

Participle Phrases and Sentence Combining

On a separate sheet of paper, combine the following pairs of sentences by changing the second sentence into a present or past participle phrase that modifies a noun in the first sentence. Then combine the original two sentences into a compound or complex sentence. Finally, combine the original two sentences into a simple sentence (single independent clause) with a compound predicate. See the example below. The example also shows two different ways to set up the sentence with a participle phrase, though you only need to do it one of those two ways for each sentence.

EX: Tom burned all of his bumper stickers.

Tom was rejected by the voters.

*Rejected by the voters, Tom burned all of his bumper stickers.(participle in beginning) **OR**
Tom, rejected by the voters, burned all of his bumper stickers.(participle after the noun it modifies)*

*Tom was rejected by the voters, so he burned all of his bumper stickers.(compound sentence) **OR**
Tom burned all of his bumper stickers because he was rejected by the voters. (complex sentence)*

Tom was rejected by the voters and burned all of his bumper stickers. (compound predicate)

1. The conductor stepped to the podium.
The conductor was greeted with warm applause by the audience.
2. The teller called the manager over.
The teller was noticing a customer's strange behavior.
3. The truck finally began to inch forward.
The truck was pulled by two wreckers.
4. The event was soon the talk of the town.
The event had been mentioned on several news programs.
5. Leon climbed to the top of the flagpole.
Leon was trying to set a new record.
6. Leon gave up in disgust.
Leon was endlessly bothered by pigeons.
7. They ran for shelter.
They were grabbing the picnic basket and table cloth.
8. The salesman engaged Uncle Ralph in conversation.
The salesman was expressing a great interest in worm farming.
9. The calf soon gained its weight back.
The calf was being fed by hand.