Participles Simply Explained

Uses of Participles:
Adverbial- This means that the participle is emphasizing or stressing the verb it modifies.
Adjectival- This means that the participle is emphasizing or stressing a noun or pronoun. Two adjectival uses of the participle is attributive and substantival.
Attributive- This means that the participle is describing or identifying the noun or pronoun it modifies with which it agrees with in gender, case, and number.
Substantival- This means that the participle is standing in as a noun.

To determine if a participle is adverbial, attributive, or substantive you only need to ask two questions. They are:
1. Is there an article?
- If there is not then it is attributive. If there is an article, then it is attributive or substantive.
2. Is there a noun functioning as the subject that is not a participle?
- If there is a noun as the subject other than the participle, then it is attributive. If there is not a noun as the subject outside of the participle, then it is substantival.

Translating participles:

1. If it is adverbial use "while," "when," or "as" in the present tense and "after" in the aorist or perfect tenses.
2. If it is attributive translate use "who" or "which" in your translation.
3. If it is substantive translate it using "who" or "which" in your translation. Also, in regard to the substantival use you may need to make it "He who" or "That which" in order for it to make sense in English.

Present Active Participle:
For the present active participles what you need to know is that the endings just add the present participle form of εἰμί onto the verb stem. Yes, I know that Prof. Matthews is not requiring us to know the present active participle form of εἰμι but knowing it makes learning some paradigms easier, because then they can be seen to be more regular and have fewer steps to arrive at the answer. To learn this any other way would be to allow for several exceptions to paradigms we already know. Therefore, I recommend learning the present active participle form of εἰμί. Here's how to use it to learn the present active participle of λύω. All you do is take the verb stem λυ and then tack on the present active participle of εἰμί. For example, λύω is declined as follows as a present active participle:

Singular:

N	λύων _	λύουσα	λῦον
G	λύοντος	λυοούσης	λύοντος
D	λύοντι	λυούσῃ	λύοντι
A	λύοντα	λύουσαν	λῦον

Plural:

N	λύοντες	λύουσαι	λύοντα
G	λυόντων	λυοσῶν	λυόντων
D	λύουσι (ν)	λυούσαις	λύουσι (ν)
A	λύοντας	λυούσας	λύοντα

Remember that the present form of εἰμί is:

N	ων	ουσα	ον
G	οντος	ούσης	οντος
D	´οντι	ούσῃ	οντι
A	οντα	ουσαν	ον

N	οντες	ουσαι	´οντα
G	όντων	ουσῶν	όντων
D	ουσι (ν)	ούσαις	ουσι (ν)
A	οντας	ούσας	´οντα

However, if that method seems like to much of a burden to you, then here is another method to arrive at the same answers.

1. Write out the verb stem.
2. Add an omega and nu in the nominative masculine singular. The connecting vowel is omicron in all the other cases within the paradigm. (Skip to step 3 if the verb you are declining is feminine.)
3. In the feminine voice add an omicron and upsilon to the verb stem.
4. Add the πασ paradigm for endings. Just drop the πα in πασ to get the endings.
5. In the dative plural add upsilon in front of the sigma iota.

Example:

Masculine

Singular

	Verb stem	Omicron added	πασ endings
N	λυ	ω (from step 2)	ν (from step 2)
G	λυ	ο	ντος
D	λυ	ο	ντι
A	λυ	ο	ντας

	Verb stem	Omicron added	πασ endings
N	λυ	ο	ντες
G	λυ	ο	ντων
D	λυ	ο	υσι (step 5)
A	λυ	ο	ντας

Feminine:

	Verb stem	Omicron and upsilon added	πασ feminine endings
N	λυ	ου (from step 3)	σα
G	λυ	ου	σης
D	λυ	ου	ση
A	λυ	ου	σαν

	Verb stem	Omicron and upsilon added	πασ feminine endings
N	λυ	ου	σαι
G	λυ	ου	σων
D	λυ	ου	σαις
A	λυ	ου	σας

Perfect Active Participle:

Masculine voice:

The masculine perfect active participle is the same as present active particple except you:

1. Add reduplication in front of the verb stem.
2. Add a kappa and omega after the verb stem in the nominative masculine singular
3. Add κοτ in all other cases within paradigm if the verb is masculine or neuter.
4. Drop the tau from κοτ in the dative plural.
5. Add third declension masculine endings for the masculine voice and third declension neuter endings for the neuter voice.

Example of λύω:

	Reduplication	Verb stem	Kappa ω or κοτ	Third declension endings
N	λε	λυ	κω	ς
G	λε	λυ	κοτ	ος
D	λε	λυ	κοτ	ι
A	λε	λυ	κοτ	α
N	λε	λυ	κοτ	ες
G	λε	λυ	κοτ	ων
D	λε	λυ	κο	σι
A	λε	λυ	κοτ	ας

Feminine Voice:

The feminine perfect active participle is even easier that the masculine active participle. All you do to the present active participle to get the perfect active participle is:

1. Add reduplication before the verb stem.
2. Add κυι after verb stem.
3. Add first declension alpha pattern endings to κυι.

Example of λύω:

	Reduplication	Verb stem	κυι added	alpha endings
N	λε	λυ	κυι	α
G	λε	λυ	κυι	ας
D	λε	λυ	κυι	ᾳ
A	λε	λυ	κυι	αν

N	λε	λυ	κυι	αι
G	λε	λυ	κυι	ῶν
D	λε	λυ	κυι	αις
A	λε	λυ	κυι	ας

Aorist Active Participle:

The Aorist Active Particple just follows the πας paradigm. To decline an Aorist Active Particple do the following steps.
1. Write out the stem of the verb
2. Add a sigma to the verb stem in the masculine and neuter voices and add a sigma and alpha to the verb stem in the feminine voice.
3. Add the πας paradigm to the sigma. (Write out πασ minus pi in masculine voice and πασ pi alpha in the feminine voice.)

Example of λύω:

Masculine voice

	Verb Stem:	Sigma	Πας paradigm (minus π)
N	λυ	σ	ας
G	λυ	σ	αντος
D	λυ	σ	αντι
A	λυ	σ	αντα
N	λυ	σ	αντες
G	λυ	σ	αντων
D	λυ	σ	ασι (ν)
A	λυ	σ	αντας

Feminine Voice

	Verb Stem:	Sigma Alpha	Πας paradigm (minus πα)
N	λυ	σα	σα
G	λυ	σα	σης
D	λυ	σα	ση
A	λυ	σα	σαν

N	λυ	σα	σαι
G	λυ	σα	σῶν
D	λυ	σα	σαις
A	λυ	σα	σας

Present Middle/Passive and Aorist Middle Participles:

For both the present middle/passive and aorist middle participle just simply do the following:
1. To the verb stem and connecting vowel add μεν.
2. To the μεν add on second and first declension endings like you would on an adjective.
3. In the Aorist tense add σα after the verb stem and before μεν.

Example of λύω:

Verb Stem:	Connecting Vowel	μεν added	2nd Decl. endings
N λυ	ο	μεν	ος
G λυ	ο	μεν	ου
D λυ	ο	μεν	ῷ
A λυ	ο	μεν	ον
N λυ	ο	μεν	οι
G λυ	ο	μεν	ων
D λυ	ο	μεν	οις
A λυ	ο	μεν	ους

Verb Stem:	Connecting Vowel	μεν added	1st Decl. endings.
N λυ	ο	μεν	η
G λυ	ο	μεν	ης
D λυ	ο	μεν	η
A λυ	ο	μεν	ην

N	λυ	ο	μεν	αι
G	λυ	ο	μεν	ων
D	λυ	ο	μεν	αις
A	λυ	ο	μεν	ας

Example of λύω in the Aorist MiddleTense:

Verb Stem:	σα		μεν added	2nd Decl. endings

N	λυ	σα	μεν	ος
G	λυ	σα	μεν	ου
D	λυ	σα	μεν	ῷ
A	λυ	σα	μεν	ον

N	λυ	σα	μεν	οι
G	λυ	σα	μεν	ων
D	λυ	σα	μεν	οις
A	λυ	σα	μεν	ους

Verb Stem:	σα added		μεν added	1st Decl. endings

N	λυ	σα	μεν	η
G	λυ	σα	μεν	ης
D	λυ	σα	μεν	ῃ
A	λυ	σα	μεν	ην

N	λυ	σα	μεν	αι
G	λυ	σα	μεν	ων
D	λυ	σα	μεν	αις
A	λυ	σα	μεν	ας

Perfect Middle/Passive Participles:

The perfect middle/passive is just the present middle/passive participle with reduplication added to the beginning and the connecting vowel deleted. For example, compare the:

Present Middle/Passive Participle

	Verb Stem:	Connecting Vowel	μεν added	2nd Decl. endings
N	λυ	ο	μεν	ος
G	λυ	ο	μεν	ου
D	λυ	ο	μεν	ῳ̄
A	λυ	ο	μεν	ον
N	λυ	ο	μεν	οι
G	λυ	ο	μεν	ων
D	λυ	ο	μεν	οις
A	λυ	ο	μεν	ους

to

Perfect Middle/Passive Participle

	Reduplication	Verb Stem:	μεν added	2nd Decl. endings
N	λε	λυ	μεν	ος
G	λε	λυ	μεν	ου
D	λε	λυ	μεν	ῳ̄
A	λε	λυ	μεν	ον
N	λε	λυ	μεν	οι
G	λε	λυ	μεν	ων
D	λε	λυ	μεν	οις
A	λε	λυ	μεν	ους

Notice that how the Perfect Middle/Passive Participle is the same as the Present Middle/Passive except it has reduplication and no connecting vowel.

Baugh's Two "Irregular" Aorist Participles:

Baugh gives to paradigms for the "irregular" Aorist participles of γινώσκω and καταβαίνω. However, I think it is unfortunate that Baugh calls them irregular, because they are not irregular in the way that they are conjugated. There are just three things that you need to do decline the "irregular" aorist participle of γινώσκω. They are:

1. The stem of γινώσκω changes to γν.
2. Tack on the present active participle of εἰμί.
3. Change the nominative masculine singular to ους instead of ων.

Example: (Masculine)

Singular:

	γν as stem	εἰμί Pres. Act. Part. endings
N	γν	ούς
G	γν	όντος
D	γν	όντι
A	γν	όντα

Plural:

	γν as stem	εἰμί Pres. Act. Part. endings
N	γν	όντες
G	γν	όντων
D	γν	ὀῦσιν
A	γν	όντας

If you do not want to derive the "irregular" aorist active participle of γινώσκω from the present active participle of εἰμι then here is an alternative way to derive the same answers.

1. The stem of γινώσκω changes to γν.
2. Add ου to γν in the nominative masculine singular and dative masculine plural.
3. Add οντ everywhere else within the paradigm.
4. Tack on third declension endings.

Example:

Singular:

γν as stem   ου and οντ   third declension endings

N	γν	ου	ς
G	γν	οντ	ος
D	γν	οντ	ι
A	γν	οντ	α

Plural:

γν as stem   ου and οντ   third declension endings

N	γν	ου	ες
G	γν	οντ	ων
D	γν	ου	σιν
A	γν	οντ	ας

To decline the "irregular" Aorist participle of καταβαίνω you just need to:

1. Drop αίνω from καταβαίνω.
2. Add the πασ paradigm minus the pi.

Example:

Singular:

αίνω dropped   πασ paradigm minus pi

N	καταβ	άς
G	καταβ	άντος
D	καταβ	άντι
A	καταβ	άντα

Plural:

αίνω dropped   πασ paradigm minus pi

N	καταβ	άντες
G	καταβ	άντων
D	καταβ	ᾱσι (ν)
A	καταβ	άντας