

Harry – gefangen in der Zeit

Begleitmaterialien

Episode 082 – Grammar

Past participles as adjectives

You're already familiar with past participles that don't change their form and are used as part of compound verbs in certain tenses, such as the present perfect, and to construct the passive voice.

Examples:

Wir **haben** die Zahlen im Internet **gesucht**.

Die Zahlen **werden** im Internet **gesucht**.

The following chart gives you an overview of how to form past participles.

regular verbs
irregular verbs

gesucht
geholfen

separable
zugehört
angefangen

inseparable
besucht
verstanden

Many participles can be used as adjectives to describe beings, things, actions and conditions. They provide more information about the noun, giving details about the nature, circumstances or passive actions that happened in the past.

As an attributive, the participle precedes the noun it modifies and is inflected just like an adjective.

Examples:

Es geht um diese vier **verfluchten** Zahlen.

Wo genau ist der **gesuchte** Ort?

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A relative clause can be used in place of the past participle. In that case, the relative clause is often formulated in the past or present tense.

Examples:

*Es geht um diese vier Zahlen, **die verflucht (worden) sind**.*

Wo genau ist der Ort, der gesucht wird?