

## Participle Clauses

This is a type of sentence structure that features in OET Reading more than OET writing. It is useful to understand how it works and how to use it.

First a quick review of clauses

### How many clauses are there in the sentences below?

- 1) Paul hates waking up early but he has to do it.
- 2) Despite hating waking up early, Paul has to do it.
- 3) Paul lives in Manchester, which is convenient for working in London and is also cheaper than living in London.

### Would you like to write a sentence like this?


Having been diagnosed with meningitis, Mrs Smith was prescribed with IV antibiotics, which were commenced on the 4<sup>th</sup> June.

**You can! Remember:** It is **YOU** who chooses how to connect information in sentences.

### Review of participles

present participles	past participles
verb + ing gerund – I love <b>cycling</b> continuous tenses – be + verb +ing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Feeling</li> <li>• Needing</li> <li>• Having</li> <li>• Being</li> <li>• Studying</li> <li>• Walking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>present perfect has + pp</b></li> <li>• <b>past perfect had + pp</b></li> <li>• <b>passive be + pp</b></li> <li>• <b>known</b></li> <li>• <b>flown</b></li> <li>• <b>eaten</b></li> <li>• <b>thought</b></li> <li>• <b>wanted</b></li> <li>• <b>needed</b></li> <li>• <b>walked</b></li> <li>• <b>put</b></li> </ul>

## Review of participle clauses

Type	Function	Example
<p><b>present</b></p> <p><b>verb + ing</b></p>	<p>two things which are true at the same time</p> <p>- can appear as a result sometimes too</p>	<p><b>Feeling</b> <u>nauseous</u>, Paul went to the bathroom.</p> <p><b>Owning</b> <u>three houses</u>, Paul is opposed to the new housing tax.</p> <p><b>Having</b> <u>four dogs</u>, Paul's vet bills are sky high.</p> <p>Being diagnosed with meningitis, Mrs Smith was prescribed with IV antibiotics. – <b>unnatural</b></p>
<p><b>perfect</b></p> <p><b>having + past participle</b></p>	<p>Action in the participle clause happens before the action in the second clause</p> <p><b>having + past participle + be + past participle</b></p> <p>having + been + past participle</p>	<p><b>Having eaten</b> a big breakfast, Paul was not hungry.</p> <p>ate breakfast      not hungry</p>  <p><b>Having been diagnosed</b> with meningitis, Mrs Smith was prescribed with IV antibiotics.</p> <p>Mrs Smith was prescribed with IV antibiotics, <b>having been diagnosed</b> with meningitis.</p> <p><b>Having passed</b> his exams, Paul is going to Cambridge!</p> <p><b>Having saved</b> money, Paul is planning on visiting Cambodia.</p> <p><b>Having lost</b> his phone, John bought a new one.</p>

### Exercise 1

Choose a way to connect these ideas. If you use a participle clause, choose between present & past participle:

1) Mr Edwards: Timeline

- intermittent constipation/diarrhoea – last two months
- test - anaemia

2) referral psychiatrist

- Sarah Johnson
- 6 children
- Now: feel can't cope / suicidal

3) Joanne

- lose key
- break lounge window

4) Sarah Greene

12<sup>th</sup> March - headache / mild fever : paracetamol / drink water

18<sup>th</sup> March - nosebleed / two episodes vomiting /nausea

## Exercise 2

Organise the sentences into the correct boxes and state what type of sentence it is. Additionally, see if you can correct the sentences which have mistakes:

- Feeling nervous about her upcoming procedure, Joanne contacted her GP.
- Having been prescribed with antibiotics, Mrs Gardener went to the pharmacist.
- Staring closely at the opticians chart, taking part in her eye test.
- There are a number of ways to cook potatoes, which makes them brown.
- Having misunderstood the pre-procedure instructions, Mr Smithson ate a full breakfast on the day of his operation.
- Sarah has been diagnosed with eczema, who is really upset.
- Bruce was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease, which is a progressive condition.
- Having eaten chocolate, his mouth being dirty.
- Harry has been experiencing the aura which is associated with migraines.

Correct	Type	Incorrect	Type

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## Answers

1) Mr Edwards: Timeline

- intermittent constipation/diarrhoea – last two months
- test - anaemia

- **Having had** intermittent constipation in the last 2 months, he was assessed for anaemia this morning.
- I am referring Mr Edwards, **who** has had intermittent constipation & diarrhoea for the last two months.
- Mr Edwards has had intermittent constipation, diarrhoea and anaemia for the last two months, **which** need assessment.

2) referral psychiatrist

- Sarah Johnson
- 6 children
- feel can't cope / suicidal

**Having** six children, Sarah Johnson feels she cannot cope **and** is having suicidal thoughts. She requires referral to a psychiatrist.

3) Joanne

- lose key
- break lounge window

**Having lost** her key, Joanna broke the lounge window.

Joanna is breaking the lounge window, **having lost** her key.

4) Sarah Greene

12<sup>th</sup> March - headache / mild fever : paracetamol / drink water

18<sup>th</sup> March - nosebleed / two episodes vomiting /nausea

Today, Ms Greene presented with the complaints of a nosebleed and vomiting, **having had** had a headache and mild fever on the 12<sup>th</sup> March, **for which** she was advised to take paracetamol and drink water.

## Exercise 2

Correct	Type	Incorrect	Type
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Feeling</b> nervous about her upcoming procedure, Joanne contacted her GP.</li> <li>• <b>Having been prescribed</b> with antibiotics, Mrs Gardener went to the pharmacist.</li> <li>• <b>Having misunderstood the pre-procedure instructions</b>, Mr Smithson ate a full breakfast on the day of his operation.</li> <li>• Bruce was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, <b>which</b> is a progressive condition.</li> <li>• Harry has been experiencing the aura which is associated with migraines.</li> </ul>	<p>present participle clause</p> <p>perfect participle clause</p> <p>perfect participle clause</p> <p>non defining relative clause</p> <p>defining relative clause</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staring closely at the optician's chart, Joanne was taking part in her eye test.</li> <li>• <b>There are a number of ways to cook potatoes</b> <b>that</b> make them brown.</li> <li>• Sarah, <b>who</b> is really upset, has been diagnosed with eczema.</li> <li>• Sarah, <b>who</b> has been diagnosed with eczema, is really upset.</li> <li>• <b>Having eaten</b> chocolate, his mouth became dirty.</li> </ul>	<p>present participle clause</p> <p>defining relative clause</p> <p>non defining relative clause</p> <p>perfect participle clause</p>