

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
WACO DIVISION**

SMARTWATCH MOBILECONCEPTS,
LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

GOOGLE LLC,

Defendant.

§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§

No. 6:23-cv-00398-DC-DTG

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

DEFENDANT GOOGLE LLC'S OPENING CLAIM CONSTRUCTION BRIEF

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. PATENT BACKGROUND	2
III. LEGAL STANDARD.....	4
IV. ARGUMENT	4
A. “authenticating the user . . . ; and providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system once authenticated;”	4
1. The Claim Language Logically and Grammatically Requires That “authenticating the user” Be Performed Before “providing the user with access . . . once authenticated”	5
2. The Specification Similarly Requires That “authenticating the user” Be Performed Before “providing the user with access”	7
a. All specification embodiments require authentication before providing access.....	7
b. Requiring authentication before access is the only construction consistent with the patent’s stated purpose	9
V. CONCLUSION.....	10

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

	Page
<u>CASES</u>	
<i>Advanced Tech. Incubator, Inc. v. Sharp Corp.</i> , No. 2:07-cv-468, 2009 WL 4403314 (E.D. Tex. June 26, 2009)	4
<i>Altiris, Inc. v. Symantec Corp.</i> , 318 F.3d 1363 (Fed. Cir. 2003).....	4, 6, 7
<i>Asyst Techs., Inc. v. Emtrak, Inc.</i> , 402 F.3d 1188 (Fed. Cir. 2005).....	9, 10
<i>CellTrust Corp. v. ionLake, LLC</i> , 625 F. Supp. 3d 810 (D. Minn. 2022)	5
<i>E-Pass Techs., Inc. v. 3Com Corp.</i> , 473 F.3d 1213 (Fed. Cir. 2007).....	6
<i>Function Media, L.L.C. v. Google, Inc.</i> , 708 F.3d 1310 (Fed. Cir. 2013).....	6
<i>Loral Fairchild Corp. v. Sony Corp.</i> , 181 F.3d 1313 (Fed. Cir. 1999).....	6
<i>Mantech Env't Corp. v. Hudson Env't Servs., Inc.</i> , 152 F.3d 1368 (Fed. Cir. 1998).....	6, 9
<i>Maxell, Ltd. v. Amperex Tech. Ltd.</i> , No. W-21-CV-00347-ADA, 2022 WL 16858824 (W.D. Tex. Nov. 10, 2022).....	9
<i>Mformation Techs., Inc. v. Rsch. in Motion Ltd.</i> , 764 F.3d 1392 (Fed. Cir. 2014).....	4, 5, 6, 7
<i>Praxair, Inc. v. ATMI, Inc.</i> , 543 F.3d 1306 (Fed. Cir. 2008).....	10
<i>Tech. Patents LLC v. T-Mobile (UK) Ltd.</i> , 700 F.3d 482 (Fed. Cir. 2012).....	10
<i>Tuna Processors, Inc. v. Haw. Int'l Seafood, Inc.</i> , 327 F. App'x 204 (Fed. Cir. 2009)	6
<i>WSOU Invs., LLC v. Google LLC</i> , No. 6:20-CV-585-ADA, 2023 WL 8461642 (W.D. Tex. Dec. 6, 2023)	7

I. INTRODUCTION

The parties dispute only one issue relating to claim construction: whether in the sole asserted method claim 2 of the Patent-in-Suit the claim step of “authenticating the user” must be performed before the step of “providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system *once authenticated*.” (Emphasis added.) Google’s position—that the steps must be performed in the order recited in the claim—is amply supported by the intrinsic evidence and relevant Federal Circuit precedent. First, the claim language logically and grammatically requires that “authenticating the user” be performed before “providing the user with access . . . once authenticated.” The Federal Circuit has repeatedly required that claim steps be performed in their recited order when, as here, a later step refers to the completed results of a prior step. Second, the specification directly supports Google’s position because all disclosed embodiments require performing authentication before providing the user with access to the secured electronic system. Finally, only Google’s position is consistent with the patent’s stated objective of keeping an electronic system secured by providing access only to authorized users.

By contrast, SmartWatch’s argument—that these method steps are not sequential and can be performed in any order—is necessarily wrong. Such a reading would permit “providing the user with access . . . once authenticated” *before* the actual authentication—an illogical result that directly contradicts the express claim language. SmartWatch’s position also lacks any support in the specification, which does not disclose or even suggest providing access before authentication. Finally, providing access to a non-authenticated user would defeat the central purpose of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, the Court should adopt Google’s proposed construction and hold that “authenticating the user” must be performed before starting the next step of “providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system once authenticated.”

II. PATENT BACKGROUND

SmartWatch asserts only method claim 2 of U.S. Patent No. 10,362,480 (the “’480 Patent”, Dkt. 1-1) against Google. The ’480 Patent relates to enabling a wearable device user to access secured electronic systems when certain conditions are satisfied. *Id.* at 1:18-19. The specification provides several examples of secured electronic systems, including secured entry barriers, vehicles, equipment, automatic teller machines, payment mechanisms, point-of-sale, and secured databases. *Id.* at 2:63-3:3. It also explains that the intended purpose of the claimed invention is to “provide authorized users/wearers of a wearable device in the form of a smartwatch to gain access to secured electronic systems, even if access requires any of: a determination of user identity, biometric measurement, location determination, access to remote data, and proximity to the secured electronic system.” *Id.* at 4:67-5:6.

Asserted claim 2 is reproduced below in full, with relevant claim language emphasized:

2. A method for enabling a wearable device user to access secured electronic systems, said method comprising:

placing a wearable device in contact with a user, said wearable device including a telecommunications carrier access identification module, a cellular RF communications module, and a short-range RF communications module;

achieving secured, short-range RF communication between the wearable device and a secured electronic system;

authenticating the user with at least one of the wearable device, a remote server via cellular communications supported by the telecommunications carrier access identification module and the cellular RF communications module, and the secured electronic system via the secured, short-range RF communication; and

providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system ***once authenticated***;

wherein said wearable device includes a GPS module for determining location of the wearable device user with respect to the secured electronic system, and wherein the step of providing a user access to or through the secured electronic systems is also dependent on the location of the wearable device user.

Id. at claim 2 (emphasis added).

Consistent with the invention's stated purpose and the recited order of the method claim steps, in all specification embodiments a user is authenticated before being provided with access. In a first embodiment, "a ***user can be authenticated*** by biometric hardware . . . ***prior to granting secured electronic system access.***" *Id.* at 3:11-15 (emphasis added). In another, "a user ***can access*** a vehicle that is registered with the smartwatch 100 (or service accessible by the smartwatch) ***when the user is authenticated*** to access the vehicle by the smartwatch 100 and is in close proximity to the vehicle as determined by the smartwatch 100." *Id.* at 6:12-16 (emphasis added). In yet another, "the wearable device automatically ***authenticates the user*** and ***provides an authenticated user with access*** to/through a secured electronic system." *Id.* at Fig. 3 and 6:39-41 (emphasis added). In yet another embodiment, after the user is authenticated "the ***user can be granted access*** to a secured electronic system ***when*** at least one of the following conditions applies to the user: ***authenticated for access*** to secured electronic system by smartwatch; ***authenticated for access*** by network carrier; ***authenticated for access*** by remote server; ***granted access*** based on location, or ***granted access*** based on proximity to the secured electronic system." *Id.* at Fig. 4 and 6:62-7:2 (emphasis added). And in the last embodiment, again after the user is authenticated, the user "***can be granted access*** to a secured electronic system when at least one of the following conditions applies: user ***authenticated for access*** to secured electronic system by the smartwatch; user ***authenticated for access*** to secured electronic system by carrier; user ***authenticated for access*** to secured electronic system by remote server; user ***granted access*** based on location; and user is ***granted access*** based on proximity to secured electronic system." *Id.* at Fig. 5 and 7:14-22 (emphasis added). In each example, the user is always authenticated before being granted access to the secured electronic system.

III. LEGAL STANDARD

“Whether the order of the steps recited in a method claim must be performed in a particular order is properly a part of claim construction.” *Advanced Tech. Incubator, Inc. v. Sharp Corp.*, No. 2:07-cv-468, 2009 WL 4403314, at *13 (E.D. Tex. June 26, 2009) (citing *Altiris, Inc. v. Symantec Corp.*, 318 F.3d 1363, 1371-72 (Fed. Cir. 2003)). While “ordinarily” the steps of a claim are not construed to require an order, a claim nonetheless “requires an ordering of steps when the claim language, as a matter of logic or grammar, requires that the steps be performed in the order written, or the specification directly or implicitly requires an order of steps.” *Mformation Techs., Inc. v. Rsch. in Motion Ltd.*, 764 F.3d 1392, 1398 (Fed. Cir. 2014); *see also Altiris*, 318 F.3d at 1369.

IV. ARGUMENT

The parties dispute only one claim construction issue in the sole asserted claim 2.

A. “authenticating the user . . . ; and providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system once authenticated;”

SmartWatch’s Proposed Construction	Google’s Proposed Construction
All claims do not need construction.	The step of “authenticating the user . . .” must be performed before the step of “providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system once authenticated.”

As a matter of logic and grammar, the step of “authenticating the user . . .” must be performed before the step of “providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system *once authenticated*.” (Emphasis added.) SmartWatch’s argument that the step of “providing the user with access . . . once authenticated” could occur before the user is authenticated—i.e., before completing the earlier step of “authenticating the user”—defies common and grammatical sense.

Google’s proposed construction should be adopted because it is supported by the claim language, specification, and established precedent, while SmartWatch’s position contradicts the plain and ordinary meaning, not to mention logic and basic rules of grammar. The claim language requires, “as a matter of logic [and] grammar,” that authenticating be performed and completed before providing access to an authenticated user. *See Mformation*, 764 F.3d at 1398. Further, all the disclosed embodiments support Google’s construction while nothing in the specification supports SmartWatch’s position. Finally, only Google’s proposed construction is consistent with the patent’s stated purpose.

1. The Claim Language Logically and Grammatically Requires That “authenticating the user” Be Performed Before “providing the user with access . . . once authenticated”

The language of claim 2 logically and grammatically requires that the step of “authenticating the user” precede the later step of “providing the user with access . . . once authenticated.” Indeed, the latter expressly states that it occurs only “once” the user is “authenticated.” In that syntactical structure, the word “authenticated” is used as a past participle, meaning that the authenticating is done and completed. *See* Ex. A,¹ Merriam-Webster Dictionary, “Past Participle,” <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/past%20participle> (“a participle that typically expresses *completed action*” (emphasis added)); *accord CellTrust Corp. v. ionLake, LLC*, 625 F. Supp. 3d 810, 835 (D. Minn. 2022). Thus, “authenticated” in the latter step refers back to “authenticating the user” in the former step. Claim 2 is therefore clear on its face that “authenticating the user” must be performed and completed before “providing the user with access.”

Binding precedent supports Google’s construction. The Federal Circuit has applied exactly

¹ Exhibit A to the Declaration of Sorin G. Zaharia (“Zaharia Decl.”), filed concurrently herewith.

the same reasoning when a later method step uses a past participle to reference an earlier step—“The use of the past participle confirms that . . . the previous limitation must have occurred prior to the present limitation.” *Tuna Processors, Inc. v. Haw. Int’l Seafood, Inc.*, 327 F. App’x 204, 209 (Fed. Cir. 2009). In *E-Pass Technologies, Inc. v. 3Com Corp.*, the Federal Circuit held that, for the plaintiff to prove infringement, it had to show that all claimed steps were performed in their recited order “because the language of most of the steps of its method claim ***refer to the completed results of the prior step.***” 473 F.3d 1213, 1222 (Fed. Cir. 2007) (emphasis added). There, the claim language first recited “transferring a data set . . .” and then “storing ***said transferred*** data set,” thus transferring had to be performed before storing. *Id.* (emphasis in original). The same reasoning applies here. The later step of “providing the user with access” occurs “once authenticated,” which refers to the earlier step of “authenticating the user,” so providing the user with access begins only after the user is authenticated.

Many other cases, both at the Federal Circuit and in this District, have reached the same conclusion. See *Loral Fairchild Corp. v. Sony Corp.*, 181 F.3d 1313, 1321 (Fed. Cir. 1999) (claim steps had to be performed in their written order because the second step required the alignment of a second structure with a first structure formed by the prior step); *Mantech Env’t Corp. v. Hudson Env’t Servs., Inc.*, 152 F.3d 1368, 1375-76 (Fed. Cir. 1998) (same, because each subsequent step referenced something logically indicating the prior step had been performed); *Function Media, L.L.C. v. Google, Inc.*, 708 F.3d 1310, 1320 (Fed. Cir. 2013) (“processing” an “electronic advertisement” necessarily indicated that “the creation of the ad must happen before the processing begins”). And recently, a court in this District held as a matter of claim construction that “logic demands that the first three steps [of the claim at issue] occur in sequence” where each step depended on an action performed in an earlier step. *WSOU Invs., LLC v. Google LLC*, No. 6:20-

CV-585-ADA, 2023 WL 8461642, at *3 (W.D. Tex. Dec. 6, 2023) (citing *Altiris*, 318 F.3d at 1369). Here too, because the later step references the earlier completed one, the steps “as a matter of logic [and] grammar” have to be performed in their written order. *Mformation*, 764 F.3d at 1398; *Altiris*, 318 F.3d at 1369.

Under claim 2’s clear language, the earlier step of “authenticating the user” must be performed and completed before starting the later step of “providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system once authenticated.”

2. The Specification Similarly Requires That “authenticating the user” Be Performed Before “providing the user with access”

The specification both “directly [and] implicitly requires [the] order of steps” in Google’s proposed construction. *See Mformation*, 764 F.3d at 1398.

a. All specification embodiments require authentication before providing access

All embodiments disclosed in the specification require that authentication be completed before providing access. In the first embodiment, “a *user can be authenticated* by biometric hardware . . . *prior to granting secured electronic system access*.” ’480 Patent at 3:11-15 (emphasis added). In a second embodiment, “a user *can access* a vehicle that is registered with the smartwatch 100 (or service accessible by the smartwatch) *when the user is authenticated* to access the vehicle by the smartwatch 100 and is in close proximity to the vehicle as determined by the smartwatch 100.” *Id.* at 6:12-16. The user is “authenticated,” meaning authentication is done and completed, before the user can “access” the vehicle.

In a third embodiment, “the wearable device automatically *authenticates the user* and *provides an authenticated user with access* to/through a secured electronic system”—again showing that the authentication is completed before the user is provided with access. *See id.* at Fig. 3 and 6:39-41 (emphasis added).

In a fourth embodiment, the flow diagram in Figure 4, reproduced below, and the corresponding specification description also show authenticating being completed before providing access.

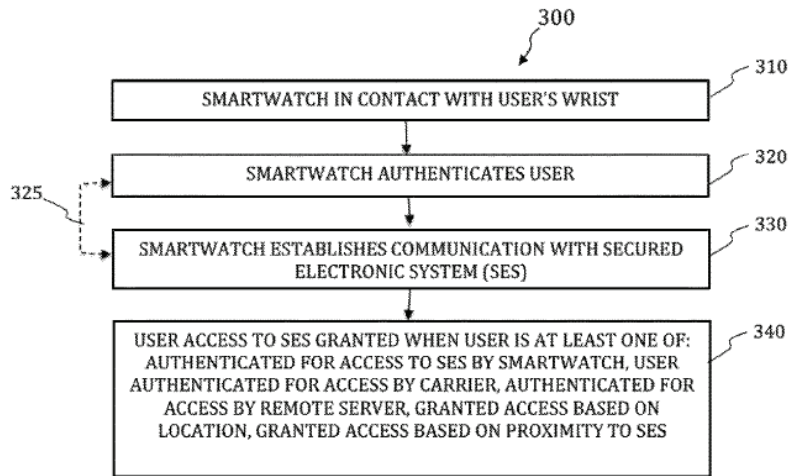


FIG 4

As shown, the smartwatch “authenticates” the user in block 320. *Id.* at Fig. 4, 6:46-51. Once that step is complete, later block 340 illustrates that “the user can be granted access to a secured electronic system.” *Id.* at 6:62-67, Fig. 4. The user was authenticated before accessing the secured electronic system.

Importantly, this required ordering stands in contrast to other method steps in claim 2 that may be performed in any order. For example, “[a]s shown by arrow labeled 325, block 330 can precede block 320 (communication established before authentication)”; in other words, authenticating the user can be done either before or after establishing a communication. *Id.* at 6:53-55, Fig. 4. But there is no such arrow interchanging the ordering of blocks 320 and 340; to the contrary, the flow diagram expressly shows that block 320 (authenticating) must occur and be completed before starting block 340 (providing user access to secured electronic system). *Id.* at 6:50-67, Fig. 4. That the applicants knew how to describe an embodiment where certain steps may be performed in any order—but chose not to do so for the authenticating and accessing steps at

issue here—is strong evidence that the claimed authenticating step must be performed before the accessing step. *See Maxell, Ltd. v. Amperex Tech. Ltd.*, No. W-21-CV-00347-ADA, 2022 WL 16858824, at *21 (W.D. Tex. Nov. 10, 2022) (“[T]he Court agrees with Defendant that had Applicant wanted to draft a claim in the manner Plaintiff argued, Applicant knew how to do so.”).

Finally, the last embodiment disclosed in the specification similarly shows that the user is authenticated (block 430) *before* being granted access to the secured electronic system (block 440). *See* ’480 Patent at Fig. 5 and 7:14-22.

The specification provides no support for SmartWatch’s contrary position because there are no embodiments that disclose or even suggest providing access before authenticating the user. *See Mantech*, 152 F.3d at 1376 (“the sequential nature of the claim steps is apparent from the plain meaning of the claim language and nothing in the written description suggests otherwise”).

b. Requiring authentication before access is the only construction consistent with the patent’s stated purpose

Not only do all specification embodiments support Google’s position, but Google’s proposed construction is also the only one compatible with the central purpose of the claimed invention, i.e., allowing only authorized users access to a secured system. *See* ’480 Patent at 4:67-5:6.

The Federal Circuit has consistently construed claim terms to incorporate a patent’s stated purposes or goals. For example, in *Praxair, Inc. v. ATMI, Inc.*, the Federal Circuit held that courts should construe claims in a manner that “achieve[s] the overall object of the invention.” 543 F.3d 1306, 1324 (Fed. Cir. 2008). In *Asyst Technologies, Inc. v. Emtrak, Inc.*, the court rejected a construction “in tension with . . . the objectives of the [invention] as expressed in the specification and the prosecution history.” 402 F.3d 1188, 1194 (Fed. Cir. 2005). Similarly, in *Technology Patents LLC v. T-Mobile (UK) Ltd.*, the Federal Circuit rejected plaintiff’s proposed construction

because it “ignores a substantial amount of intrinsic evidence and the very purpose of the claimed invention.” 700 F.3d 482, 493 (Fed. Cir. 2012).

Given that the ’480 Patent states that the desired objective of the claimed invention is to keep an electronic system secured by providing access only to authorized users, *Praxair* instructs adopting a construction to incorporate that objective—i.e., requiring that the step of “authenticating the user” be performed and completed before starting the next step of “providing the user with access,” as proposed by Google. SmartWatch’s proposal, by contrast, would result in providing the user with access to the system before authentication and defeat the very purpose of the claimed invention—it should therefore be rejected.

V. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should adopt Google’s proposed construction that the claimed method step of “authenticating the user . . .” must be performed before the step of “providing the user with access to or through the secured electronic system once authenticated.”

Dated: February 5, 2024

By: /s/ Nathaniel St. Clair, II

Nathaniel St. Clair, II
nstclair@jw.com
Jackson Walker LLP
2323 Ross Ave., Ste. 600
Dallas, TX 75201
Telephone: (214) 953-5948
Facsimile: (214) 661-6848

Erica Benites Giese
egiese@jw.com
Jackson Walker LLP
1900 Broadway, Suite 1200
San Antonio, TX 78215
Telephone: 210-978-7791

Luann L. Simmons (*Pro Hac Vice*)
lsimmons@omm.com
Sorin G. Zaharia (*Pro Hac Vice*)
szaharia@omm.com
Daniel A. Silverman (*Pro Hac Vice*)
dsilverman@omm.com
O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 28th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3823
Telephone: 415-984-8700
Facsimile: 415-984-8701

Kyla Butler (*Pro Hac Vice*)
kbutler@omm.com
O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP
1625 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
Telephone: 202-383-5300
Facsimile: 202-383-5414

Attorneys for Defendant Google LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rule CV-5, I hereby certify that, on February 5, 2024, all counsel of record who have appeared in this case are being served with a copy of the foregoing via the Court's CM/ECF system.

/s/ Nathaniel St. Clair, II
Nathaniel St. Clair, II

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
WACO DIVISION**

SMARTWATCH MOBILECONCEPTS,
LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

GOOGLE LLC,

Defendant.

§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§

No. 6:23-cv-00398-DC-DTG

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

**DECLARATION OF SORIN G. ZAHARIA IN SUPPORT OF
DEFENDANT GOOGLE LLC'S OPENING CLAIM CONSTRUCTION BRIEF**

I, Sorin G. Zaharia, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am a Counsel at the law firm O'Melveny & Myers LLP, counsel for Defendant Google LLC in the above-entitled action. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and if called to testify could and would competently testify thereto.

2. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of the Merriam-Webster Dictionary's definition of "past participle," available at <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/past%20participle>.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on February 5, 2024 in Walnut Creek, California.

/s/ Sorin Zaharia

Sorin G. Zaharia

EXHIBIT A

Dictionary

Definition

- Example Sentences
- Word History
- Related Articles
- Entries Near
- Cite this Entry
- Share
- Kids Definition
- More from M-W
- Show Less

Save Word

past participle noun

: a participle that typically expresses completed action, that is traditionally one of the principal parts of the verb, and that is traditionally used in English in the formation of perfect tenses in the active voice and of all tenses in the passive voice



Examples of past participle in a Sentence

The verbs “thrown” in “the ball has been thrown” and “raised” in “many hands were raised” are *past participles*.

Recent Examples on the Web

- In Italian, the verb diventare mostly appears as *past participle*: The situation has become difficult, or he’s become strange.
– Cheri Lucas Rowlands, *Longreads*, 30 Sep. 2022
- And could this *past participle* of the verb to do be considered an emotion?
– Melissa Mohr, *The Christian Science Monitor*, 24 Jan. 2022
- Investigators also found other examples of her writing with the same *past participle* mistake.
– *New York Times*, 20 Nov. 2021
- Pena Nieto used an incorrect *past participle* sometimes used by children in a speech in Paris at the offices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.
– *Washington Post*, 12 Dec. 2017

These examples are programmatically compiled from various online sources to illustrate current usage of the word ‘past participle.’ Any opinions expressed in the examples do not represent the views of Merriam-Webster.

Quordle

W	O	R	D	Y
L	O	V	E	R
P	L	A	Y	S
D	A	I	L	Y

Can you solve 4 words at once?

Play

Ad



LINDA WALKER

The Citi Rewards+® Card

Enjoy a low intro APR on balance transfers & purchases for 15 months.

 Citi [Learn More](#)

Merriam-Webster

WORD OF THE DAY

quotidian

See Definitions and Examples »

Get Word of the Day daily email!

SUBSCRIBE

5 Reasons Your Business Needs This Software! Read More To Boost Business ROI

READ MORE

Dictionary

- Definition
- Example Sentenc...
- Word History
- Related Articles
- Entries Near
- Cite this Entry
- Share
- Kids Definition
- More from M-W
- Show Less

Save Word

Cooperation and Development.
– Washington Post, 12 Dec. 2017

These examples are programmatically compiled from various online sources to illustrate current usage of the word 'past participle.' Any opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#) about these examples.

Flash Picks



Up to 50% off new finds!

Shop now

Walmart

See Definitions and Examples »

Get Word of the Day daily email!

Your email address

SUBSCRIBE

Word History

First Known Use

1798, in the meaning defined [above](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *past participle* was in 1798

[See more words from the same year](#)

Flash Picks



Up to 50% off

New daily finds, online only.

Shop now

Walmart

Articles Related to *past participle*



8 Grammar Terms You Used to Know, But...

Plus yodeling



8 More Grammar Terms You Used to Know...

These grammarians are going places

Flash Picks

Up to 50% off new daily finds!

5 Reasons Your Business Needs This Software! Read More To Boost Business ROI

READ MORE

- Dictionary
- Definition
- Example Sentences
- Word History
- Related Articles
- Entries Near
- Cite this Entry
- Share
- Kids Definition
- More from M-W
- Show Less

Save Word

Flash Picks

Up to 50% off new daily finds!

Shop now



Walmart

Flash Picks



Up to 50% off

New daily finds, online only.

Shop now

Walmart

Dictionary Entries Near *past participle*

[pastourelle](#)

past participle

[past perfect](#)

See More Nearby Entries

Cite this Entry

Style

MLA

"Past participle." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/past%20participle>. Accessed 31 Jan. 2024.

Copy Citation

Share

 Facebook

 Twitter

Kids Definition

past participle

noun

: a participle that expresses completed action and that is one of the principal parts of the verb

"raised" in "Many hands were raised" and "thrown" in "The ball has been thrown" are *past participles*



5 Reasons Your Business Needs This Software! Read More To Boost Business ROI

READ MORE



past participle noun

: a participle that expresses completed action and that is one of the principal parts of the verb

"raised" in "Many hands were raised" and "thrown" in "The ball has been thrown" are *past participles*

Flash Picks



Up to 50% off new finds!

[Shop now](#)

Walmart

Flash Picks



Up to 50% off

New daily finds, online only.

[Shop now](#)

Walmart

More from Merriam-Webster on *past participle*

English: Translation of *past participle* for Spanish Speakers

Love words? Need even more definitions?

Subscribe to America's largest dictionary and get thousands more definitions and advanced search—ad free!

MERRIAM-WEBSTER UNABRIDGED

Popular in Grammar & Usage

[See All >](#)



8 Grammar Terms You Used to Know, But Forgot



Homophones, Homographs, and Homonyms



'Geminates': Twin Sounds



Your vs. You're: How to Use Them Correctly



Every Letter Is Silent, Sometimes: A-Z List of Examples

Popular in Wordplay

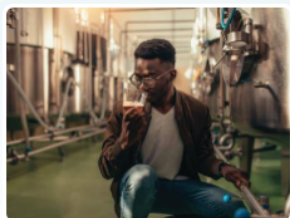
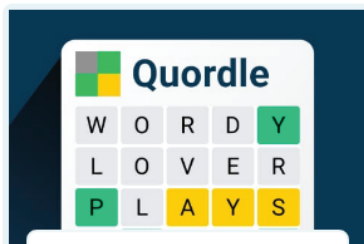
[See All >](#)



5 Reasons Your Business Needs This Software! Read More To Boost Business ROI

[READ MORE >>](#)



[See All >](#)A photograph showing a tall, slender glass filled with a golden beer, topped with a thick layer of white foam. The glass sits on a red and black plaid tablecloth. Next to the glass is a whole, brown coconut, also resting on the plaid surface.[See All >](#)

Play



Play



Play



Take the quiz



SUBSCRIBE







5 Reasons Your Business Needs This Software! Read More To Boost Business ROI

[READ MORE >>](#)


Nine Obscure Beer-Related Words

The Words of the Week - Jan. 26

7 Especially Fitting Common Names for Plants

9 Whiskery Words for Facial Hair

Rare and Amusing Insults, Volume 3

Games & Quizzes

See All >

Quordle

Can you solve 4 words at once?

Play

BLOSSOM

You can make only 12 words. Pick the best ones!

Play

The **MISSING LETTER**

A crossword with a twist

Play

WINNING WORDS

Can you outdo past winners of the National Spelling Bee?

Take the quiz



Learn a new word every day.
Delivered to your inbox!

Your email address

SUBSCRIBE

[Help](#) | [About Us](#) | [Advertising Info](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Diversity](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#)



© 2024 Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

Information from your device can be used to personalize your ad experience.

[Do not sell or share my personal information.](#)

5 Reasons Your Business Needs This Software! Read More To Boost Business ROI

READ MORE >>