

Mounce 26-27 Handout: Introduction to Participles (PTCs), “Present-stem” PTCs
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What are PTCs?

1. Participles are *verbal adjectives*! They have verbal characteristics (can be marked in Greek for tense-stem [aspect] and voice; can take objects and modifiers) and adjectival characteristics (can be inflected for case, gender, and number; can function as other adjectives do—attributively, predicately, and substantively).

2. Since Participles are *verbal adjectives*, they are describing or modifying something (explicitly or implicitly). NOTE: To simplify matters: If the ptc is Active, then whatever it describes is the doer/agent of the ptc-verbal action (typically translate with *-ing*). If the ptc is Passive, then whatever it describes is the receiver/patient of the ptc-verbal action (typically translate with *-ed, -d, -en*).

a. *the biting man*: active ptc, the man does the biting

b. *the bitten man*: passive ptc, the man is the patient, someone else does the biting activity

c. *While eating the food, the dog growled.*

Here, the underlined portion has the PTC as its core along with its attendant modifiers/objects, and it would be called a *participial phrase*. Note that the PTC *eating* is adverbial (it indicates the timeframe of the main verb *growled*, telling us that the growling happened while the eating happened), but it is also connected to the word *dog* (since the dog is the one eating) and in Greek would match the case/gender/number (CGN) of the word noun *dog*.

3. PTC formation:

a. Tense stems used for purpose of depicting ASPECT:

Present Stem

Aorist Stem

Perfect Stem

b. Connecting vowel/TF + Participle Morphemes:

ντ

μενο/μενη

οτ

c. Case Endings

Active: M and N use 3rd declension case endings; F uses 1st decl case endings.

Middle/Passive: Follows 2-1-2 pattern (M/N use 2nd declension, F uses 1st declension)

d. Present-stem PTCs (Imperfective-aspect PTCs)

Present-stem Active PTC

<u>sg.</u>	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
nom.	λύ-ων	λύ-ουσ-α	λῦ-ον
gen.	λύ-οντ-ος	λυ-ούσ-ης	λύ-οντ-ος
dat.	λύ-οντ-ι	λυ-ούσ-η	λύ-οντ-ι
acc.	λύ-οντ-α	λύ-ουσ-αν	λῦ-ον
<u>pl.</u>			
nom.	λύ-οντ-ες	λύ-ουσ-αι	λύ-οντ-α
gen.	λυ-όντ-ων	λυ-ουσ-ῶν	λυ-όντ-ων
dat.	λύ-ου-σι(ν)	λυ-ούσ-αις	λύ-ου-σι(ν)
acc.	λύ-οντ-ας	λυ-ούσ-ας	λύ-οντ-α

Present-stem Middle-Passive PTC

sg.	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
nom.	λυ-ό-μενος	λυ-ο-μένη	λυ-ό-μενον
gen.	λυ-ο-μένου	λυ-ο-μένης	λυ-ο-μένου
dat.	λυ-ο-μένω	λυ-ο-μένη	λυ-ο-μένω
acc.	λυ-ό-μενον	λυ-ο-μένην	λυ-ό-μενον
pl.			
nom.	λυ-ό-μενοι	λυ-ό-μεναι	λυ-ό-μενα
gen.	λυ-ο-μένων	λυ-ο-μένων	λυ-ο-μένων
dat.	λυ-ο-μένοις	λυ-ο-μέναις	λυ-ο-μένοις
acc.	λυ-ο-μένους	λυ-ο-μένας	λυ-ό-μενα

4. The “Six-forms” to memorize: Since some of the PTCs adopt a 3rd declension pattern (where the nom sing form obscures the stem), you would do well to memorize the gen sing form of PTC endings as well. The genitive forms will always help you to know what the stem is to which case endings are applied, and what the declension pattern is.

ACT

	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
	3	1	3
nom. sg.	-ΩΝ	-ΟΥΣΑ	-ΟΝ
gen. sg.	-ΟΝΤΟΣ	-ΟΥΣΗΣ	-ΟΝΤΟΣ

MID/PASS

	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
	3	1	3
nom. sg.	-ΟΜΕΝΟΣ	-ΟΜΕΝΗ	-ΟΜΕΝΟΝ
gen. sg.	-ΟΜΕΝΟΥ	-ΟΜΕΝΗΣ	-ΟΜΕΝΟΥ

5. Present-stem Active PTC of εἶμι ‘to be’ (‘being’): Good news! This participle is *identical* to the back half of the present-stem active participles you’ve already learned. The only difference is that since these are

sg.		Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
	nom.	ὄν	ούσα	όν
	gen.	όντος	ούσης	όντος
	dat.	όντι	ούση	όντι
	acc.	όντα	ούσαν	όν
pl.				
	nom.	όντες	ούσαι	όντα
	gen.	όντων	ούσων	όντων

dat.	οὔσι(ν)	οὔσαις	οὔσι(ν)
acc.	ὄντας	οὔσας	ὄντα

Ex:

ὄν διδάσκαλος, ἐγὼ ἀγαπῶ τοὺς μαθητὰς μου.

οὔσα μήτηρ, ἐγὼ ἀγαπῶ τὰ τέκνα μου.

6. Final odds and ends:

a. Negation of PTCs: Use οὐ to negate indicative-mood verbs; outside the indicative mood, we normally simply use μή to negate (this goes for other moods like the imperative, and also for non-finite form like infinitives).

λύων μὴ λύων

μὴ οὔσα μήτηρ, ἐγὼ μισῶ τὰ τέκνα σου.

b. Personal endings: The PTC is NOT a finite verb, so it is marked for neither person nor mood. Thus, there are NO personal endings associated with the PTC. Technically, there are no “subjects” of a PTC since there are no personal endings marking a S. There will always be a conceptual S, whether explicit in the sentence or implied, and that conceptual S’s CGN will determine CGN of the PTC.

μὴ οὔσα μήτηρ, ἐγὼ μισῶ τὰ τέκνα σου.

μὴ ὄν πάτηρ, ἐγὼ μισῶ τὰ τέκνα σου.