Participle Jobs

Sort verb forms by the job they do.

6.L.GC.1.44 "Grammar: Form and use participles. (Master)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

PARTICIPLE AS AN ADJECTIVE

Here, a participle describes a noun, so it does an adjective's job.

A sparkling river curved through the canyon.

PARTICIPLE IN A VERB PHRASE

Here, a participle works with a helping verb to make a verb phrase.

The actor was rehearsing backstage.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle the category for each bracketed word, then choose two items and explain how each bracketed word works in its sentence.

1. The [shivering] puppy hid beneath a chair. ADJECTIVE VERB
2. A [forgotten] mitten lay near the gate. ADJECTIVE VERB
3. The bells were [ringing] at noon. ADJECTIVE VERB
4. The [boiling] soup splashed onto the stove. ADJECTIVE VERB
5. The chef has [chopped] the onions. ADJECTIVE VERB
6. The windows had [frozen] overnight. ADJECTIVE VERB
7. [Startled] deer leaped across the road. ADJECTIVE VERB
8. The band is [practicing] for the concert. ADJECTIVE VERB

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one sentence with a participle used as an adjective and one sentence with a participle in a verb phrase. Put brackets around each participle.

ADJECTIVE _____

VERB _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with two participles, one used as an adjective and one in a verb phrase. Put brackets around both and label each category.

ANSWER KEY

Participle Jobs

GRADE 6 · 6.L.GC.1.44

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The [shivering] puppy hid beneath a chair.	**ADJECTIVE**	Shivering describes the noun puppy.
2	A [forgotten] mitten lay near the gate.	**ADJECTIVE**	Forgotten describes the noun mitten.
3	The bells were [ringing] at noon.	**VERB**	Ringing works with were in a verb phrase.
4	The [boiling] soup splashed onto the stove.	**ADJECTIVE**	Boiling describes the noun soup.
5	The chef has [chopped] the onions.	**VERB**	Chopped works with has in a verb phrase.
6	The windows had [frozen] overnight.	**VERB**	Frozen works with had in a verb phrase.
7	[Startled] deer leaped across the road.	**ADJECTIVE**	Startled describes the noun deer.
8	The band is [practicing] for the concert.	**VERB**	Practicing works with is in a verb phrase.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **ADJECTIVE**: A [buzzing] bee circled the lavender.
- **VERB**: The athlete was [stretching] before practice.

Challenge: The [dripping] faucet was [filling] the bucket. ADJECTIVE: dripping. VERB: filling.

For Part 2, students should explain that an adjective participle describes a noun, while a verb participle works with a helping verb. Accept correct original sentences that clearly show each participle's job.