Non-finite forms of the verb

Participle I

-Participle I -Participle II

-Gerund

-Infinitive

writing - Ind. active - used to express simultaneous action

being written - Ind. passive

having written - Perf. Active - used to express priority

having been written - Perf. passive

The use

1. attributive (ind. active mainly used)

pre-position

She was looking at the blooming trees.

• post-position (usually has accompanying words) She was looking at the trees blooming in the yard.

*passive participle is rarely used: There was one thing being done that interested him.

To avoid misunderstanding a clause, not a PI is sometimes used.

I came up to my friend talking on the phone. - I came up to my friend who was talking on the phone

Adverbial modifier

2. time (Ind - simultaneous action; Perf - prior action)

She was happy watching her children playing in the yard.

Having taken the phone, he started answering all the questions.

*with the verbs of motion and sense perception indefinite participle may be used even when the action is prior.

Arriving into the city (having arrived into the city) he went home straight ahead.

* PI of the verb to be is not used as an adverbial modifier of time, so the clause is used.

When he was a child he liked to play a lot.

3. adverbial modifier of cause / reason

Being a rich guy, he didn't have to work.

Having achieved what he wanted, he was very happy.

4. adverbial modifier of manner or attendant circumstances (PI ind. is mostly used)

He was watching a movie texting with his friends.

5.adverbial modifier of comparison

He said it as if thinking aloud

She looked as if not having slept all night

6. predicative

The effect of the taken measures was amazing.

7. part of complex object

I sam him entering the building.

8. part of compound verbal predicate

She was seen arriving in the city.

9. parenthesis

Generally speaking....

Judging by.....