

## -ed or -ing Adjectives

Present participle -ing forms are often used as adjectives

*a crying child,*

but there are words which can take **-ing** or **-ed**, making adjectives:

*interested, interesting*

Usually, **-ed** is for people, and **-ing** is for things.

People have feelings as a result of an experience. Things cause people's reactions.

*I was interested. The documentary was interesting.*

However, people can also cause reactions.

*The teacher was boring; The novelist is a fascinating writer*



### Exercise 1

Complete the gaps below with the correct alternative. It is a conversation between two friends, Sarah and Jane about a book they have both read.

**Sarah:** Have you read this new crime novel? It's very a. \_\_\_\_\_ (*excited/exciting*).

**Jane:** Yes, and I was so b. \_\_\_\_\_ (*excited/exciting*) when I got to the part where Jake waits in the empty room for the murderer.

**Sarah:** Yes, that part was really c. \_\_\_\_\_ (*frightened/frightening*)!

**Jane:** How did you feel when you found out that the murderer was that blond woman, Eva?

**Sarah:** I was really d. \_\_\_\_\_ (*surprised/surprising*)! I was a bit e. \_\_\_\_\_ (*confused/confusing*) too because I thought Eva was in love with Jake.

**Jane:** I thought Eva was the most f. \_\_\_\_\_ (*interested/interesting*) character in the whole book. I spent a lot of time thinking about her.

**Sarah:** Yes, usually I'm g. \_\_\_\_\_ (*bored/boring*) by romance in novels, but I was very h. \_\_\_\_\_ (*interested/interesting*) in Eva too.

**Jane:** Oh well. I hope his next novel will be just as i. \_\_\_\_\_ (*excited/exciting*).

**Sarah:** I was j. \_\_\_\_\_ (*interested/interesting*) to read that he has set it in Brazil in the rainforest. I don't know how his hero will get on there.

### Exercise 2

Below are some **-ed** and **-ing** adjective participles. Choose **five** of the pairs and write sentences that clearly show the meanings of the adjective participles. Try to make your sentences imaginative!

- alarmed/alarming      • amused/amusing      • amazed/amazing      • astonished/astonishing      • bewildered/bewildering
- confused/confusing      • depressed/depressing      • disgusted/disgusting      • embarrassed/embarrassing      • exhausted/exhausting
- frightened/frightening      • horrified/horrifying      • irritated/irritating      • moved/moving      • relaxed/relaxing
- satisfied/satisfying      • shocked/shocking      • surprised/surprising      • worried/worrying

---



---



---



---



---

### Answer Key:

#### Exercise 1

a. exciting, b. excited, c. frightening, d. surprised, e. confused, f. interesting, g. bored, h. interested, i. exciting, j. interested.

#### Exercise 2

Answers will vary.