

WORKSHEET 4

Identifying Present and Past Participles and
Participial Phrases

EXERCISE A Underline each present participle or participial phrase in the following sentences, and circle the word or words that the participle or participial phrase modifies. If a sentence does not contain a present participle or a participial phrase, write *NONE* on the line provided.

EXAMPLES _____ 1. The roaring (lion) frightened the young child.

NONE 2. My father is running every day now.

- _____ 1. The growing popularity of the Internet is catching the attention of people who sell goods and services.
- _____ 2. Peacefully floating on the lake, Rob and Lucio forgot about the horseback ride at two o'clock.
- _____ 3. Hundreds of flood evacuees were arriving at the Red Cross camp each day.
- _____ 4. The young boy was walking much faster than his braying donkey.
- _____ 5. Ahmed, eagerly expecting a letter from his best friend, waited impatiently for the mail carrier.
- _____ 6. By the time he was six years old, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was composing music.
- _____ 7. Wanting to commemorate the primates at the Philadelphia Zoo, the artist Sally Linder painted fourteen portraits of them.
- _____ 8. Pieter, a foreign exchange student who is living in Texas, misses the changing colors of leaves in autumn.
- _____ 9. Our neighbors are building a deck in their back yard.
- _____ 10. Studying French literature, Jan's sister decided to become a translator.

EXERCISE B Underline each past participle or participial phrase in the following sentences, and circle the word or words that the participle or participial phrase modifies. If a sentence does not contain a past participle or a participial phrase, write *NONE* on the line provided.

EXAMPLES _____ 1. Faded by the sun, the velour (curtains) had lost much of their splendor.

NONE 2. The project was evaluated by several experts.

- _____ 1. Born in New Orleans in 1961, Wynton Marsalis is a Grammy Award-winning trumpet player.
- _____ 2. Soundly defeated, the soldiers laid down their weapons.

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- _____ 3. In the mid-1800s, the soprano Jenny Lind was known as the “Swedish Nightingale.”
- _____ 4. Elyssa walked away slowly with wounded pride.
- _____ 5. The unanswered letter lay at the bottom of the drawer.
- _____ 6. The old tractor, broken and forgotten, was still in the barn.
- _____ 7. Myanmar, located in Southeast Asia, was formerly called Burma.
- _____ 8. Federico García Lorca is considered by some to be the most popular poet of the Spanish-speaking world.
- _____ 9. The contract, written in German, was found among Mr. Bohr’s belongings.
- _____ 10. Now also cultivated in the United States, the kiwi fruit is named after a flightless brown bird of New Zealand.
- _____ 11. Heidi, encouraged by the audience’s applause, decided to sing another song.
- _____ 12. Ashamed of his rudeness to his mother’s visitor, Rudy took a deep breath and apologized to the woman.
- _____ 13. The farmer, completely exhausted by his twelve-hour day in the field, ate a hearty supper.
- _____ 14. The surprised burglar dropped his tools and loot and ran out the back door.
- _____ 15. The librarian searched several databases before she found the answer to Colleen’s question.
- _____ 16. The frustrated two-year-old scowled, turned red in the face, and finally let out an ear-piercing wail.
- _____ 17. The soccer player, sidelined by a torn ligament, watched his team score the winning goal.
- _____ 18. Elected by a large margin, the politician declared that she would fulfill all of her promises.
- _____ 19. Vicky sneezed, coughed, and blew her nose frequently when she suffered an allergy attack.
- _____ 20. Overwhelmed by a crush of hungry diners, the restaurant owner admitted that there could be too much of a good thing.
- _____ 21. The enraged steer bellowed, lowered its head, and charged at the rancher.
- _____ 22. Accompanied by John on drums, Luther on bass, and Travis on guitar, Kenny played a flawless trumpet solo.
- _____ 23. The electrical transformer, struck by lightning, exploded in a ball of fire.
- _____ 24. Grandmother’s lined face reflected a lifetime of smiles, laughter, and love.
- _____ 25. The pierced tin lantern cast a beautiful pattern of light over the patio.