

## Greek Participles

Pres.	Act m	F.	N.	Aor Act M.	F.	N.	Pass. M	f	n
nom	ὢν	οὔσα	ὄν	-σας	-σασα	-σαν	-θείς	-θεισα	-θέν
gen	ὄντος	οὔσης	ὄντος	-σαντος	-σάσης	-σαντος	-θέντος	-θείσης	-θέντος
dat	ὄντι	οὔσῃ	ὄντι	-σαντι	-σάσῃ	-σαντι	-θέντι	-θείσῃ	-θέντι
acc	ὄντα	οὔσαν	ὄν	-σαντα	-σασαν	-σαν	-θέντα	-θεισαν	-θέν
nom	ὄντες	οὔσαι	ὄντα	-σαντες	-σασαι	-σαντα	-θέντες	-θεισαι	-θέντα
gen	ὄντων	οὔσῶν	ὄντων	-σάντων	-σασῶν	-σάντων	-θέντων	-θεισῶν	-θέντων
dat	οὔσι	οὔσαις	οὔσι	-σασι	-σάσαις	-σασι	-θείσι	-θείσαις	-θείσι
acc	ὄντας	οὔσας	ὄντα	-σαντας	-σάσας	-σαντα	-θέντας	-θείσας	-θέντα

Present, Future, and Perfect middle-passive, and Aorist middle participles end in -μεν + 1-2 decl. endings (-μενος, -μενη, -μενον, etc.)

Syntax:

1. Participles are verbal adjectives. They do not have person, but do have case, number and gender like adjectives. They form dependent adjectival participial clauses.
2. The participle acts as a verb in its own clause
3. The participle takes its case, number and gender from a noun-head, which has a job in the main clause. The noun-head has a 2nd job as the understood subject of the participial cl.

τὸν πόλεμον νικήσαντας τοὺς στρατιώτας τιμῶμεν. We praise the soldiers who won the war.

- νικήσαντας is an aorist participle active, acc. pl. masc.
- It has this case, number, and gender to agree with its noun-head, τοὺς στρατιώτας.
- τοὺς στρατιώτας is accusative, because it is the D.O. of the main verb, τιμῶμεν.
- τοὺς στρατιώτας is also the understood subject of the participle νικήσαντας. It has 2 jobs: D.O. of the main clause and understood subject of the participial clause.

Translation strategies (English avoids participles because of the ‘dangling participle’ problem: “I know a man with a wooden leg named Smith”). Relative time: Aorist = time before the main verb; present = same time; future = time after. The participle can often be translated “and + another main verb”. Greek prefers: “Playing hard, I work hard”; English prefers: “I play hard and I work hard”.

1. (Adjectival) Relative clause: “who, which”. Greek will put the participle between the article and the noun (attributive position): οἱ φεύγοντες στρατιῶται ‘the fleeing soldiers. If no noun-head, it becomes a substantive: τὸν λέγοντα ‘the man speaking’ = ‘the speaker’
2. Adverbial clause (‘when/after, since/because, if, although). The ‘circumstantial’ participle will be in predicative position / not have the article right in front of it. Translate the sentence each way to see which is best. If you get a past tense (aorist) participle, try ‘after’; καίτεπ is the signal for ‘although’.
3. Complete the verb. The ‘supplementary participle’ patterns with the following incomplete sounding governing verbs (sort of like complementary infinitives):
 

ἡδομαι ‘enjoy’ doing x	ἄρχομαι ‘begin’ doing	λανθάνω ‘escape notice’ doing x
τυγχάνω ‘happen to’ be doing	παύσομαι ‘stop’ doing	i.e., do it ‘unnoticed, secretly’