

Name _____

Date _____

Participles and Participial Phrases

Definition

Participles are verb forms that function as adjectives. Present participles end in -ing, while past participles typically end in -ed, -en, -d, -t, or -n. A **participial phrase** consists of a participle plus any modifiers and complements, functioning as an adjective.

Example

Simple Participles

Type	Example	Base Verb
Present participle	The running water created a peaceful sound.	run
Past participle	The broken vase lay on the floor.	break

Participial Phrases

Type	Example	Base Verb
Past participial phrase	Exhausted from the long journey, the travelers rested.	the travelers
Present participial phrase	Hoping for a good grade, the student studied all night.	the student

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Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions

Identify the participle or participial phrase in each sentence and determine whether it is a present participle or past participle construction.

1. Decorated with vibrant frescoes, the palace of Knossos revealed the artistic sophistication of Minoan civilization.

- a) present participle
- b) past participle
- c) neither
- d) both

2. The archaeologists discovered pottery dating back to 2000 BCE in the palace storerooms.

- a) present participle
- b) past participle
- c) neither
- d) both

3. Emerging from the Mediterranean landscape, the complex architecture of Minoan palaces showcased advanced engineering skills.

- a) present participle
- b) past participle
- c) neither
- d) both

4. The palace at Phaistos, built around a central courtyard, demonstrates typical Minoan architectural design.

- a) present participle
- b) past participle
- c) neither
- d) both

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5. Visitors to Knossos are amazed by the ancient plumbing systems installed by Minoan engineers thousands of years ago.

- a) present participle
- b) past participle
- c) neither
- d) both

Part 2: Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence by adding an appropriate participial phrase in the space provided.

1. _____ (present participle phrase), the Minoan palaces served as centers for administration and trade.
2. The throne room of Knossos, _____ (past participle phrase), fascinated Sir Arthur Evans during his excavations.
3. _____ (past participle phrase), the elaborate drainage systems prevented flooding during heavy rains.
4. Minoan craftsmen created delicate pottery, _____ (present participle phrase).
5. _____ (present participle phrase), archaeologists have reconstructed much of the palace's original appearance.

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Participles and Participial Phrases – Answer Key**Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions**

1. b) past participle ("Decorated with vibrant frescoes" is a past participle phrase)
2. a) present participle ("dating back to 2000 BCE" is a present participle phrase)
3. a) present participle ("Emerging from the Mediterranean landscape" is a present participle phrase)
4. b) past participle ("built around a central courtyard" is a past participle phrase)
5. b) past participle ("installed by Minoan engineers" is a past participle phrase)

Part 2: Fill in the Blank**Possible answers:**

1. (present participle phrase) Functioning as economic centers / Extending across several acres / Rising several stories high / Connecting the royal family to their subjects
2. (past participle phrase) adorned with colorful griffins / preserved for over 4,000 years / restored according to archaeological evidence / decorated with symbols of royal power
3. (past participle phrase) Constructed with precisely angled pipes / Designed with remarkable engineering skill / Built with advanced technical knowledge / Integrated throughout the palace complex
4. (present participle phrase) showcasing their advanced firing techniques / demonstrating remarkable artistic skill / reflecting religious and cultural motifs / incorporating marine themes and natural elements
5. (present participle phrase) Working with fragmented evidence / Using advanced imaging technology / Studying architectural remains and artifacts / Analyzing the original building materials