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CHALKIE

-ed & -ing Adjectives

Understanding How Feelings Are
Expressed in English

Why the Ending Matters

The Confusion

Many English learners mix up -ed and -ing adjectives because they both relate to emotions.

The Key Difference

- **-ed** → describes *who feels* the emotion
- **-ing** → describes *what causes* the emotion

Think of It Like This

- *I am bored* → You feel boredom
- *This movie is boring* → The movie causes boredom



Using -ed Adjectives: Who Feels It?

1



Focus on Feeler

Use -ed to describe someone experiencing a feeling. For example: 'She is excited.'

2



Passive Experience

-ed suggests the person is being affected by something. Like: 'He was confused by the instructions.'

3



Result of Action

The feeling comes from outside. 'He is tired' means something (like work) tired him out.



Examples of -ed in Action

4

I am bored

You feel uninterested, likely because something around you is dull.

5

She is surprised

She didn't expect it – the gift or news caused her surprise.

6

They are disappointed

Their hopes were not met – they're the ones feeling let down.

Using -ing Adjectives: What Causes It?

The Source of Emotion

-ing adjectives describe the *cause* of an emotion.

Active Role

The -ing adjective empowers the noun to *create* the feeling.

Examples

- A **frightening** storm → The storm causes fear.
- An **interesting** book → The book holds attention.

Ask: **What causes the emotion?**



How to Choose: -ed or -ing?



Step 1: Ask 'Who Feels?'

If the answer is a person or animal, use -ed. Example: 'I feel confused.'

Step 2: Ask 'What Causes?'

If describing the thing causing the emotion, use -ing. Example: 'The test is confusing.'

Step 3: Check Logic

Don't say 'The work is tired' – work can't feel. Say 'The work is tiring' – it makes others tired.

Cause vs. Feeler



-ed = Feeler Describes emotional state:
bored, excited, scared.



-ing = Cause
Describes the source. The movie is boring,
the concert is exciting, the dog is scary.

Real-World Examples



Work & Study

After a long shift, workers feel exhausted. The job is exhausting.



Movies & Media

Viewers were shocked. The documentary was shocking.



Travel

Tourists were amazed. The waterfall was amazing.



Food

We were disgusted. The smell was disgusting.

Choose Correctly

Answers on the next slide...

Which sentences correctly use -ed and -ing adjectives? Select all that apply.

1. The movie was so boring that I fell asleep halfway through.

2. I was bored during the movie because it had a slow plot.

3. The roller coaster is terrified because it drops 200 feet.

4. Many tourists were fascinated by the ancient ruins.

Choose Correctly



Which sentences correctly use -ed and -ing adjectives? Select all that apply.

1. The movie was so boring that I fell asleep halfway through.
2. I was bored during the movie because it had a slow plot.
3. The roller coaster is terrified because it drops 200 feet.
4. Many tourists were fascinated by the ancient ruins.



Recap: -ed vs. -ing Adjectives

Final Rules

- **-ed**: Describes the **feeler** (e.g., *I am tired.*)
- **-ing**: Describes the **cause** (e.g., *The job is tiring.*)

Quick Memory Trick

- **-ed** = Emotion felt inside
- **-ing** = In action, causing feelings

Mastering this distinction improves English clarity.

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