

Identifying Participles and Participial Phrases (Rules 6 a, c)

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, underline the word or words modified by the italicized participle or participial phrase.

EXAMPLE 1. The branch, *blowing in the wind*, cast strange shadows on my window.

1. Karen Blixen, *using the name Isak Dinesen*, wrote both fiction and nonfiction.
2. *Watching them warily*, the bobcat moved softly across the field.
3. Dave's parents, *overjoyed by his success*, gave a celebration party.
4. Lorraine Hansberry, *writing about African American life*, created the prize-winning play A Raisin in the Sun.
5. *Jumping from tree to tree*, the squirrel seemed to fly.
6. *Reviewing my notes*, I noticed an error in logic.
7. *Angered by the disturbance*, the bull ran toward the trespassers.
8. *Writing and speaking eloquently*, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., inspired generations.
9. We could smell the pizza *burning*.
10. My very tall brother, *disgusted about being asked if he plays basketball*, answers, "No, do you play miniature golf?"

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, underline each participle or participial phrase once and underline the word it modifies twice.

EXAMPLE 1. Swimming close to shore, the porpoises attracted many watchers.

1. The puppies, crying from loneliness, watched for their mother.
2. Left for too long, they began to climb out of their box.
3. The basmati rice, steamed to perfection, was delicious with the curry.
4. Writing about Vietnam, Yusef Komunyakaa, a poet from Louisiana, is unflinchingly candid.
5. Knowing the meanings of clouds, my grandfather accurately predicts the weather.
6. Writing *The Natural*, his first novel, Bernard Malamud focused on baseball.
7. Charmed by the kitten, she offered it some milk.
8. As the bus pulled away, we saw several people waving.
9. The fern, grown in the tropics, did not do well in the Adirondacks.
10. Their trip to El Paso, taken on horseback, lasted two weeks.

LANGUAGE HANDBOOK **10** SENTENCE COMBINING

WORKSHEET 2 Using Participial Phrases to Combine Sentences (Rule 10 b)

EXERCISE A Combine each pair of sentences by making one of the sentences a participial phrase. Punctuate the combined sentence correctly. *Begin the sentence w/ the participial phrase. Underline the phrase.*

EXAMPLE 1. Pete handed the composition to Elaine. He praised its clear, readable style. Pete handed the composition to Elaine, praising its clear, readable style.

1. *The Tale of Genji* is believed to be the world's first novel. It was written by Murasaki Shikibu around A.D. 1000. _____

2. Inez rode her bicycle to the store. She was pedaling furiously. _____

3. I reached into the water. I grabbed the fish by the tail. _____

4. The Egyptians invented hieroglyphic writing about 3500-3000 B.C. This writing was inscribed on the tombs of the pharaohs. _____

5. We stood at the bus stop. We waited for the bus to arrive. _____

6. The smoke indicated that the house was occupied. The smoke was billowing from the chimney. _____

7. In class we saw the movie *Les Misérables*. It was based on the novel by Victor Hugo. _____

8. Everyone listened to the talented girl. She was playing the dulcimer. _____

9. For many animals the Santee Swamp in South Carolina is a haven. These animals are endangered by extinction. _____

10. Francis Marion's troops waged guerrilla war against the British during the Revolutionary War. The troops often hid in the Santee Swamp. _____

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