

G14 Participle Construction

Participles used to shorten relative clauses

1. Verwendung

- Participle constructions can be an alternative to relative clauses.
- Present participle correspond to active verb forms in a relative clause.
- Past participles correspond to passive forms.

2. Beispiele

→ The girl **standing next to me** has nice hair (= **who is standing...**)

→ The car **used by my uncle** was stolen last week. (= **which was used...**)

Participle constructions used as adverbials

1. Verwendung

- These correspond to adverbial clauses, but sound more formal.
- They can be introduced by a conjunction (while, when, though, as if).

2. Beispiele

→ **Seeing the blue lights**, he slowed the car down. (= **When he saw...**)

→ I lost my wallet **when getting** of the bus.

Participle with a subject of its own

1. Verwendung

- These 'absolute' participle constructions have their own subject, which is different from the subject of the main clause.
- They sound very formal.
- When introduced with **with**, they are less formal and can also be used in colloquial English

2. Beispiele

→ She walked onto the platform to receive her prize, **her heart beating fast**.

→ **With so many people coming**, there were not enough chairs for everyone.

→ I can't sleep **with all that noise coming from next room**.