

Past participles as verbs and adjectives

State whether the past participles in the following sentences are used as adjectives or verbs.

1. A burnt child dreads fire

Burnt is an adjective

Burnt is a verb

2. He had managed to rescue the child.

Managed is a verb

Managed is an adjective

3. I have known him for long.

Known is a verb

Known is an adjective

4. The lawn has been mown down.

Mown is a verb

Mown is an adjective

5. The freshly mown grass looks nice.

Mown is an adjective

Past participles as verbs and adjectives

Mown is a verb

6. It is an advertised product.

Advertised is an adjective

Advertised is a verb

7. He had obtained a loan from his landlord.

Obtained is a verb

Obtained is an adjective

8. We will send them handwritten letters.

Handwritten is an adjective

Handwritten is a verb

10. The old woman had sunken eyes.

Sunken is an adjective

Sunken is a verb

11. She looked surprised.

Past participles as verbs and adjectives

Surprised is an adjective

Surprised is a verb

Answers

1. A burnt child dreads fire. (burnt – adjective; it modifies the noun child)
2. He had managed to rescue the child. (managed – verb; it helps form the past perfect tense form had managed)
3. I have known him for long. (known – verb; it helps form the present perfect tense form have known)
4. The lawn has been mown down. (mown – verb; it helps form the present perfect (passive) tense form has been mown)
5. The freshly mown grass looks nice. (mown – adjective; it modifies the noun grass)
6. It is an advertised product. (advertised – adjective; it modifies the noun product)
7. He had obtained a loan from his landlord. (obtained – verb; it helps form the past perfect tense form had obtained)
8. We will send them handwritten letters. (handwritten – adjective; it modifies the noun letters)
9. You can read the translated articles here. (translated – adjective; it modifies the noun articles)

Past participles as verbs and adjectives

10. The old woman had sunken eyes. (sunken - adjective; it modifies the noun eyes.)

11. She looked surprised. (surprised - adjective; it modifies the copular verb looked.)