



# To READ

Past and Past Participle

## *Learn*

- Correct pronunciation
- WHEN and HOW to use the **Past Participle**

and  
**MORE**

Quickly learn the past and past participle of **READ** and use these verb forms like a native speaker.

Learn with clear text and lots of examples. This e-book was made with the best of my BLOG post and YouTube video.

Everything you need to understand this English grammar.



# Definition

**TO READ** **verb** *to look at and understand the meaning of written or printed words or symbols* [LINK](#)

*Present tense* **read** [*pronunciation*]

**REED**

“I **read** history books at school.”

*Past tense* **read** [*pronunciation*] **RED**

“Keith **read** 6 books last summer.”

*Past participle* **read**  
[*pronunciation*] **RED**

“I *have* **read** all the books in the library.”



# The Past Participle

I will explain how the **past participle** is used in English grammar with some more examples.

*(If you want to skip ahead to the **READ** explanation you can jump to page 15 of this PDF.)*

Here is a common **past participle** example that you've probably heard before.

**Eaten.** *(This is the past participle of the verb TO EAT.)*

*Present tense – eat*

*Past tense – ate*

*Past participle – eaten*



I **eat** pizza twice a month.

I **ate** pizza yesterday.

By the time I got to the party the pizza was already **eaten**.

One way we use the **past participle** is the **Present perfect tense**.

The **Present perfect tense** uses the **past participle** with the auxiliary (helper) verb HAS/HAVE.

“I like to eat interesting food. I ate alligator in Sao Paulo Brazil, but I HAVE never **eaten** whale.”



Have you ever **eaten** crickets?



Another common example of the past participle is **GONE**.

*(This is the past participle of the verb TO GO.)*

*Present tense – go*

*Past tense – went*

*Past participle – gone*



Present tense - **go**

Past tense - **went**

Past participle - **gone**

**Dennis**: “I’m gonna **go** to the store.  
Does anybody need anything?”

**Derrick**: “We need milk but I **went** to  
the store an hour ago and they are  
sold out.”

**Dylan**: “Has Dennis **gone** yet? We  
need more rice.”





The verb **TO GO** can also be used in the *perfect tense* with **BEEN**.

## **TO GO past participle GONE vs. BEEN**

**Been** is the past participle of the verb **TO BE**. but...

**Been** is used as the past participle of **GO** when somebody has gone somewhere and come back.  
*(This is very common.)*





"I want to go back  
to Sao Paulo, Brazil  
one day.  
**HAVE** you  
ever **been**  
there?"

*\*This is asking have you  
gone to Sao Paulo before?*



\*This is  
asking if  
have you  
**gone** to  
Sao  
Paulo  
before?

We are not in Brazil now, so if the  
person has visited Sao Paulo in the  
past they have already come back. (Of  
course!) – **Gone** somewhere *and*  
*come back*.

"Jessie isn't here  
now. He **HAS gone**  
to work."



\*Jessie is not in the place where  
the people are speaking.

\*Jessie is  
not in the  
place  
where the  
people  
are  
speaking.

## Compare **BEEN** with **GONE**

**BEEN** - *went somewhere and came back.*

**GONE** - *away from the place we are now.*

# Past Participle as an Adjective

The **past participle** verb form can be used as an **adjective**. When *GONE* is used as an **adjective** it can be used with people or things.

A: Is Jerry here?

B: No, he was **gone** before I arrived.

*Jerry is away from this place.*

A: Can I have a coffee, please?

B: Sorry, the coffee is all **gone**.

*The coffee is used up.  
There is none left.*



Sometimes the **past participle** and the **past tense** are the same. For example, the past tense and the past participle of the verb **TO BUY** is **bought**.

Present tense - **buy**

Past tense - **bought**

Past participle - **bought**



*"HAVE* you ever  
**bought** something  
expensive and then  
felt bad about it after?"



Most regular verbs will use the same spelling and pronunciation for the **past participle**.

\*A regular verb is a verb with a past tense ending in **\_ed**.

PRESENT	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
play	<i>played</i>	<b>played</b>
open	<i>opened</i>	<b>opened</b>
walk	<i>walked</i>	<b>walked</b>
allow	<i>allowed</i>	<b>allowed</b>
look	<i>looked</i>	<b>looked</b>
spray	<i>sprayed</i>	<b>sprayed</b>

An exception is the verb **TO SHOW**.

\***Showed** is possible as the past participle but it is rare. **Shown** is much more common.

PRESENT

PAST

PAST PARTICIPLE

show

*showed*

**shown**

- Can I **show** you something? (*present*)



- The station staff **showed** me how to use the ticket machine. (*past*)

- Your paintings are amazing! *Have* you ever **shown** them to a museum?  
(*past participle*)



# Past participle of READ - pronunciation

We already know that **READ** is an irregular verb, the past tense does not end in **\_ed**.

Read can be a confusing verb because the **present tense**, the **past tense**, and the **past participle** are spelled the same but they are pronounced differently.

*read (REED) present*  
*read (RED) past*  
*read (RED) past participle*

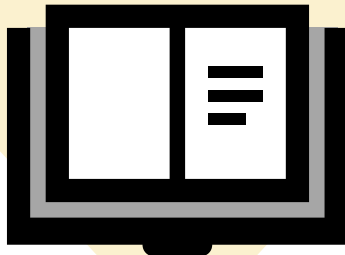


The present tense sounds like **REED** ~  
“I **read** the newspaper every morning.”

The past tense sounds like **RED** ~ “I  
**read** that book when I was in high  
school.”

The past participle also sounds like  
past tense **RED** ~ “These books are  
**read** all over the world.” (*This example is  
the passive voice.*)

Let's read some examples and  
practice the pronunciation:



A: “Have you **read [RED]** the new Harry Potter book?”

B: “Not yet.  
My Dad **read [RED]** it and  
he said it was  
good. I will  
**read [REED]**  
it on the flight  
to Canada in  
August.”



# How can I tell the difference between the **past** and the **past participle**?

This is a great question. We learned that the **past participle** is used with the **Passive voice** and the **Present Perfect Tense**. We can tell the difference by looking at the words used in the sentences.

Simple **Past** tense will follow a *subject*.

*Mark Twain* **was** an American writer.

*He* **lived** from 1835 to 1910.

*He* **wrote** many popular books and **traveled** across Europe and America.

\*You can learn more about the Simple Past tense here. [LINK](#)

Passive voice uses the verb **TO BE** (**am, is, are, was, were**) plus the past participle form of the verb in the main action.

If the subject of our sentence gets or receives something – *something happens to the subject of our sentence* – we use the **Passive Voice**.

“These books **are read** all over the world.”

**are + the past participle = *Passive voice***



More ***Passive voice*** examples:

“The hotel room **was cleaned** at 9:30 AM.”

“The lost and found office at the station is full of umbrellas that **were forgotten** on the train.”

“The flowers **will be delivered** next Tuesday.”



You can learn more about the *passive voice* here. [LINK](#)

**Present Perfect Tense** is HAVE/HAS + the past participle form of a verb.

This verb tense is called the **present perfect**, but it is still talking about a past action. The auxiliary verb TO HAVE will be used in the present tense.

“HAVE you **read** the new Harry Potter book?” HAVE + **the past participle** = **Present perfect**



More examples:

“I **HAVE** just **eaten** lunch so I’m not hungry.”

“**HAVE** you **been** to the new café on Front Street? I heard it’s really good.”

“Erica’s contact lens **HAS fallen** out.”



You can learn more about the **Present Perfect** tense here. [LINK](#)



Not all verbs have the same *past* and **past participle**.

Here are some common verbs whose *past* tense is not the same as the **past participle**.

Present	<i>Past</i>	<b>Past Participle</b>
awake	<i>awoke</i>	<b>awaken</b>
choose	<i>chose</i>	<b>chosen</b>
fly	<i>flew</i>	<b>flown</b>
see	<i>saw</i>	<b>seen</b>
take	<i>took</i>	<b>taken</b>
forget	<i>forgot</i>	<b>forgotten</b>
grow	<i>grew</i>	<b>grown</b>
fall	<i>fell</i>	<b>fallen</b>
sink	<i>sank</i>	<b>sunk</b>

The past participle is also used as an **adjective**. Adjectives will follow the verb TO BE like the **passive voice**.

## **Compare Adjectives and Passive voice**

**Adjectives** describe a state or condition. A noun usually follows the adjective.

The lost and found office at the station is full of *forgotten* umbrellas.

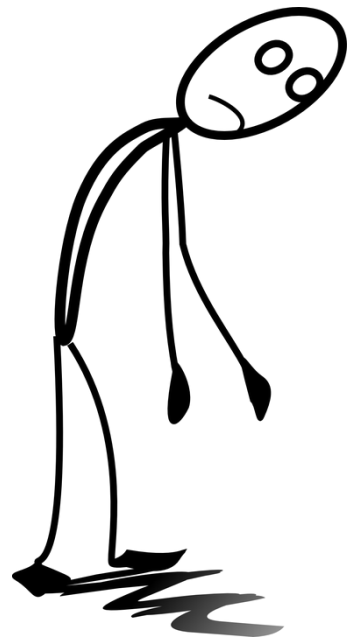


**Passive voice** describes what happened, is happening or will happen to the subject of the sentence. *In the passive voice, the past participle will end a sentence...*

The lost and found office at the station is full of umbrellas that **were** forgotten.

*...or be followed by a preposition.  
Often the preposition BY.*

The lost and found office at the station is full of umbrellas that **were** forgotten BY tired passengers.



For **listening practice** please watch the video. Listen to the pronunciation with natural sentences spoken by a native speaker.



**VIDEO**

**Review** the grammar while you **improve** your English listening skills.

Find more helpful links  
on the next page.



# Thank you for reading this PDF.



I hope it was  
helpful for  
you!

[WorldEnglishBlog.com](http://WorldEnglishBlog.com)

*Follow*  for more helpful **English**.



[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)



[Twitter](https://www.twitter.com)



[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)



[Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com)