

REDUCED RELATIVE CLAUSES

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Use participle phrases to describe people and things concisely.

1. READ: Arriving at a workshop

Read the conversation. Notice the bold grammar and how the speakers use it.

Luca: Is this the queue for the workshop?

Host: Yes. The people **waiting outside** need to collect their name badges.

Luca: I've already got mine. Where should I go?

Host: Use the door **marked with a green sign**. The main entrance is closed.

Luca: Do I need the forms **attached to the email**?

Host: Only if you haven't sent them back. The staff **wearing blue shirts** can help you.

2. GRAMMAR: Active and passive participle phrases

Some subject relative clauses can be shortened: use -ing for active meaning and a past participle for passive.

Use / form	Pattern	Example
Active	who/that + be + -ing -> -ing	people who are waiting -> waiting
Passive	which/that + be + participle	forms that are attached -> attached
Subject matters	phrase describes the noun	the staff wearing blue shirts

Active: The woman who is speaking -> The woman speaking.

Passive: The chairs that were damaged -> The chairs damaged.

Not every clause can be reduced this way: the person who I met is not the person meeting.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct option in each sentence.

1. The people wait / waiting outside need badges.
2. Use the door marking / marked green.
3. The forms attached / attaching to the email are required.
4. The man carry / carrying the box is Ben.
5. The chairs damage / damaged in transit were replaced.
6. The staff wearing / worn blue shirts can help.
7. I read the notice displaying / displayed by the entrance.
8. Children playing / played outside need coats.

Read each answer aloud. Explain which meaning or time clue helped you.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: At a workshop

Use an -ing form for active meaning or a past participle for passive meaning.

1. The people _____ (wait) outside need to sign in.
2. The door _____ (mark) with a green sign is open.
3. The forms _____ (attach) to your email include the timetable.
4. The staff _____ (wear) blue shirts are volunteers.
5. The seats _____ (reserve) for guests are at the front.
6. Anyone _____ (need) help should ask at reception.

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Reduce the active relative clause.

Example: People who are waiting can sit. **People waiting can sit.**

1. People who are waiting should sit.
2. The man who is carrying it is Ben.

3-4: Reduce the passive relative clause. Example: The chairs that were damaged were replaced. **The chairs damaged were replaced.**

3. Photos that were taken here are clear.
4. The files that are attached are useful.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Describe three people or objects in a scene. Use one active and one passive participle phrase.

Example: **The woman carrying a bag is Jo. The seats reserved for guests are empty.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

Describe a busy station, event or classroom. Your partner identifies the people and objects.

Expand one reduced phrase into a full relative clause and check the meaning.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: Arriving at a workshop

Sample target language from the conversation:

Host: Yes. The people **waiting outside** need to collect their name badges.

Host: Use the door **marked with a green sign**. The main entrance is closed.

Luca: Do I need the forms **attached to the email**?

Host: Only if you haven't sent them back. The staff **wearing blue shirts** can help you.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. waiting | 2. marked |
| 3. attached | 4. carrying |
| 5. damaged | 6. wearing |
| 7. displayed | 8. playing |

B. COMPLETE: At a workshop

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. waiting | 2. marked |
| 3. attached | 4. wearing |
| 5. reserved | 6. needing |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. People waiting should sit.
2. The man carrying it is Ben.
3. Photos taken here are clear.
4. The files attached are useful.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: The man wearing a hat is Ben. The forms attached to the email are useful. The people waiting outside are visitors.

Teacher note: Limit transformations to suitable subject clauses. Participles do not carry tense by themselves; context supplies the time. Do not remove object relatives mechanically.