
  - not being known
  
- 4. A           kindness deserves no thanks.
  - forced
  - forcing
  - having forced
  
- 5. I heard him           something from the opposite side of the street, but I pretended not to hear.
  - shouting
  - shouted
  - having shouted
  
- 6.           as a taxi-driver before, Leo knew every corner of the town.
  - Working
  - Having worked
  - Worked
  
- 7.           unwell, Len decided to stay away from classes for a few days.
  - Having felt
  - Felt
  - Feeling

- 8. She bent down and looked at the tiny kitten                      under the table.
  - sitting
  - having been sat
  - having sat
  
- 9. Desmond wondered who it could be.                      to the door, he flung it open.
  - Coming up
  - Come
  - Having come up
  
- 10.                      , Derek told Alice one of his invariable jokes and thus avoided the confession.
  - Pressed
  - Having been pressed
  - Being pressed
  
- 11. A white shawl                      around the girl's shoulders made her look like a Greek goddess.
  - having been wrapped
  - being wrapped
  - wrapped
  
- 12. Alice didn't like her Biology classes; she thought they were                      .
  - bored
  - boring
  - being boring
  
- 13.                      control of his car on an icy road, the driver hit a tree.
  - Having lost
  - Losing
  - Being lost

- 14.                by the beauty of the girl's face, Lester didn't notice that she was sitting in a wheelchair.
  - Fascinating
  - Fascinated
  - Being fascinated
  
- 15. I am                . Let's do something. How about going to a movie?
  - boring
  - bored
  - being bored