

Name _____

Date _____

Participles

A **participle** is a form of a verb, but it is not used as a verb. Participles can be used as **adjectives** because they modify, or describe, nouns. To form most participles, use the *-ed* or *-ing* forms for regular verbs.

Examples: the *running* car our *broken* faucet (irregular verb)
my *singing* bird a *raised* roof

Describe the nouns below with a participle. Remember: A participle is a verb form used as an adjective.

Example: disorganized desk
 buzzing bee

INCORRECT: red desk
INCORRECT: small bee

1. _____ door

3. _____ essay

2. _____ flowers

4. _____ walk

A **participial phrase** includes a participle and other words that help describe a noun. **A sentence with a participial phrase could look like this:**

Walking down the street, Ryan spotted his brother coming toward him.
- *walking down the street* describes Ryan

Or this:

The contest, *completed by the time I arrived*, was to find the best speller.
- *completed by the time I arrived* tells something about the contest

Participial phrases make writing more lively.

Underline the participial phrases in the sentences below. Then write what is being modified, or described, on the line.

Example: My dog was in the backyard burying a stuffed toy.

participial phrase

dog
what is modified

5. Shedding his skin, the snake slithered along the beach. _____

6. Paul almost fell down carrying a big pile of books. _____

7. The sidewalk, crumbling from years of neglect, was the next topic on the committee's agenda. _____

8. Looking at her dinner, Sydney was reminded of the two big sandwiches she ate for lunch. _____