

## SESSION 6

### PARTICIPLES AS PRESENT AND PAST ADJECTIVES

#### I. CONTENTS:

1. Participles as adjectives.
2. Relatives clauses.
3. Vocabulary related to the movies.

#### II. OBJECTIVES:

At the end of the SESSION, students:

- Will know how to use the participles as present and past adjectives and to write relative clauses correctly.
- Will relate the verbs in participles in the function of adjectives.
- Will establish the differences between the present and the past adjectives.
- Will remember the relative pronouns *who/which/that* as connector of the relative clauses.

#### III. DISCUSSION:

*Discuss the questions with your teacher and choose the most important ideas.*

- Are there in Spanish participles that can work as adjectives and that modify a verb? Give some examples?
- Which is the relative pronoun in Spanish that can join two sentences?
- Which is or are the elements that function as connectors?

#### IV. INFORMATIONAL AND FORMATIVE TEXT

##### 1.1. Participles as adjectives.

Many participles have adjectival function either in present or past form. 1. A verb in participle form may be used as an adjective to describe a noun. Example: a boring movie, a bored audience.

2. When a present participle (-ing) is used, it describes the noun that performs the activity referred to by it. Like in the sentence *That story rocks*, the story performs the action –rock-. It is a rocking story. Present Participle –ing is used to describe something or someone. *I read an interesting book about World War II. My friends are interesting, they come from quite a varied cultural backgrounds.*

3. When a past participle (-ed) is used, it describes the noun that receives the effect of the action. For example, in *A passerby was astonished at the crowds that gathered around the accident spot*, the passerby received the effect of the action (astonish) who is described as an astonished passerby. The Past Participle (-ed) describes the way people feel about some event. *She's interested in teaching English. Carl is excited about his trip next week. My parents are proud of my performance at school.*

4. The use of the present or past participle does not depend on the verb tense of the sentence, but rather on the performer/receiver situation. Examples:

The dog barks	It is a barking dog
The dog barked	It was a barking dog
The dog frightens the cat.	It is a frightening dog.
The dog frightened the cat.	It was a frightening dog.
The problem confuses the students.	It is a confusing problem.
The students are confused by the problem.	They are confused students.
The story amused the children.	It was an amusing story.
The children were amused by the story.	They were amused children.

The class bores the students. It is a boring class.  
 The students are bored by the class. They are bored students.

5. The use of participles is not restricted to the subject of a sentence. In other words, the same statement can produce both a present –active- and a past –passive- participle.

Examples:

The dog frightens the cat. The frightening dog runs after the cat.  
 The frightened cat runs away.

The problem confuses the students. The confusing problem frightens the students.  
 They are confused students.

The story amused the children. It was an amusing story.  
 The amused children laughed a lot.

The class bores the students. What a boring class it is!  
 The bored students have stopped listening to the teacher.

6. Participles used as adjectives often come after the noun they modify, following a linking verb like: *be*, *become*, or *seem*. Literature is interesting. My brothers are interested in sports. They seem confused. Problems often become frustrating. I am fascinated by my children. My children quickly became tired at school. School can be tiring for young children

Another characteristic of the participles as adjectives is: -ed =receiver / -ing =source.

Receiver vs.	Source
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Past Participial Adjective –ed</u></p> <p>Receiver of the feeling or emotion – The past participle serves as an adjective formed from the passive form of the verb. Example: an amused child. The child receives the feeling of amusement. Interested people can sign up for the 2-day class. -The people feel interest in the subject. -Bored speakers should find something exciting to say. -The speaker feels boredom while speaking! -Amused viewers enjoy the short films. -The viewers feel the amusement.- Overwhelmed students end up dropping a course or two. -The students feel overwhelmed.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Present Participial Adjective -ing</u></p> <p>The source of the feeling or emotion –The present participle serves as an adjective formed from an active verb. Example: an amusing ride. The ride causes amusement. Interesting people will speak during the 2-day class. -People cause others to feel interest. -Boring speakers put their attendees to sleep. The speaker causes others to be bored. -Amusing short films are shown at the animated film festival. The films cause the amusement. -Overwhelming amounts of work are given to University students. The amount of work causes the overwhelming.</p>

### 2.1. Relatives clauses.

We use relative clauses to give additional information about something without starting another sentence. By combining sentences with a relative clause, your text becomes more fluent and you can avoid repeating certain words.

How to Form Relative Clauses:

Imagine a girl is talking to Tom. You want to know who she is and ask a friend whether he knows her. You could say: A girl is talking to Nelson. Do you know the girl? That sounds rather complicated, doesn't it? It would be easier with a relative clause: you put both pieces of information into one sentence. Start with the most important thing: you want to know who the girl is. *Do you know the girl ...?* As your friend cannot know which girl you are talking about, you need to put in the additional information: *the girl who is talking to Tom*. Use *the girl* only in the first part of the sentence, in the second part replace it with the relative pronoun -for people, use the relative pronoun *who*. So the final sentence is: *Do you know the girl who is talking to Tom?*

Relative Pronouns:

Relative Pronoun	Use	Example
Who	subject or object pronoun for people	I told you about the woman <u>who</u> lives next door.
Which	subject or object pronoun for animals and things	Do you see the cat <u>which</u> is lying on the roof?
Which	referring to a whole sentence	He couldn't read <u>which</u> surprised me.
Whose	possession for people animals and things	Do you know the boy <u>whose</u> mother is a nurse?
Whom	object pronoun for people, especially in non-defining relative clauses -in defining relative clauses we colloquially prefer who-	I was invited by the professor <u>whom</u> I met at the conference.
That	subject or object pronoun for people, animals and things in defining relative clauses -who or which are also possible-	I don't like the table <u>that</u> stands in the kitchen.

Subject Pronoun or Object Pronoun?

Subject and object pronouns cannot be distinguished by their forms - who, which, that are used for subject and object pronouns. You can, however, distinguish them as follows: If the relative pronoun is followed by a verb, the relative pronoun is a subject pronoun. Subject pronouns must always be used: *The apple which is lying on the table.* If the relative pronoun is not followed, but preceded by a verb, the relative pronoun is an object pronoun. Object pronouns can be dropped in defining relative clauses, which are then called Contact Clauses. *The apple which George laid on the table.*

Relative Adverbs

A relative adverb can be used instead of a relative pronoun plus preposition. This often makes the sentence easier to understand. This is the shop in which I bought my bike. This is the shop where I bought my bike.

Relative Adverb.	Meaning	Use	Example
When	in/on which	refers to a moment in time	the day <u>when</u> we met him.
Where	in/at which	refers to a place	the place <u>where</u> we met him.
Why	for which	refers to a reason	the reason <u>why</u> we met him

Defining Relative Clauses

Defining relative clauses -also called identifying relative clauses or restrictive relative clauses- give detailed information defining a general term or expression. Defining relative clauses are not put in commas.

Imagine Tom is in a room with five girls. One girl is talking to Tom and you ask somebody whether he knows this girl. Here the relative clause defines which of the five girls you mean.

*Do you know the girl who is talking to Tom?*

Defining relative clauses are often used in definitions. *A seaman is someone who works on a ship.*

Object pronouns in defining relative clauses can be dropped. -Sentences with a relative clause without the relative pronoun are called Contact Clauses. -The boy, who/whom we met yesterday, is very nice.

### Non-Defining Relative Clauses

Non-defining relative clauses -also called non-identifying relative clauses or non-restrictive relative clauses- give additional information on something, but do not define it. Non-defining relative clauses are put in commas. Imagine, Martin is in a room with only one girl. The two are talking to each other and you ask somebody whether he knows this girl.

Here the relative clause is non-defining because in this situation it is obvious which girl you mean. *Do you know the girl, who is talking to Tom?* Note: In non-defining relative clauses, who/which may not be replaced with that. Object pronouns in non-defining relative clauses must be used. *Jim, who/whom we met yesterday, is very nice.*

### How to Shorten Relative Clauses?

Relative clauses with who, which, that as subject pronoun can be replaced with a participle. This makes the sentence shorter and easier to understand. *I told you about the woman who lives next door. – I told you about the woman living next door. Do you see the cat which is lying on the roof? – Do you see the cat lying on the roof?*

The relative pronoun as subject.

1. When the relative pronoun is subject of a clause and refers to a human, the relative pronoun *who* is generally used. Examples: *The man who lives next door is 99. I know someone who eats red hot chili peppers.*

Sometimes, *who* is replaced by *that*, especially in American English and in spoken language: *The girl that lost his watch was careless.* However, *The girl who lost his watch was careless.* is also quite possible. After the antecedent *those*, *who* are almost always required: *Those who can swim should go first.*

2. If the relative is the subject of a clause and refers to an inanimate antecedent, *which* or *that* must be used. *The glass that's on the table is mine. The glass which is on the table is mine.*

Important: Omission: As subject of a clause, the relative pronoun can never be omitted. However, the relative clause can be completely omitted: ~~*The glass is on the table is mine*~~ is quite impossible, but. *The glass on the table is mine* is perfectly acceptable.

### 2. The relative pronoun as object:

When the relative is the direct object of the clause, and refers to a human, the relative pronoun is either *whom* or *that*. Examples: *The woman whom I saw yesterday is 98. The woman that I saw yesterday is 98.*

Alternatively, the relative can be omitted, particularly in spoken language: *The woman I saw yesterday is 98.*

*Whom* is not used very often: *that*, or omission of the relative pronoun, are much more common. When an inanimate object is referred to, the same rules apply, except that *who* is never used: it is replaced by *which*. Example: *The magazine that I was reading was very interesting, or The magazine which I was reading was very interesting, or The magazine I was reading was very interesting.*

Omission: when it is the object of the clause, the relative pronoun can often be omitted, particularly in written English.

### 3. The relative pronoun as a possessive.

*Whose* is required with both animate and inanimate antecedents: it is the only derivative of *who* which can refer to animates and inanimate: Examples: *I know someone whose sister is a trainer. The man whose car I borrowed is very poor. I chose the set whose price was reduced.*

4. Relative clauses starting with a preposition:

Note how to form relative clauses after prepositions: *The man with whom I was talking was happy. The bench on which I sat down collapsed.*

5. More complex structures:

5.1 Possession + proposition: *The player on whose skills the match most depended was the goalkeeper.* 5.2. Selective possession: *The restaurant, most of whose customers had deserted, had to close. The author, the first of whose books had been a bestseller, was a coal miner.*

6. Defining and non-defining relatives.

In order to understand a statement, a *defining* relative clause is essential. Examples: *The students that finish the assignment are allowed to leave.* Here, it is understood that all students that finish the assignment are allowed to leave. The word students in this example, is restricted by the relative clause that defines it. No use of commas is required before and after the relative clause. In non-defining relative clauses, in order to understand the sentence the relative clause is not really important: *Students, who don't care about school policies, should know the rules by heart.* In this example, the fact that students don't care about policies is not essential to understand the meaning. You can drop the relative clause and not affect the meaning of the sentence. In these cases, you are required to use commas before and after the relative clause. Compare these two sentences: *Cars that are manufactured in Europe are more expensive. Cars, that run on gasoline, are useful in big cities.*

7: Relative clauses which qualify a whole sentence, not just a noun:

The relative clause is introduced by *which*, never ~~that~~ or ~~what~~. C1. *He drank too much, which is why he was sick.* C2. *It was raining yesterday, which was rather a pity.*

**3.1. Vocabulary related to the movies.**

Movie	Film	Action film	Cartoon
comedy	detective film	documentary film	educational film
full-length film	horror film	love story	musical
romantic film	science-fiction film	short-length film	silent film
western	commercial	episode	actor
actress	cameraman	cast	cinema review
dialogue	director	extras	film star
producer	role	scene	screenwriter
set	studio	subtitles	supporting actor
supporting cast	supporting role	titles	to go to the movies
to rent a video/DVD	to watch a video/DVD	buy some popcorn	buy tickets
catch a movie	get a drink	go to a movie theater	read a movie review
sit in an aisle seat	wait in line	watch a movie trailer	watch the credits
watch the previews	take a seat	at the front	in the middle
at the back	exciting	interesting	marvelous
moving	terrific	wonderful	absurd
awful	boring	terrible	weird
Thriller	A list = the best	Celebrities	Script = written story
Tale = story	Cops = police	Top grossing	Animated
soundtrack = all the songs in the movie	Theme = main song in a movie	Master piece = a great work of art	Box office = ticket booth
Critics: people who write reviews	Movie buff = film lover	Genre = kind of movie	Role = a character in a movie
Star-studded = full of famous actor	Sequel = movie than follows a previous movie	Blockbuster = successful movie	Gags = funny moments