# ENGLISH PRESENT PARTICIPLE AS AN OBJECT COMPLEMENT AND ITS MACEDONIAN EQUIVALENTS Katerina Vidova\*

**Abstract:** The aim of this paper is to investigate the use of the present participle as an object complement in English and its Macedonian translation equivalents. The research is conducted on a corpus of sentences excerpted from English and American literature and their Macedonian translation equivalents. The results show that the present participle as an object complement is translated into Macedonian mostly with kako – dependent clauses.

However, there are also examples in which the present participle as an object complement is translated with relative clauses, *da*-clauses, clauses with a verbal adjective, clauses with a verbal adverb, clauses with a verb in Imperfect and temporal dependent clauses.

*Keywords:* English present participle, object complement, translation, Macedonian equivalent.

#### 1. Introduction

The aim of this paper is to investigate the use of the present participle as an object complement in English and its Macedonian translation equivalents. The present participle is frequently used as an object complement after the verbs of sensation and this construction is called the object + present participle.

First, the theoretical background of the English present participle functioning as an object complement of the verb is given by presenting the explanations and finding made by linguists worldwide. The role of the present participle as an object complement of the verb has been discussed by many authors (Zandvoort 1958, p. 34; Quirk et al. 1985, p. 1202; Chomsky 1984, p. 97; Biber et al. 1999, p. 748). The research analysis is conducted on a corpus of sentences excerpted from English and American literature translated into Macedonian.

The purpose of the research is the following hypothesis to be observed, i.e., the English present participle functioning as an object complement can be translated into Macedonian with:

- 1. Kako dependent clauses
- 2. Relative clauses
- 3. Da-clauses
- 4. Clauses with a verbal adjective
- 5. Clauses with a verbal adverb
- 6. Clauses with a verb in Imperfect
- 7. Temporal dependent clauses

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### 2. Theoretical background

The present participle in a position after the verbs expressing visual or audial perception has the function of the object complement of the verb. In such cases, there is a strong link between three elements: the main verb, the object and its complement. The participle functioning as a complement of the object supplements the predicate of the main clause as illustrated in (1):

(1) He didn't see the owls swooping past in broad daylight, though people down in the street did; (HP: 4)

According to Zandvoort (1958, p. 34) a present participle may follow the noun or pronoun it refers to and it is used in a semi-predicative function in this case. The present participle together with any accompanying object is usually equivalent to an attribute clause, as illustrated in (2):

(2) Do you happen to know the number of men playing?

Sweet (1898/1958 II, p. 123) claims that when the present participle is positioned after the direct object, it is sometimes associated more closely with the preceding transitive verb, as in *I saw him coming up the road*, sometimes rather with the object-word, as in *I have kept you waiting*.

According to Quirk et al. (1985, p. 1206) the verbs which are part of the object + *ing*- participle complementation are the verbs of perception (*feel, hear, notice, observe, see, overhear, smell, spot, watch*), the verbs of encounter (*catch, discover, find, leave*) and the two verbs of coercive meaning (*have, get*).

Quirk et al. (1985, p. 1202) also investigate alternatives of transitive complementation in which the direct object is followed by a nonfinite clause acting as predication adjunct. One of the examples includes *-ing* participle:

(3) I caught Ann reading my diary.

The non-finite clause in example (3) has no subject itself, but its implied subject is always the preceding noun phrase, which is the object of the superordinate clause. If the noun phrase is in the objective case, it is commonly termed a raised subject and semantically it has the role of the subject of the verb, but syntactically it is 'raised' from the non-finite clause to function as an object of the superordinate verb. Hence, the noun phrase can become subject of the corresponding passive: *Ann was caught reading my diary*.

Chomsky (1984, p. 97) has given the analysis NP - Verb - NP - ing + VP and the following examples (4) and (5):

- (4) John found the boy studying in the library.
- (5) John knew the boy studying in the library.

Janeva-Mihajlovska (2009, p. 92) also states that present participle can be used after the objects of verbs of sensation (*hear, feel, see, smell*) as illustrated in the examples (6) - (9):

- (6) I saw him kissing her.
- (7) I smell something burning.
- (8) I heard people shouting.
- (9) I felt the house shaking.

According to Mihailovic (2009, p. 175) the present participle in English is used as a complement of the object after certain verbs which can also be followed by an infinitive as a complement of the object. In this group the verbs: *hear*, *see*, *watch*, *feel*, etc. are included as in the examples (10) - (14):

- (10) She saw the dust blowing.
- (11) When we arrived we saw children playing in the garden.
- (12) I noticed a decorated bottle hanging high above our heads.
- (13) I won't have you weeping.
- (14) They watched the ship leaving the harbour.

Biber et al. (1999, p. 748) have also come to conclusion that the perceptive verbs see and hear are commonly used to mark the sensory perceptions used to identify the activity described in the -ing clause, as illustrated in (15) - (17):

- (15) I suddenly saw water rushing down the wall.
- (16) I saw Marcus looking at me.
- (17) They could hear the water breaking on the rocks.

Blaganje and Konte (1979, p. 427) also talk about the complement of the object of the form of a present participle that is positioned after the direct object. This assertion has been confirmed by many linguists such as Downing and Locke (1992, p. 97) who also claim that after the verbs of sensation (*see hear, smell, feel, notice*) and after the verbs of finding and leaving (*catch, discover, find, come across, leave*) there are -*ing* clauses having the function of complementing the object. This statement has also been confirmed by Djordjevic (2000, p. 441) and Murcia and Freeman (1983, p. 448).

#### 3. Methods

The questions addressed in this research deal with how the present participles with an object complement function are translated into Macedonian. All research data have been taken from a corpus of sentences excerpted from works of English and American literature translated into Macedonian. The excerpted sentences are taken from the following six works of literature:

- *Beloved*, Tony Morrison, published by Vintage, 1997 translated into Macedonian by Zoran Anchevski and Dragi Mihajlovski.
- *Љубена*, Тони Морисон, [превод од англиски јазик Зоран Анчевски, Драги Михајловски] Скопје: Детска радост, 1993.
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, J.K. Rowling, published by Scholastic
  Inc 1999 translated into Macedonian by Blagorodna Bogeska Anchevska.
- *Хари Потер и каменот на мудроста /* Џ. К. Раулинг; [превод од англиски јазик Благородна Богеска Анчевска]. Скопје: Култура, 2001.
- − A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, James Joyce, Penguin Books, 1996, translated into Macedonian by Blagorodna Bogeska Anchevska.
- Портрет на уметникот во младоста / Џемс Џојс; превод од англиски јазик Благородна Богеска Анчевска. Скопје: Магор, 2007.
- Sense and sensibility, Jane Austin, Penguin Books, 1995 translated by Blagorodna Bogeska – Anchevska.

- *Разум и чувствителност* / Џејн Остин; [превод Благородна Богеска Анчевска]. Скопје: Магор, 2009.
- *Waiting for Godot*, Samuel Beckett, published Faber and Faber, London, Boston, 1956 translated into Macedonian by Rajna Koshka-Hot.
- *Чекајќи го Годо* / Семјуел Бекет; превод од англиски јазик Рајна Кошка-Хот. Скопје: Магор, 2013.
- The Cather in the Rye, J. D. Salinger, Penguin Books in association with Hamish Hamilton, 1970.
- *Игра во 'ржта*, Џером Д. Селинџер превод и поговор Инда Костова Савиќ. Скопје: Нова Наша Книга, 2004.

### 4. Data Analysis and Discussion

Following data-collection, the examples are divided into seven groups according to their Macedonian translation equivalents. The selected examples from the analysis have been discussed in the following groups of Macedonian translation equivalents.

### 4.1. Group 1 – Macedonian translation equivalents – *kako* – dependent clauses

In the first group sentences the present participle clauses functioning as a complement of the verb and its object are translated into Macedonian with *kako*-dependent clauses. This is a group with the most numerous examples. It is interesting that we are talking about verbs of visual perception in English (*see, watch, spot*) with their Macedonian translation equivalents (*виде, гледа, забележува*), verbs of auditory perception (*hear, overhear*) with Macedonian translation equivalents (*слуша, наслушнува*) that are translated into Macedonian with *kako*-dependent clauses.

# 4.1.1. English *-ing* clauses with verbs of auditory perception with Macedonian translation equivalents *kako* – dependent clauses

In the excerpted examples where the *-ing* clauses function as a complement of the verb of auditory perception and its object, there is a process of simultaneity that coincides with the process of perception. *Kako* – dependent clauses as translation equivalents are declarative (expressible) clauses. They are illustrated in (18) and (20):

(18) He could **hear Neville sobbing into his pillow** for what seemed like hours. (HP:244)

Со саати г**о слушаше Невил како липа во перницата**. (XII: 207

(19) After the cake was ruined and ironed clothes all messed up, after **I heard** my sister crawling up the stairs to get back to her bed, she told me things too. (B: 209)

А откако тортата се разлочка, алиштата се истуркаа, откако **ja чув сестра ми како лази по скали** да се врати в кревет, и за мене сè ми кажа. (Љ: 218)

(20) Had it been ten, Elinor would have convinced that at that moment she heard a carriage driving up to the house. (SS: 267)

Да беше десет, Елеонора ќе беше убедена дека во тој миг **слушна кочија** како запира пред врата. (РЧ: 277)

# 4.1.2. English *-ing* clauses with verbs of visual perception with Macedonian translation equivalents *kako* – dependent clauses

There is a subgroup of excerpted examples with verbs of visual perception and -ing participle clauses functioning as a complement of the object and the verb. The translation equivalents are kako-dependent clauses having the role of the complement of the object and the verb. The translation equivalents are kako – dependent clauses that also function as the complement of the object and the verb, as illustrated in (21) - (23):

(21) Harry saw the boys' mother waving and their sister, half laughing, half crying, running to keep up with the train until it gathered too much speed, then she fell back and waved. (HP: 98)

Хари **ја виде мајката како им мавта**, а девојченцето малку со плачење, малку со смеење трчаше крај возот сè дури тој не забрза, потоа застана и почна да мавта. ( $X\Pi$ : 84)

(22) A tiny bit of light came through the shower curtains and all from our room, and **I could see him lying in bed**. (CR: 50)

Преку завесите продираше мала светлина од нашата соба и **можев да** го видам ако лежи на креветот. (ИР: 56)

(23) When he came out on the steps he saw his family waiting for him at the fist lamp. (PA: 97)

Кога излезе надвор на скалите, го виде своето семејство како го чека под првата светилка. (ПУ: 109)

In excerpted examples (21)-(23) the present participle in the dependent clause expresses simultaneity with the action expressed by the verb in the main clause. The translation equivalents are kako-dependent declarative clauses functioning as the complement of the object.

### 4.2. Group 2 – Macedonian translation equivalents – relative clauses

The translation equivalents of the excerpted sentences are restrictive relative clauses that according to the way the relativization is done, i.e., what is being relativized are divided into individualizing and qualifying. Therefore, the translation equivalents are divided into two subgroups.

### 4.2.1. Macedonian translation equivalents – individualizing restrictive relative clauses

According to Minova – Gjurkova (2000, p. 258) the individualization is accomplished with a noun phrase (NP) with an article morpheme -om, i.e., a noun + -om, -ma, -mo, -me ---- umo,  $\kappa oj/\kappa ojumo$  or noun phrase comprised of an adjective marked with definite article and noun ----umo,  $\kappa oj/\kappa ojumo$ ; as illustrated in (24) – (26):

- (24) ...in Lilian Garner's house where nobody knocked her down (or up), **she** listened to the whitewoman humming at her work; (B:140)
- ...во домот на Лилиен Гарнер кај што никој не ја легна (или крена?), **ја** слушаше белата жена што си потпевнуваше при работата; (Љ: 150)
- (25) She did not **see the women approaching**, accumulating slowly in groups of twos and threes from the left. (B: 257)

Не ги **виде жените што наближуваа**, се собираа полека во групи од по две-три од лево. (Љ: 266)

The translation equivalents of *-ing* clauses are restrictive individualizing relative sentences, i.e., sentences in which there is a separation of an element or a subset versus set based on their participation with the action of the subordinate clause. The individualizing relative clauses have the function of a direct object.

### 4.2.2. Macedonian translation equivalents – qualifying restrictive relative clauses

A subgroup in which -ing participle clauses functioning as a complement of the direct object are translated as qualifying relative clauses. Minova-Gjrurkova (2000, p. 142) states that within the qualification, the named, or the indicated object, is treated from the point of view of the sum of its features or one of its features. Within the restrictive relative clauses where a qualification is performed, the relativized NP may be comprised of a noun not market with the definite article as illustrated in (26) and (27):

(26) They hear the clop of a horse approaching. (B: 231)

Слушнаа топот од коњ, што наближуваше. (Љ: 240)

(27) Vladimir mimics one carrying a heavy burden. (WG: 31)

Владимир имитира човек што носи тежок товар. (ЧГ: 42)

In example (27) the direct object is presented by the pronoun *one* which is followed by *-ing* participle clause functioning as a complement of the verb and the object. The translation equivalent consists of a qualifying restrictive relative clause functioning as an object.

### 4.3. Group 3 – Macedonian translation equivalents – predicate da-clauses

The following group of -ing particle clauses functioning as a complement of the object are translated into Macedonian as predicate da-clauses. Georgievski (2009, p. 26) discusses da – constructions with imperfective verbs in a syntagm with phase verbs that can occur as imperfective and perfective verbs and form indivisible predicate da-clauses in Macedonian. Therefore, in the translation equivalent the predicate da-clause is introduced with the phase verb почна (started) denoting the beginning of the action expressed in the example (28):

(28) When the gymnasium had been opened he had heard another voice urging him to be strong and manly and healthy and when the movement toward the national revival had begun to be felt in the college yet another voice had bidden him to be true to his country. (PA: 95)

Кога се отвори гимнастичката сала, еден друг глас почна да го советува да биде силен и мажествен и здрав, а кога во колеџот почна да се чувствува движењето на националната обнова, еден друг глас го молеше да ѝ биде верен на својата земја и да помогне да се издигнат нејзиниот јазик и традиција. (ПУ: 107)

In example (29) the present participle functioning as a complement of the object of the verb is translated into Macedonian with the conjunction  $\kappa a \kappa o$  and the verb in

present tense being part of the da-clause that has a predicate function. The da-clause and the entire sentence have a modal meaning, as illustrated in (29):

(29) I wanted to pick you in my arms and I wanted to look at you sleeping too. (B: 192)

Сакав да те кренам, в раце, а сакав и да те гледам како спиеш. (Љ: 201)

(30) Harry had a lot of trouble keeping his mind on his lesson that day. (HP: 166)

 $Ha\ Xapu\ {\it my}\ {\it беше}\ {\it многу}\ {\it mешко}\ {\it да}\ {\it гo}\ {\it задржи}\ {\it вниманието}\ {\it нa}\ {\it чacoвите}.$  (X $\Pi$ : 141)

In example (30) the *-ing* participle sentence functioning as a complement of the object is translated with *da*-clause as an integral part of a verb-noun predicate.

# 4.4. Group 4 – Macedonian translation equivalents – clauses with a verbal adjective

The excerpted examples of this group have -ing participle clauses functioning as an object complement are translated into Macedonian with clauses with a verbal adjective. The point of view of Stefanovska- Risteska (2012, p. 132) is that in Macedonian by using the verbal adjective a kind of feature is expressed that can be assigned to an object as a momentary or permanent feature, a result of performing the verb action in relation to the subject. The clause with a verbal adjective in the translation equivalent has a role of a complement of the object as illustrated in (30), (31) and (32):

(31) They **saw Denver sitting on the steps** and beyond her, where the yard met the road, they saw the rapt faces of thirty neighborhood women. (B: 261)

**Ја видоа Денвер седната на скалите**, а потаму, кај што дворот се граничеше со патот, ги видоа вцрвенетите лица на триесетте сосетки. (Љ: 270)

(32) All she saw was some coloredwoman fighting. (B: 264)

Само видел клопче црни жени фатени за гуша. (Љ: 273)

In example (32) the Macedonian translation equivalent of the English present participle is comprised of a verbal adjective and a prepositional phrase having a figurative meaning, i.e., meaning 'fight'.

(33) When they passed through the passage beside Kildare house they **found** many students sheltering under the arcade of the library. (PA: 245)

Минаа низ преминот кај зградата на Килдер и наидоа на многу **студенти засолнати под аркадата на библиотеката**. (ПУ: 284)

## 4.5. Group 5 – Macedonian translation equivalents – clauses with a verbal adverb

The following group of excerpted *-ing* participle clauses functioning as a complement of the object is translated into Macedonian with clauses with a verbal adverb. One of the most characteristic features the verbal adverb is expressing the manner.

In example (34) the present participle is translated with a verbal adverb by which according to Koneski (1996, p. 176) an action is expressed parallel with the action of the main verb. Wierzbicka (1988, p. 61) is categorical and states that in English "Participial clause implies simultaneity", as illustrated in (34):

(34) Mrs. Darsley was thin and blond and had nearly twice the usual amount of neck, which came in very useful as **she spent so much of her time craning over garden fences, spying on the neighbors**. (HP: 1)

Госпоѓа Ситникоска беше русокоса, и слабичка со двојно подолг врат од вообичаено, што ѝ беше од голема корист, затоа што **минуваше многу време истегнувајќи го преку комшиските огради**. (ХП: 5)

(35) A gradual warmth, a languorous weariness passed over him descending along his spine from his closely cowled head. (PA: 252)

Постепена топлина, пријатна малаксаност мина низ него **лазејќи од прекриената глава надолу по 'рбетот.** (ПУ: 293)

(36) If he was so goddam stupid not to realize it was Saturday night and everybody was out or asleep or home for the weekend, **I wasn't going to break my neck** telling him. (CR: 44)

Ако е толку глуп и да не е во состојба да сфати дека е сабота навечер и дека сите се надвор, или в кревет, или дома на викенд, **јас немав намера да си го абам мозокот објаснувајќи му го тоа**. (ИР: 5)

The *-ing* participle clauses examples (33) - (36) are translated as dependent clauses with a verbal adverb as an adverbial modifier of manner.

# 4.6. Group 6 – Macedonian translation equivalents – clauses with a verb in Imperfect

In examples (37) and (38) -ing participle clauses functioning as an object complement are translated into Macedonian with clauses with a verb in Imperfect.

(37) Maybe it was because they hadn't seen what Harry had seen in the forest, or because they didn't have scars burning on their foreheads, but Ron and Hermione didn't seem as worried about the Stone as Harry. (HP: 263)

Можеби затоа што не го видоа она што тој го виде во шумата, или затоа што не им гореше лузната на челото, Рон и Хермиона не изгледаа толку загрижени за каменот, колку Хари. ( $X\Pi$ : 222-223)

(38) When I went in, I saw her face coming to me and it was my face too. (B: 214)

Кога и јас влегов, **видов лицето ѝ излегуваше кон мене**, тоа беше и мое лице. (Љ: 223)

### 4.7. Group 7 – Macedonian translation equivalents – temporal dependent clauses

In examples (39) - (41) -ing participle clauses functioning as an object complement are translated into Macedonian with temporal dependent clauses.

(39) Elinor smiled again, to hear her sister describing so accurately their future expenses at Combe Magana. (SS: 80)

Елинор повторно се насмеа кога ја слушна сестра си со каква прецизност ги опишува идните трошоци во Кум Магна. (PЧ: 81)

(40) It turned out she'd broken her leg **tripping over one of her cats**, and she didn't seem quite as fond of them as before. (HP: 32)

Излезе дека си ја скршила ногата **кога се сопнала на некоја од мачките**, па веќе и не беше толку одушевена од нив. (ХП: 31)

(41) I'd only read about three pages, though, when I heard somebody coming through the shower curtains. (CR: 22)

Меѓутоа, прочитав само околу три страници кога слушнав дека некој доаѓа од кај завесата. (ИР: 25)

### 5. Key Findings

The largest number of excerpted and analyzed sentences belong to the first group where the translation equivalents of the English clauses with the present participle in a role of a complement of the object are *kako*-dependent clauses. The second largest number of analyzed sentences belong to the second group with Macedonian translation equivalents restrictive relative clauses. The next largest group of analyzed sentences are the sentences from the third group where the *-ing* participle clause is translated with *da*-clauses. There are also groups of sentences translated with clauses with a verbal adjective, clauses with a verbal adverb, clauses with a verb in Imperfect and temporal dependent clauses.

#### 6. Conclusion

In English the present participle functioning as a complement of the object can be a real participle adjective. The complement of the verbs expressing immediate experiences is a participle of the external verb of the physical process. It provides details of the current circumstances referring to its object.

The present participle determines the noun and it has an intentional connection with it, but as part of part of the predicate it also represents a kind of commentary of the circumstances under which the process of perception takes place. The present participle functioning as an object complement is especially adverbial in comparison with the participle of a qualitative or substantive attribute of the noun. In this case, the *-ing* form is with a clear temporal and limited duration.

The similarities between English and Macedonian are confirmed by using the non-finite verb form: verbal adverb and verbal adjective as Macedonian counterparts of the English present participle.

The Macedonian translation of the *-ing* participle clauses functioning as an object complement of the verb are:

- kako-dependent clauses
- restrictive relative clauses
- da-clauses
- clauses with a verbal adjective
- clauses with a verbal adverb
- clauses with a verb in Imperfect
- temporal dependent clauses

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