

## Participle adjectives

### Meaning

Participle adjectives are adjectives made from verbs by adding ‘-ing’ or ‘-ed’. They are used in the same way as regular adjectives, to describe people, places, and things.

### Form

Many words have both an adjective form with ‘-ed’ and ‘-ing’, for example ‘bored’ and ‘boring’. This can be confusing for learners. For example:

This film is very <b>bored</b> .	<b>incorrect</b>
This film is <b>boring</b> .	<b>correct</b>
I am <b>interesting</b> in science.	<b>incorrect</b>
I am <b>interested</b> in science.	<b>correct</b>

Adjectives ending in ‘-ed’ usually describe emotions, how people feel. For example:

I was so **tired** after playing football all day.  
She’s very **confused** about English grammar.  
They are **frightened** of spiders.

Adjectives ending in ‘-ing’ usually describe the situation, person, or thing that causes the feeling or emotion. For example:

The training was really **tiring** for the boys.  
English grammar is very **confusing** for me.  
Spiders are very **frightening** for some people.

Here are some more common forms:

*alarmed – alarming*  
*annoyed – annoying*  
*disappointed – disappointing*  
*excited – exciting*  
*surprised – surprising*

*worried – worrying*  
*exhausted – exhausting*  
*relaxed – relaxing*  
*terrified – terrifying*  
*satisfied – satisfying*