

-ed and -ing adjectives

Adjectives that end '-ed' (e.g. **'bored'**, **'interested'**) and adjectives that end '-ing' (e.g. **'boring'**, **'interesting'**) are often confused.

-ed adjectives

Adjectives that end '-ed' describe emotions – they tell us how people feel about something.

- *I was very bored in the maths lesson. I almost fell asleep.*
- *He was surprised to see Helen. She'd told him she was going to Australia.*
- *Feeling tired and depressed, he went to bed.*

-ing adjectives

Adjectives that end '-ing' describe the thing that causes the emotion – a boring lesson makes you feel bored.

- *Have you seen that film? It's absolutely terrifying.*
- *I could listen to him for hours. He's one of the most interesting people I've ever met.*
- *I can't eat this! It's disgusting! What is it?*

Remember that people can be **boring** but only if they make other people feel **bored**.

- *He talks about the weather for hours. He's so boring.*
- NOT ~~*I was very boring at the party so I went home.*~~

Here are some more adjectives that can have both an '-ed' and an '-ing' form

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| • <i>amused</i> | • <i>exciting</i> |
| • <i>amusing</i> | • <i>exhausted</i> |
| • <i>annoyed</i> | • <i>exhausting</i> |
| • <i>annoying</i> | • <i>frightened</i> |
| • <i>confused</i> | • <i>frightening</i> |
| • <i>confusing</i> | • <i>satisfied</i> |
| • <i>disappointed</i> | • <i>satisfying</i> |
| • <i>disappointing</i> | • <i>shocked</i> |
| • <i>excited</i> | • <i>shocking</i> |