CHAPTER II

A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF PRESENT PARTICIPLE AND GERUND

2.1 The Kinds of Present Participle.

2.1.1 Present Participle as an Attributive Adjective

Present Participle is a part of the verb that ended by –ing and functions as an adjective Allen (1987:177). Besides, Thomson and Martinet (1990:206) also state that present participle (verb + ing) is used as adjective when the noun modifies performs or is responsible for an action. From the definition above, it can be concluded that present participle is part of a verb that ended by -ing and functions as an adjective describing a noun.

Present Participle as an attributive adjective is usually used to modify a noun, so it is also called a noun modifier. It is usually intransitive (it does not take an object) and the verb form of the sentence is in the progressive (continuous) aspects. For examples: walking man, sleeping child, crying baby. This function should be clear from the gerund (verbal noun) in which present participle is to modify noun. In other words, the present participle can be easily substituted by another word such as walking man (the man that walks / is walking). However, depending on the main verb, the present participle can indicate:

a. Present time : The singing bird is a black bird. (the bird is singing)

b. Past time : I heard a crying baby last night on my way home. ( a baby was crying)
2.1.2 Present Participle after Verb of Sensation

Present participle can be used after certain verb of sensation (perception) such as: see, hear, notice, taste, feel, watch, perceive, smell, witness, observe.

Examples:

- I saw him crossing the road
- We heard the baby crying

Verbs of sensation can be followed by either present participle or infinitive, but the meaning has been changed. An action expressed by the present participle means that the action is not completely seen or heard, meanwhile if the action expressed is in infinitive, it means that the whole action is completely seen or heard.

Examples:

I saw him crossing the road.
(It means I saw only the part of action. An action expressed by the infinitive is a complete action) as in:

I saw him cross the road
(It means I saw the whole action).

2.1.3 Present Participle after Certain Verbs

There are some certain verbs that can be followed by present participle

Thomson and Martinet, (1984:122). They are:

Find, catch, leave, spend, waste, go, busy.

*Find, catch, leave, spend, waste, go, busy + object*
Examples:

- They found me picking oranges.
- I wasted a lot of time waiting for you at home.
- She caught me staring at her boyfriend.

Particularly, with go and come we can use the participle of verbs of physical activity; such as: dancing, riding, sailing, shopping, etc.

Examples:

- Come dancing with me on the stage
- They go shopping

2.1.4 Present Participle Replacing a Main Clause.

a. Present participle is usually possible to express one or two actions by the same subject occurring simultaneously. The present participle can be before or after the infinitive verb.

   Examples:

   - He rode away whistling as he went. (He rode away. He whistled when he was riding.
   - Holding the rope with one hand he stretches out the other to the boy in the water. (He holds the rope with one hand and stretches out the other to the boy in the water).

b. When one action is immediately followed by another by the same subject to the first action, it can often be expressed by present participle.

   Examples:

   - Taking off our shoes we creep cautiously along the passage.
(We took off our shoes and creep cautiously along the passage).

- Opening the drawer he took out a revolver.

(He opened the drawer he took out the revolver).

It would be seem more logical here to use the perfect participle and saying having opened, having taken off, but this is not necessary to expect when the use present participle might lead to the ambiguity.

Examples: eating his dinner he rushed out of the house would give the impression that he left the house with his plate in his hand. Here, therefore it would be better to say: Having eaten his dinner he rushed out of the house.

c. When the second action forms part of the first, or is a result of it, we can express the second action by present participle.

Examples:

- She went out, slamming the door.
- He fired, wounding one of the bandits.
- I feel, striking my hand against the door and cutting it.

From the three examples above, they have three actions; the second actions expressed by present participle.

2.1.5 Present Participle Replacing a Subordinate Clause

The present participle as clause modifier can replace since/because/for (because + subject + verb). Examples:

- Knowing that it would be cold, he packed a coat.

  (Because he knew that it would be cold, he packed a coat)
• Knowing that she had not heard, he asked again
  (Because he knew that she had not heard, he asked again)

• Making a lot of mistakes, he asked for apologize.
  (Because he made a lot of mistakes, he asked for apologize.

It should be noted that being at the beginning of a sentence will normally
mean ‘as he is / as he was’:

Example:
• Being a student he was naturally interested in museum.
  (Because he was a student, how was naturally interested in museum)
  And it could not mean ‘while he was student’.

The subject of the main verb is also the subject of the participle phrase.

Furthermore, it is also possible for the subject to come first. Examples:
• Ann hearing a good job in New York decided to go there.
  (Because she heard of a good job in New York, she decided to go there)
  However, the subject of present participle do not needs to be the same as the
  subject of the following verb.
  Example:

• The day being fine, he decided to go swimming.
  (Because the day was fine, we decided to go swimming)
  In this case, the participle must follow its noun / pronoun. Being fine the day,
  we decided to go swimming is incorrect, but being athletic, tom found the
  climbing quite easy is alright. As tom is the subject of both participles and the
  following verb.
Besides, it is also possible to use two or more participles one after the other.

Examples:

- Not knowing the language and having no friends in the country, he found it is impossible to get a job.
  (Because he did not know the language and had no friends he found it is impossible to get job)

- Realizing that he had no enough money and not wanting to borrow money from his father, he decided to impawn his watch.
  (Because he realized that he had no enough money and did want to borrow money from his father, he decided to impawn his watch)

Also, the present participle can also be replaced by When, while + subject + verb.

Example:

- Walking in the path, he found a wallet.
  (When he was walking in the path he found a wallet)

Present participle used when the verb in the clause is continuous tense.

Example:

- People waiting for the bus often shelter / sheltered in my doorway.
  (People are / were waiting for the bus often shelter / sheltered in my doorway)

Present participle can also be used when the verb in the clause express a habitual or continuous action.

Example:
• Passengers traveling on this bus buy / bought their tickets in books.
  (Passengers who travel / traveled on this bus buy / bought their tickets in books).

Furthermore, Present participle can be used when a verb in the clause expresses a wish (when the verbs in the clause are: wish, desire, want, and hope)

Example:
• People wishing to go to the tour must book the traveling agency.
  (People who wish to go on the tour must book).

A non-defining clause contains one of the above verbs, or any verb of knowing or thinking. Know, think, believe, except can be similarly replaced by a present participle.

• Bill, wanting to make an impression on Ann, took her to Paris.
  (Bill, who wanted to make an impression on Ann, took her to Paris.

Frank ( 1972:306 ) adds that depending on the main verb, the present participle can indicate:

• Present time : The man addressing to the audience now is famous scientist
• Past time : The trapped miners, hoping to be rescued soon, told stories to keep up their morale.
• Future time : A person traveling in foreign countries will need to take the required documents.
Present participle adjectives are active and mean having this effect, whereas past participle adjectives are passive and mean “affected this way”

Examples:

- The play was boring.
- The audience was bored.

2.1.6 Present Participle Forms the Continuous Tense.

The continuous tense indicate the aspect of time and duration. The present continuous tense, example, is to express an action at the moment of speaking as in she is standing there. When the sentence is produced, the action of standing occurs at the same time. The present perfect continuous tense indicates the duration of the action, that is until the sentence is produced, the action will continues to a certain point of time after the sentence is produced.

Examples:

- She is standing there.
- They have been singing
- We are being helped

2.1.7 Present Participle after Have

In this case present participle put after have + objects (Have + object + present participle)

Examples:

- He had me swimming in a week.
- We have people standing on our steps all day.
- I will not have him cleaning his bike in the kitchen.
2.2 The Kinds of Gerund

Gerund has exactly the same form as the present participle Thomson and Martinet (1984:227). Furthermore, Allen (1987:177) states it is the part of verb that ended by –ing and function as noun. Azar (1981:182) also states that a gerund is used in the same ways as with a noun, examples: talking, playing, and swimming. A gerund is used in the same ways as with a noun (as a subject or an object)

From the definitions above, it can be concluded that gerund is the part of verb that ended by –ing and functions as a noun. Gerund can be used as subject, as object, after preposition, in short prohibition, noun compounds, after possessive adjective, and after certain expression.

2.2.1 Gerund as Subject of a Sentence

A gerund can be used as a subject of a sentence like a noun. This subject in this case always requires a singular verb. This is connected with the statement by Pyle and Munoz (1987:164) says that if a sentence begins with gerund, the verb must be also singular. Examples:

- Respecting parent is wise

The gerund respecting is used as the subject the sentence. The predicate is indicates the singular verbs. A common mistake may occur when the noun parents is related to the linking verb. Very often students write are instead of is because they look at the word closest to the predicate. The following example can clarify the idea further:

- Producing fine paintings requires skill and creativity.
The gerund producing in the verbs phrase producing fine paintings is the subject of the sentence. The predicate of requires clearly shows that gerund is regarded as the singular subject. This is apparent when it is used in the simple present / perfect tense. In the past / perfect tense, however the predicate does not show the special property.

The gerund can be used instead of infinitive when the action is being considered in general sense, but it is always safe to use infinitive. When we wish to refer to one particular action we must use to infinitive.

Examples:

- Reading French is easier than speaking it.
- It is easier to read French than to speak it.

The gerund, like the infinitive, can be the subject of a clause placed after: find, discover, think, believe, consider, expect, wonder (if).

Foe examples:

- He found that parking was difficult.
- He found parking difficult.

After find the verb be can be omitted. But it is better not to omit be after other verb.

Frank (1972:354) further comments that the choices are often possible between infinitive and gerund phrase. Where such choices exist, the infinitive usually has stronger verbal force, and gerund has grater nominal force. Also, the infinitive usually has stronger verbal force, and the gerund has greater nominal force. Also the infinitive generally represents and act or state as a whole, whereas the gerund represents an act or state in progress.
The greater choice between an infinitive or gerund is in the subject function especially if the main verb is present or future. Examples:

- To learn (learning) a new language is difficult
- To hear (hearing) such praise will embrace him.

However, if the main verb indicates a past single action, or if the verb is in the passive voice, the gerund is usually required.

Example:

- Finding the answer presented a problem

In this example, the action of finding the answer was the only action taken.

- Their stealing merchandise from the store will eventually be noticed.

The passive construction makes the gerund a better choice than the infinitive in which the action of stealing merchandise from the store may imply the meaning of an opinion, that is, there is no continuation that will be eventually noticed.

2.2.2 Gerund After Preposition

The gerund form must be used when a verb is placed immediately after a preposition. Verbs + preposition followed by the gerund such as: approve of, give up, rely on, insist on, succeed in, count on, keep on, be better of, think about, depend on, put of, think of, object to, look forward to, etc..

Examples:

- In her letter, my friend looked forward to hearing from me.
- He insisted on seeing her.

Adjective + prepositions are followed by gerund such as:
Accustomed to, intent to, afraid of, interested in, capable of, successful in, angry with, fond of, good at, etc..

Examples:

- We are interested in seeing the film.
- We are accustomed to sleeping late on weekends.

If there are nouns + preposition, they must be followed by gerund, such as: choices of, possibility of, excuse for, intention for, reason for, method of, etc..

Examples:

- Excuse me for disturbing you.
- She is the reason for her mother for living.

Generally, if there is a preposition it can be directly followed by a verb ended by –ing. The verb will be in the gerund form.

Examples:

- After living the party, Ali drove home.
- He should have studied in New York instead of moving to Paris.
2.2.3 Gerund after Possessive Adjective

a. If the verb of verb + preposition is directly followed by gerund it refers to the subject of a verb.

Example:
- He insisted on seeing the document (he saw it)

However, if we put possessive adjective or pronoun before the gerund, the gerund refers to the person denoted by the possessive or adjective pronoun.

Example:
- He insisted on me / my reading the document (I had to read it)

b. Useful verbs and expressions which can take either construction are:

- dislike, dread, fancy, involve, like (negative), mean, mind, propose, recollect,
- remember, resent, save, stop, suggest, understand, approve / disapprove of,
- insist on, it’s no good / use, object to, there’s no point in, what’s the point of.

Examples:
- He disliked working late (he disliked me/my working late)
- I object to paying twice for the same thing (I object to his/him making private calls on this phone)
- He resented being passed over for promotion (he resented my/me being promoted before him).

c. Excuse, forgive, pardon, and prevent are not followed directly by the gerund but take possessive adjective/pronoun + gerund or pronoun + preposition + gerund.
Examples:

- Forgive my/me ringing you up so early (forgive me for ringing you up so early)
- You can’t prevent his/him spending his own money (you can’t prevent him spending his own money)

d. Possessive adjective and pronoun object compared

In formal English the possessive adjective is used with the gerund. But in informal English we very often use the pronoun. The student therefore has a choice of forms, but is recommended to use the pronoun.

With stop meaning ‘prevent’ the pronoun is more usual than the possessive adjective:

Example:

- I can’t stop him writing to the papers.

e. Nouns with gerund

In very formal English the possessive case is used:

I do not remember my mother’s complaining about it.

But it is much more usual to omit the ‘s:

I do not remember my mother complaining about it.
2.2.4 Gerund as Object

Gerund as object can be found after certain verb. This list of the verb is the verb followed by gerund and function as an object (Frank, 1972:323; Thomson and martinet, 1984:23).

Admit, anticipate, appreciate, avoid, acknowledge, advocate, advise, contemplate, consider, copulate, discuss, defer, delay, deny, defeats, dislike, dread, disclaim, drop, encourage, entail, evade, enjoy, escape, excuse, fancy, imagine, finish, forgive, facilitate, give up, be, grudge, imagine, involve, justify, keep (continue), keep on, leave off, loathe, mind (object), mean, mention, miss, necessitate, pardon, postpone, prevent, propose, practice, put off, quit, recollect, remember, resent, resist, risk, recommend, relinquish, relish, renounce, report, save, stop, suggest, shirk, sanction, tolerate, try, understand, urge, withhold.

2.2.5 Gerund after Certain Expression

There are certain expression which are followed by the gerund such as the expression that use: can’t stand (endure), can’t stop, can’t hear, can’t resist, and the expressions that use: it’s no use, it’s no good, and also after the adjective use worth.

Examples:

- I can’t stand staying even one hour with them.
- I can’t stop thinking of you
- It’s no use crying over spilt milk
- It’s worth doing a favor.
However, there are also several verbs that can be followed by either infinitive or gerund (Frank: 1972, Thomson and Martinet: 1984) such as:

Advise, abhor, attempt, cease, commence, decline, disdain, (dis) like, endure, hate, hesitate, intend, recommend, allow, love, regret, begin, remember, continue, remember, continue, permit, start, scorn, prefer, stop, propose, try, it needs wants requires.

Examples:

- I began working or I begun to work.
- She continues studying in the broad or She continues to study in the broad.
- I like playing guitar or I like to play guitar.

### 2.2.6 Gerund Used in Short Prohibition

Gerund is also used in short prohibitions.

Examples:

- No smoking.
- No parking.

In this case, these gerunds can not be followed by an object, so prohibitions involving an object are usually expressed by an imperative.

Examples:

- Do not touch these wires.
- Do not disturb the lion.
2.2.7 Gerund As Nouns Compounds

Gerunds used in noun compounds are also called noun adjunct. Gerunds are not inseparable from the noun such as: diving board, sleeping room, stamp-collecting. It makes they are distinguish from present participle used as adjectives, which may be separated from the nouns; smiling girls may be changed to a girl who is smiling and so with dancing girls it can be changed to the girls who are smiling. This means that the noun compound having must be regarded as unit or one unity. Such as swimming pool, it can’t be changed with the pool which is swimming.

Gerund in noun compound can be attached either before or after noun:

a. Before Noun
   Examples:
   Writing list, walking stick, diving board, dining room, swimming pool, etc.

b. After Noun
   Examples:
   Surf-riding, fruit-picking, weight-lifting, bird-watching, coal-mining, stamp-collecting, hitch-hiking, etc.
2.3 Review of Related Literature

In designing this research, I tried to put forward some basics theoretical backgrounds related to the present study to be discussed and analyzed. I consulted and referred to some relevant text-books to support the idea of the analysis.

C. Beth Burch (2003: 94) says that you can separate gerunds from similar-looking participles, though by remembering that gerunds functions as nouns and only as a noun.

Sylvia Chalker and Edmund Weiner (1994:174) say that gerund is the –ing form of the verb when used in a partly noun like way, as in no smoking (in contrast to the same form used as a participle, e.g. everyone was smoking).”

Two theories above, have the same ideas that state the function of gerund as noun.

Tiomsi (2001) in her thesis “The Use of Present Participle in the Editorial Text of the Jakarta Post”, concludes that present participle is the part of verb, which ends in –ing that functions as an adjective, whereas, gerund is also part of verbs which end in –ing and function as a noun.

Pyle, M.A and Munoz, M. E (1974:43) say that present participle is used as an adjective when the noun it modifies performs or in responsible for an action.

The two theories above also have the same ideas about present participle that states present participle is part of verb, which ends in –ing that functions as an adjective.