- **What is a Participle Clause?**

  A participle clause is a dependent clause which uses a participle form of a verb. These clauses are used to avoid making sentences overly complicated. They are used mainly in written English and they allow us to convey a great deal of information in a shorter form.

- **Types of Participle Clauses:**

  1. **Present Participle:** *gerund (-ing)*

     Example: <u>**Getting** into the lift</u>, I realised I had forgotten my keys.

     Present participle clauses are used to talk about:

     - **Actions happening at the same time:**

       *Tom lost his keys (while) <u>**walking** through the park</u>.*
       (Tom lost his keys while he was walking through the park.)

       *She left the room <u>**singing** happily</u>.*
       (She left the room as she was singing happily.)

       <u>**Note:**</u> In literary styles, the participle clause can come first.
       <u>**Whistling** cheerfully</u>, she left the compartment.

     - **Actions happening right before another action:**

       <u>**Opening** the envelope</u>, I found two concert tickets.
       (I opened the envelope and I found two concert tickets.)

     - **An action that is the result of another action:**

       *A bomb exploded, <u>**killing** three people</u>.*
       (A bomb exploded and it killed three people.)

       *When I entered the room, they all looked at me, <u>**making** me uncomfortable</u>.*
       (When I entered the room, they all looked at me and made me uncomfortable.)

     - **A reason for the action in the main clause:**

       <u>**Having** nothing left to do</u>, Julie went home.
       (Since Julie had nothing left to do, she went home.)

       <u>**Knowing** a little French</u>, I had no difficulty making myself understood.
       (As I knew a little French, I had no difficulty making myself understood.)

       <u>**Working** as salesman</u>, I get to meet a lot of businessmen.
       (I get to meet a lot of businessmen because I work as a salesman.)

2. **Perfect Participle:** *having + past participle*
Example: ***Having reached*** <u>*the ground floor,*</u> *I went up the stairs to get my keys.*

Perfect participle clauses are used:
- **To make it clear that an action happens before another one:**

  Having brushed <u>*my teeth,*</u> *I realised I hadn't used my toothbrush.*
  (After I had finished brushing my teeth, I realised I hadn't used my toothbrush.)

  Having been nominated *many times, Leo DiCaprio is her all-time favourite actor.*
  (In this case, we are using a passive perfect participle - having been + past part.)

- **To talk about two actions which are not consecutive, or when the first action happens over a period of time:**

  Having read <u>*the book before,*</u> *he knew how the film would end.*

  I knew how to move around the city, **<u>*having lived*</u>** <u>*there all my life*</u>*.*

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3. **Past Participle:** *past participle form (-ed or irregular)*
Example: ***Surprised*** <u>*by my return,*</u> *my wife asked me what I was doing back already.*

Past participle clauses are used:
- **To replace passive voice finite clauses:**

  Shocked <u>*by the explosion,*</u> *the people ran for shelter.*
  (The people were shocked by the explosion and ran for shelter)

  The musicians stood up, **<u>*surrounded*</u>** <u>*by thunderous applause*</u>*.*
  (The musicians stood up while they were surrounded by thunderous applause.)

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- **Participle Clauses replacing Relative Clauses:**
  - **Present participle clauses can replace an active voice finite relative clause. The noun before the participle is the *doer* of the action:**

    The man **<u>*driving*</u>** <u>*the car*</u> *was not injured.*
    (The man <u>who was driving the car</u> was not injured.)

  - **Present participle clauses can also replace state verbs in relative clauses:**

    If you receive an e-mail **containing** *a virus, delete it immediately.*
    (If you receive an e-mail <u>which contains</u> a virus, delete it immediately.)

  - **Past participle clauses can replace a passive voice finite relative clause. The noun before the participle is its object:**

    This is the last photograph **<u>*taken*</u>** <u>*of my grandmother*</u>*.*
    (This is the last photograph <u>that was taken of my grandmother</u>.)