

## The Present Participle -ing

### Introduction

1) Most commonly we use *the present participle -ing* as an element in all continuous verb forms (the present continuous, the past continuous etc.). The auxiliary verb indicates the tense, while the present participle remains unchanging.

*I was **playing** computer games all night. (past continuous)*

2) The present participle is formed by adding *-ing* to the base form of the verb.

Verbs ending in *-e* drop *-e* and add *-ing*.

*like – liking, write – writing*

Verbs with one syllable, ending in *one vowel and one consonant*, double the consonant and add *-ing*.

*sit – sitting, swim – swimming*

Verbs ending *-ie* change *-ie* to *-y* and add *-ing*.

*lie – lying, die – dying*

The present participle is used not only to form verb tenses. It can be used:

a) after verbs of movement and position (often after the verb *to go*).

*She went **shopping**.*

*They came **running** towards me.*

b) after verbs of perception in the pattern *verb + object + present participle* to indicate the action being perceived.

*We saw him **moving** the lawn.*

*Liz heard someone **singing**.*

c) after verbs of movement, action, or position to indicate parallel activity.

*He sat **looking at** the pedestrians.*

*July walks **reading** her newspaper.*

d) as an adjective.

*Have you heard of that **amazing** movie?*

*The family was trapped inside the **burning** barn.*

e) to explain the cause or reason. The present participle is used instead of a phrase starting with *as, since, because*.

***Feeling** hungry, I made myself a sandwich. (=I made myself a sandwich **because** I was hungry.)*

***Knowing** that his roommate was coming, James cleaned the living room. (=James cleaned the living room **as** he knew that his roommate was coming.)*

### Short Story Dialogue

– I can't believe that this book can be so **boring**! I bought it, **thinking** that it was a best-seller.

– What are you talking about? It's absolutely **amazing**!

– Well, believe it or not, but I fell asleep **reading** the first chapter!

– **Knowing** you, it's not a surprise. You told me that you read books right before **going** to bed.

– I'm just too busy during the day. Maybe I can listen to the audio book? I can try it while **walking** to work.

– Yeah, that's a good idea.

**Independent Practice - The present participle - ing**

**1) Fill in the gaps.**

<i>shopping</i>	<i>thinking</i>	<i>watching</i>	<i>crossing</i>
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- a. I called the cops ..... the lady was mugged.
- b. Samuel likes to bake ..... cooking shows.
- c. Lilly needed to go ..... with her friends.
- d. Amanda saw me ..... the street.

**2) Rewrite the sentences. Use the phrase in brackets. The meaning should remain the same.**

a. (feeling) I went to bed earlier because I was sleepy.	..... .....
b. (knowing) I knew the importance of the project so I was working the whole night.	..... .....
c. (thinking) I thought I could fix my phone but I broke the screen instead.	..... .....

**3) Answer the questions.**

a. Do you listen to music commuting to work?	..... .....
b. Have you ever watched someone painting a portrait in the streets?	..... .....
c. What is the most interesting thing about growing up?	..... .....

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## Independent Practice: Answers - The present participle - ing

### 1) Fill in the gaps.

- a. I called the cops **thinking** the lady was mugged.
- b. Samuel likes to bake **watching** cooking shows.
- c. Lilly needed to go **shopping** with her friends.
- d. Amanda saw me **crossing** the street.

### 2) Rewrite the sentences. Use the phrase in brackets. The meaning should remain the same.

- a. **Feeling sleepy**, I went to bed earlier.
- b. **Knowing the importance of the project**, I was working the whole night.
- c. **Thinking I could fix my phone**, I broke the screen instead.

### 3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. Yes, I listen to music commuting to work.
- b. No, I have never watched someone painting a portrait in the streets.
- c. The most interesting thing about growing up is how your perception of the world changes.