

LESSON: Understanding non-finite clauses

**Student Outcome**: Students will recognise and create non-finite clauses.

1. Class discussion revision of phrases, clauses, sentences.

Focus on clauses – <u>finite</u>: main / independent, subordinate / dependant

- <u>non-finite</u>: infinitive, participle. NB: Finite refers to time.
- 2. Students (in pairs) complete <u>worksheet</u> reminding them of clause constituents. Students make changes to clauses in sentences to make one finite clause non-finite.
- 3. Use same original sentences in <u>rap for stress</u> and intonation practice.
- 4. Set of 8 worksheets with practice of non-finite / finite clauses.



Student Worksheet	
Name	Date
Read the following definition of finite:	

### The adjective **FINITE** has 2 senses:

- 1. Bounded or limited in magnitude or spatial or temporal extent
- 2. 2. Of verbs; relating to forms of the verb that are limited in time by a tense and (usually) show agreement with number and person.

### Finite Clauses (containing finite verb):

- Main Clause / Independent Clause if this is by itself, then it is a Sentence.
- Subordinate Clause / Dependent Clause

### **Non-finite Clauses:**

- Infinite Clause containing Infinitive Verb ("to -")
- Participle Clause containing participle verb ( "-ing", "-ed")

### Look at this sentence:

She felt very happy when she left the store.

Changing the first clause to a non-finite, participle clause:

Feeling very happy, she left the store.

### Look carefully at these sentences:

He was very surprised when he opened the drawer. He had never seen so much money before.

Changing the second clause to a non-finite, participle clause:

Never having seen so much money before, he was very surprised when he opened the drawer.



Change one or two clauses to non-finite clauses and rewrite the sentences. (Watch out for sentences where each clause has a different subject.)

1. She felt very happy when she left the store. She had never bought a computer before.
2. He looked very nervous when he knocked on the door. He had never gone out on a date before.
3. She felt very weak, and she had a sore throat. She had never had the 'flu before.
4. He felt very proud when his guests asked for more. He had never baked a pie before.
5. She felt very foolish when her food hit the floor. She had never eaten with chopsticks before.
6. He looked very scared when it started to roar. He had never been close to a lion before.
7. She was very annoyed when he started to snore. He had never made so much noise before.
8. He was very surprised when he opened the drawer. He had never seen so much money before.



# Non-Finite Clauses Worksheets

Rewrite the sentences replacing the italic part with a present participle.

She was talking to her friend and forgot everything around her.
2. Since we watch the news every day we know what's going on in the world.
3. They are vegetarians and don't eat meat.
4. The dog wagged its tail and bit the postman.
5. While she was tidying up her room she found some old photos.
6. He was a good boy and helped his mother in the kitchen.
7. As they didn't have enough money they spent their holidays at home last year.
8. The man was sitting in the cafe. <i>He was reading a paper.</i>
9. Since I didn't feel well I didn't go to the cinema.
10.She walked home and met an old friend.



Rewrite the sentences replacing the italic part with a past participle.

1.	I have a cat that is called Tari.
2.	The dinner was more expensive than they had expected.
3.	He was accused of murder and arrested.
4.	She was shocked by the bad news and burst into tears.
5.	The event is organised by our team and will surely be a great success.
6.	The film is based on real events and tells the story of a reporter.
7.	She was born in Hollywood and knows all the famous movie stars.
8.	The car was taken to the garage. It was repaired within an hour.
9.	She was admired by everyone and began to grow arrogant.
10	.He was dumped by his girlfriend and felt really lousy.



Combine the clauses using participle constructions (Present Participle or Past Participle).

1.	The boy who carried a blue parcel crossed the street.
2.	The battle was fought at this place. The battle was very significant.
3.	She lay in her bed and wept bitter tears.
4.	The books which were sent to us are for my aunt.
5.	She stood at the corner and talked to her friends.
6.	The children went from house to house. They played trick or treat.
7.	He was very tall. He became a basketball player.
8.	He was waiting in the hall. He overheard a conversation.
9.	The picture which was stolen from a museum was offered on Ebay.
10	The song which was sung last night is still in my head.



Combine the clauses using participle constructions (Present, Past or Perfect Participle).

1.	We were sitting in the bus shelter and waited for the rain to stop.
2.	The documentation which was telecast last Tuesday was impressive.
3.	We had great fun at the party. We played silly games.
4.	He had saved a little money. He travelled to Australia.
5.	They were chatting along and didn't see the car coming.
6.	The reception had been prepared carefully and was a great success.
7.	He was picked up by his mother and didn't have to wait for the bus.
8.	She had finished her degree and started to work for an international company.
9.	She was listening to the radio and didn't hear the doorbell.
10	The room had not been tidied up yet and looked like a battlefield.



Rewrite the sentences replacing the italic part with a perfect participle.

1.	We switched off the lights before we went to bed.
2.	The boy asked his mother's permission and then went out to play.
3.	As he had drunk too much, he didn't drive home himself.
4.	We have written two tests today, so we are exhausted.
5.	She filled the washing machine and switched it on.
6.	She had been to the disco the night before and overslept in the morning.
7.	We had worked in the garden all day and were sunburned in the evening.
8.	She had not slept for two days and therefore wasn't able to concentrate.
9.	Since I had not seen him for ages, I didn't recognize him.
10	I had not ridden a horse for a long time and found it very difficult to keep in the saddle.



# Rewrite the sentences using the participle constructions.

As she didn't have a boyfriend, she flirted with every guy she met.	
Since he had never been there before, he was stunned.	
3. Before he left the house, he switched off the lights.	
4. As she was on holiday, she couldn't go to the party.	
5. While she was preparing dinner, she cut her finger.	
6. When I travel around Ireland, I always stay in youth hostels.	
7. Since she didn't hear the doorbell, she missed the delivery.	
After I had dropped him at the station, I drove straight to the supermarket.	
9. Since he didn't feel well, he stayed in bed.	
10.While they were talking on the phone, they forgot everything around them.	



Replace the Relative Clause by a Participle Construction while keeping the rest of the sentence unchanged.

1.	The boy who was waiting in the hall expected a phone call.
2.	Passengers who wanted to go to Liverpool had to change in Manchester.
3.	The girl who was picked up by her brother was very nice.
4.	The house that stands at the end of the road will soon be sold.
5.	The conference which was planned by non-governmental organisations was about globalisation.
6.	Irish people who live in Great Britain have the right to vote in British elections.
7.	A friend who helps you in need is a good friend indeed.
8.	A picture that shows the image of a person is a portrait.
9.	The problems that were discussed will be essential for your exam.
10	).Animals that eat plants are called herbivores.



# Rewrite the sentences without using the participle constructions

1.	We were sitting around the fire <i>singing songs</i> .
2.	Did you see the boy jumping up and down?
3.	When <i>going to London</i> , they always did a sightseeing tour.
4.	While being on the boat, Bob got seasick.
5.	Being an exemplary pupil, he always does his homework.
6.	Having told me the news, he went away.
7.	The boy excited about the presents sat on the couch.
8.	Sleeping in the garden, I didn't hear the telephone.
9.	The children were sitting at the beach <i>building a sandcastle</i> .
10	Last month I read a book written by a Scottish author.



### Answers to non-finite clauses worksheets

Rewrite the sentences replacing the italic part present participle.

- 1. She was talking to her friend and forgot everything around her.
  - → Talking to her friend she forgot everything around her.
- 2. Since we watch the news every day we know what's going on in the world.
  - $\rightarrow$  Watching the news every day we know what's going on in the world. *They are vegetarians* and don't eat meat.
  - → Being vegetarians they don't eat meat.
- 3. *The dog wagged its tail* and bit the postman.
  - → Wagging its tail the dog bit the postman.
- 4. While she was tidying up her room she found some old photos.
  - → Tidying up her room she found some old photos.
- 5. He was a good boy and helped his mother in the kitchen.
  - → Being a good boy he helped his mother in the kitchen.
- 6. As they didn't have enough money they spent their holidays at home last year.
  - → Not having enough money they spent their holidays at home last year.
- 7. The man was sitting in the cafe. *He was reading a paper*.
  - $\rightarrow$  The man was sitting in the cafe reading a paper.
- 8. Since I didn't feel well I didn't go to the cinema.
  - → Not feeling well I didn't go to the cinema.
- 9. She walked home and met an old friend.
  - → Walking home she met an old friend.



Rewrite the sentences replacing the italic part with a past participle.

- 1. I have a cat that is called *Tari*.
  - → I have a cat called Tari.
- 2. The dinner was more expensive than they had expected.
  - → The dinner was more expensive than expected.
- 3. He was accused of murder and arrested.
  - → Accused of murder he was arrested.
- 4. She was shocked by the bad news and burst into tears.
  - → Shocked by the bad news she burst into tears.
- 5. The event is organised by our team and will surely be a great success.
  - → Organised by our team the event will surely be a great success.
- 6. The film is based on real events and tells the story of a reporter.
  - → Based on real events the film tells the story of a reporter.
- 7. She was born in Hollywood and knows all the famous movie stars.
  - → Born in Hollywood she knows all the famous movie stars.
- 8. The car was taken to the garage. It was repaired within an hour.
  - → Taken to the garage the car was repaired within an hour.
- 9. She was admired by everyone and began to grow arrogant.
  - → Admired by everyone she began to grow arrogant.
- 10. He was dumped by his girlfriend and felt really lousy.
  - ightarrow Dumped by his girlfriend he felt really lousy.



Combine the clauses using participle constructions (Present Participle or Past Participle).

- 1. The boy who carried a blue parcel crossed the street. The boy carrying a blue parcel crossed the street.
- 2. The battle was fought at this place. The battle was very significant. The battle fought at this place was very significant.
- 3. She lay in her bed and wept bitter tears. She lay in her bed weeping bitter tears.
- 4. The books which were sent to us are for my aunt. The books sent to us are for my aunt.
- 5. She stood at the corner and talked to her friends. *She stood at the corner talking to her friends.*
- 6. The children went from house to house. They played trick or treat. *The children went from house to house playing trick or treat.*
- 7. He was very tall. He became a basketball player. *Being very tall, he became a basketball player.*
- 8. He was waiting in the hall. He overheard a conversation. *Waiting in the hall, he overheard a conversation.*
- 9. The picture which was stolen from a museum was offered on EBay. The picture stolen from a museum was offered on EBay.
- 10. The song which was sung last night is still in my head. *The song sung last night is still in my head*.



Combine the clauses using participle constructions (Present, Past or Perfect Participle).

- 1. We were sitting in the bus shelter and waited for the rain to stop. We were sitting in the bus shelter waiting for the rain to stop.
- 2. The documentation which was telecast last Tuesday was impressive. *The documentation telecast last Tuesday was impressive.*
- 3. We had great fun at the party. We played silly games. We had great fun at the party playing silly games.
- 4. He had saved a little money. He travelled to Australia. *Having saved a little money, he travelled to Australia.*
- 5. They were chatting along and didn't see the car coming. *Chatting along, they didn't see the car coming.*
- 6. The reception had been prepared carefully and was a great success. *The reception, having been prepared carefully, was a great success.*
- 7. He was picked up by his mother and didn't have to wait for the bus. *Picked up by his mother, he didn't have to wait for the bus.*
- 8. She had finished her degree and started to work for an international company. *Having finished her degree, she started to work for an international company.*
- 9. She was listening to the radio and didn't hear the doorbell. *Listening to the radio she didn't hear the doorbell.*
- 10. The room had not been tidied up yet and looked like a battlefield. *Not having been tidied up yet, the room looked like a battlefield.*



Rewrite the sentences replacing the italic part with a perfect participle.

- 1. We switched off the lights before we went to bed.
  - → Having switched off the lights, we went to bed.
- 2. The boy asked his mother's permission and then went out to play.
  - → Having asked his mother's permission, the boy went out to play.
- 3. As he had drunk too much, he didn't drive home himself.
  - → Having drunk too much, he didn't drive home himself.
- 4. We have written two tests today, so we are exhausted.
  - → Having written two tests today, we are exhausted.
- 5. She filled the washing machine and switched it on.
  - → Having filled the washing machine, she switched it on.
- 6. She had been to the disco the night before and overslept in the morning.
  - → Having been to the disco the night before, she overslept in the morning.
- 7. We had worked in the garden all day and were sunburned in the evening.
  - → Having worked in the garden all day, we were sunburned in the evening.
- 8. She had not slept for two days and therefore wasn't able to concentrate.
  - → Not having slept for two days, she wasn't able to concentrate.
- 9. Since I had not seen him for ages, I didn't recognize him.
  - → Not having seen him for ages, I didn't recognize him.
- 10.I had not ridden a horse for a long time and found it very difficult to keep in the saddle.
  - $\rightarrow$  Not having ridden a horse for a long time, I found it very difficult to keep in the saddle.



- As she didn't have a boyfriend, she flirted with every guy she met.
  - → Not having a boyfriend, she flirted with every guy she met.
- Since he had never been there before, he was stunned.
  - $\rightarrow$  Not having been there before, he was stunned.
- Before he left the house, he switched off the lights.
  - → Before leaving the house, he switched off the lights.
- As she was on holiday, she couldn't go to the party.
  - → Being on holiday, she couldn't go to the party.
- While she was preparing dinner, she cut her finger.
  - → While preparing dinner, she cut her finger.
- When I travel around Ireland, I always stay in youth hostels.
  - → When travelling around Ireland, I always stay in youth hostels.
- Since she didn't hear the doorbell, she missed the delivery.
  - → Not hearing the doorbell, she missed the delivery.
- After I had dropped him at the station, I drove straight to the supermarket.
  - $\rightarrow$  Having dropped him at the station, I drove straight to the supermarket.
- Since he didn't feel well, he stayed in bed.
  - → Not feeling well, he stayed in bed.
- While they were talking on the phone, they forgot everything around them.
  - → While talking on the phone, they forgot everything around them.



Replace the Relative Clause by a Participle Construction while keeping the rest of the sentence unchanged. (The first sentence is given as an example.)

- 1. The boy who was waiting in the hall expected a phone call.
  - → The boy waiting in the hall expected a phone call.
- 2. Passengers who wanted to go to Liverpool had to change in Manchester.
  - → Passengers wanting to go to Liverpool had to change in Manchester.
- 3. The girl who was picked up by her brother was very nice.
  - → The girl picked up by her brother was very nice.
- 4. The house that stands at the end of the road will soon be sold.
  - → The house standing at the end of the road will soon be sold.
- 5. The conference *which* was *planned* by *non-governmental* organisations was about globalisation.
  - → The conference planned by non-governmental organisations was about globalisation.
- 6. Irish people who live in Great Britain have the right to vote in British elections.
  - → Irish people living in Great Britain have the right to vote in British elections.
- 7. A friend who helps you in need is a good friend indeed.
  - → A friend helping you in need is a good friend indeed.
- 8. A picture that shows the image of a person is a portrait.
  - → A picture showing the image of a person is a portrait.
- 9. The problems *that were discussed* will be essential for your exam.
  - → The problems discussed will be essential for your exam.
- 10. Animals that eat plants are called herbivores.
  - → Animals eating plants are called herbivores.



### Rewrite the sentences without using the participle constructions

- 1. We were sitting around the fire singing songs.
  - → We were sitting around the fire and were singing songs.
- 2. Did you see the boy jumping up and down?
  - → Did you see the boy who was jumping up and down?
- 3. When going to London, they always did a sightseeing tour.
  - → When they went to London, they always did a sightseeing tour.
- 4. While being on the boat, Bob got seasick.
  - → While he was on the boat, Bob got seasick.
- 5. Being an exemplary pupil, he always does his homework.
  - → As he is an exemplary pupil, he always does his homework.
- 6. Having told me the news, he went away.
  - → After he had told me the news, he went away.
- 7. The boy excited about the presents sat on the couch.
  - → The boy who was excited about the presents sat on the couch.
- 8. Sleeping in the garden, I didn't hear the telephone.
  - → I slept in the garden and didn't hear the telephone.
- 9. The children were sitting at the beach building a sandcastle.
  - → The children were sitting at the beach and built a sandcastle.
- 10.Last month I read a book written by a Scottish author.
  - → Last month I read a book which was written by a Scottish author.