

Present participles

| | | <i>Present (active)</i> | <i>Future (active)</i> | <i>Past (passive)</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| amō, amāre | <i>love</i> | amāns | amātūrus | amātus |
| habeō, habēre | <i>have</i> | habēns | habitūrus | habitus |
| mittō, mittere | <i>send</i> | mittēns | missūrus | missus |
| audiō, audīre | <i>hear</i> | audiēns | audītūrus | audītus |
| capiō, capere | <i>take</i> | capiēns | captūrus | captus |

Notes

1. Present participles have the same endings as the adjective **ingēns**. 1st conjugation verbs have their characteristic ‘a’ in the ending (**amāns**), while all the others end **–ēns**:

| SING. | MASC. & FEM. | NEUT. | PL. | MASC. & FEM. | NEUT. |
|-------|--------------|----------|-----|----------------|------------|
| Nom. | ingēns | ingēns | | ingentēs | ingentia |
| Voc. | ingēns | ingēns | | ingentēs | ingentia |
| Acc. | ingentem | ingēns | | ingentēs (-īs) | ingentia |
| Gen. | ingentis | ingentis | | ingentium | ingentium |
| Dat. | ingentī | ingentī | | ingentibus | ingentibus |
| Abl. | ingentī | ingentī | | ingentibus | ingentibus |

2. A ‘present’ participle is not necessarily happening ‘now’ as with an ordinary verb in the present tense; but at the same time as the action of the main verb:

Mārcus Brūtum in silvā ambulāntem vīdit

Marcus saw Brutus as he was walking in the wood

3. There is more than one way to translate a participle: it may feel more natural to add one or two words, like ‘while’, ‘who’ or ‘as’:

Mārcus Brūtum in silvā ambulāntem vīdit

Marcus saw Brutus who was walking in the wood

4. An English noun may best represent a Latin participle:

Atticus familiārēs Antōnī ex urbe profugientēs adiūvit

Atticus helped friends of Antony during their flight (or as they fled) from the city

Cornelius Nepos, *Life of Atticus* 9.3 [Complete Latin Course 10.4]

A present participle may appear without a noun, like any other adjective, and then has the status of a noun:

quis fallere possit amantem? *Who can deceive a lover?*

Virgil, *Aeneid* 4.296 [Complete Latin Course 3.9]

Past participles

| | | <i>Present (active)</i> | <i>Future (active)</i> | <i>Past (passive)</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| amō, amāre | <i>love</i> | amāns | amātūrus | amātus |
| habeō, habēre | <i>have</i> | habēns | habitūrus | habitus |
| mittō, mittere | <i>send</i> | mittēns | missūrus | missus |
| audiō, audīre | <i>hear</i> | audiēns | audītūrus | audītus |
| capiō, capere | <i>take</i> | capiēns | captūrus | captus |

Notes

- The past participle is formed from a verb's supine, with the endings of **bonus,-a,-um**:
audiō, audīre, audīvī, audītum
- Unlike the present participle, the past participle is passive:
carmen audītum *the (having been) heard poem*
cēna parāta *the (having been) prepared dinner*
- The past participle appears with **sum, esse** to create the perfect passive:
cēna parāta est *The dinner was / has been prepared*
- A past participle is past is because its action has happened before that of the main verb (below, the waking):
māter puerum in hortō vīsum excitāvit
The mother woke the boy (having been) seen in the garden
- A present participle on the other hand is still happening as the action of the main verb unfolds:
māter puerum in hortō dormientem vīdit
The mother saw the boy sleeping in the garden

Future participles

| | | <i>Present (active)</i> | <i>Future (active)</i> | <i>Past (passive)</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| amō, amāre | <i>love</i> | amāns | amātūrus | amātus |
| habeō, habēre | <i>have</i> | habēns | habitūrus | habitus |
| mittō, mittere | <i>send</i> | mittēns | missūrus | missus |
| audiō, audīre | <i>hear</i> | audiēns | audītūrus | audītus |
| capiō, capere | <i>take</i> | capiēns | captūrus | captus |

Notes

1. The future participle is like the past participle in that it is taken from the supine and has endings like **bonus,-a,-um**, with the additional syllable **-ūr-** before the ending:

amātūrus,-a,-um *about to love*

audītūrus,-a,-um *about to hear*

futūrus,-a,-um *about to be*

2. Like a present participle, the future participle is active (*about to love*, not *about to be loved*).

Participles of deponent verbs

| e.g. | | <i>Present (active)</i> | <i>Future (active)</i> | <i>Past (passive)</i> |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| cōnor, cōnārī | <i>try</i> | cōnāns | cōnātūrus | cōnatus |
| sequor, sequī | <i>follow</i> | sequēns | secūturus | secūtus |
| patior, patī | <i>suffer</i> | patiēns | passūrus | passus |

Participles of deponent verbs behave like other participles, with one exception: the past participle is active.

qūo ībimus flūmen trānsgressī? *Where shall we go having crossed (after crossing) the river?*

Livia diū locūta abiit *Having spoken for a long time, Livia went away*

Participles: verbs or adjectives?

Participles are adjectives, created from verbs. They have the form and function of adjectives but are considered to be a part of the verb from which they come. A participle may still have functions of a verb. In the sentence below, note how **hauriēns** has an object (**aquam**).

captīvus aquam ex pōculō hauriēns nōbīs grātiās ēgit

The captive thanked us draining / as he drained the water from the cup