Participle constructions instead of relative clauses

What are participles and how can they be used?

There are two different participle forms in English. Here's how they are formed:

1. the **present participle**: it is formed by adding "-ing" to the end of the verb (e.g. talking, listening, writing)
2. the **past participle**: it is formed by adding "-ed" to the end of the verb, it is the "3rd verb form" of any verb (e.g. talked, listened, written)

How are they used?

Both participles are part of various [verschieden] other grammar constructions, e.g.

1. the **present participle**
    1. is part of the progressive form (I am **walking**)
    2. can be used to make an (active) adjective from a verb (the **winning** team)
    3. can be used as a gerund (**Walking** is good for you)
2. the **past participle**
    1. is part of the perfect verb forms – present perfect and past perfect (I have **walked**, I had **walked**)
    2. can be used to make a (passive) adjective from a verb (the **defeated** team)

On this page, you can learn another common [verbreitet] use of participles: They can be used to replace [ersetzen] relative clauses.

In general [allgemein gesprochen], the **present participle** often has an **active** meaning and the **past participle** often has a **passive** meaning.

Participles to replace relative clauses