

Adjectives: "ed" vs "ing"

Adjectives are words which give more information to nouns.

Eg. *The dog runs towards the man.* (sentence without adjectives. Dog, man = nouns)

vs

The big, angry dog runs towards the scared man (big, angry, scared = adjectives)

Many adjectives end in "ed" or "ing". Adjectives that end in "ed" describe how a person feels.

Eg. *I was amazed by the film!*

Adjectives that end in "ing" describe the thing that makes us feel that way.

Eg. *The film was amazing!*

Note: These adjectives are not verbs, so they are different to past tense verbs (e.g. he walked to work) and verbs in the present progressive (He is walking to work).




1. Read through the sentences below and choose the correct option.

- a) I'm interesting/*interested* in learning another language.
- b) I don't understand this! I'm so confusing/*confused*!
- c) My father-in-law talks for hours about the economy. He's so *boring*/bored!
- d) My internet keeps stopping and starting, it's so *frustrating*/frustrated!
- e) I like my job, but sometimes it is really *tiring*/tired.
- f) Have you seen her new painting? It's *amazing*/amazed!
- g) I was surprising/*surprised* when my father arrived, I thought he was overseas.
- h) My boss is really exciting/*excited* about the new deal, it could save the company.
- i) This old book looks *fascinating*/fascinated!
- j) All the runners are exhausting/*exhausted* at the end of the marathon.
- k) Personally, I think fast food is *disgusting*/disgusted.
- l) I forgot her name three times! It was so *embarrassing*/embarrassed!
- m) I get so annoying/*annoyed* when my friends don't call me back!
- n) After a long day at work I like to listen to *relaxing*/relaxed music.
- o) My dog is really frightening/*frightened* by lightning and thunder.
- p) I loved the first movie, but the second one was *disappointing*/disappointed.
- q) She seems sad, maybe she is depressing/*depressed*.

 2. Choose 5 adjectives from the exercise above and make sentences with them.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

 3. Read through the conversations below and fill in the gaps with adjectives from exercise 1. More than one correct answer may be possible.

a) David: Personally I find documentaries about history really *boring*, I always seem to fall asleep after 15 minutes!

Emma: Really? I disagree, I'm really *interested* in history, so I usually love history documentaries.

David: Well, I don't like history documentaries, but I love horror movies. I find them really *exciting*

Emma: I hate horror movies! All the blood and violence is so *disgusting*

b) Peter: My neighbours are so *annoying*! They play loud music all the time and it's driving me crazy!

Jane: You should move to the countryside, it's really *relaxing* out there. And you have enough space that you don't have to worry about your neighbours!

Peter: That's not a bad idea. I can't sleep with my current neighbours, I'm always *exhausted* at work.

c) Jillian: What do you think of the class? I have to say, I'm *surprised* at how difficult it is. I thought it would be easier!

Jackson: Me too. It's also really *confusing* Every time the text book says one thing, the teacher says something completely different!

Jillian: It's a real shame too, I was really *excited* about this class, but now I don't think I'll like it. How *disappointing*!



4. Pairwork: Ask your partner the following questions.

- a) What do you think is boring?

- b) What is something you are excited about in the future?

- c) Have you ever been disappointed by a movie, a TV show, or a book?

- d) What food do you think is disgusting?

- e) What type of holiday do you find relaxing?

- f) When do you get annoyed?

- g) What do you find confusing about English?

- h) When was the last time you were really embarrassed?

- i) What part of your job do you think is most tiring?