

Adjectives ending in **-ing** and **-ed** (**boring/bored** etc.)

- A** Many adjectives end in **-ing** and **-ed**, for example: **boring** and **bored**.  
Study this example situation:



Jane has been doing the same job for a very long time. Every day she does exactly the same thing again and again. She doesn't enjoy her job any more and would like to do something different.

Jane's job is **boring**.

Jane is **bored** with her job.

Somebody is **bored** or gets **bored** if something (or somebody else) is **boring**.  
If something is **boring**, you get **bored** with it.

So:

- ☐ Jane is **bored** because her job is **boring**.
- ☐ Jane's job is **boring**, so Jane is **bored**. (*not* Jane is boring)

If a person is **boring**, this means that they make other people **bored**:

- ☐ Paul always talks about the same things. He's really **boring**.

- B** Compare adjectives ending in **-ing** and **-ed**:

- ☐ My job is { **boring**  
**interesting**  
**tiring**  
**satisfying**  
**depressing** (etc.)

In these examples, the **-ing** adjective tells you about the job

- ☐ I'm **bored** with my job.
- ☐ I'm not **interested** in my job any more.
- ☐ I get very **tired** doing my job.
- ☐ I'm not **satisfied** with my job.
- ☐ My job makes me **depressed**. (etc.)

In these examples, the **-ed** adjective tells you how somebody feels (about the job).

Compare these examples:

**interesting**

- ☐ Julia thinks politics is **interesting**.
- ☐ Did you meet anyone **interesting** at the party?

**surprising**

- ☐ It was **surprising** that he passed the exam.

**disappointing**

- ☐ The movie was **disappointing**. We expected it to be better.

**shocking**

- ☐ The news was **shocking**.

**interested**

- ☐ Julia is **interested** in politics. (*not* interesting in politics)
- ☐ Are you **interested** in buying a car? I'm trying to sell mine.

**surprised**

- ☐ Everybody was **surprised** that he passed the exam.

**disappointed**

- ☐ We were **disappointed** with the movie. We expected it to be better.

**shocked**

- ☐ I was **shocked** when I heard the news.

## Exercises

**98.1 Complete the sentences for each situation. Use the word in brackets + -ing or -ed.**

- The movie wasn't as good as we had expected. (**disappoint...**)
  - The movie was disappointing.
  - We were disappointed with the movie.
- Donna teaches young children. It's a very hard job, but she enjoys it. (**exhaust...**)
  - She enjoys her job, but it's often .....
  - At the end of a day's work, she is often .....
- It's been raining all day. I hate this weather. (**depress...**)
  - This weather is .....
  - This weather makes me .....
  - It's silly to get ..... because of the weather.
- Clare is going to Mexico next month. She's never been there before. (**excite...**)
  - It will be an ..... experience for her.
  - Going to new places is always .....
  - She is really ..... about going to Mexico.

**98.2 Choose the correct word.**

- I was disappointing / disappointed with the movie. I had expected it to be better. (disappointed is correct)
- I'm not particularly interesting / interested in football.
- The new project sounds exciting / excited. I'm looking forward to working on it.
- It can be embarrassing / embarrassed when you have to ask people for money.
- Do you easily get embarrassing / embarrassed?
- I'd never expected to get the job. I was amazing / amazed when I was offered it.
- She's learnt very fast. She's made amazing / amazed progress.
- I didn't find the situation funny. I was not amusing / amused.
- I'm interesting / interested in joining the club. How much does it cost?
- It was a really terrifying / terrified experience. Everybody was very shocking / shocked.
- Why do you always look so boring / bored? Is your life really so boring / bored?
- He's one of the most boring / bored people I've ever met. He never stops talking and he never says anything interesting / interested.

**98.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the box.**

|                      |                        |                      |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| amusing/amused       | annoying/annoyed       | boring/bored         |
| confusing/confused   | disgusting/disgusted   | exciting/excited     |
| exhausting/exhausted | interesting/interested | surprising/surprised |

- You work very hard. It's not surprising that you're always tired.
- Some people get ..... very easily. They always need something new.
- The teacher's explanation was ..... Nobody understood it.
- The kitchen hadn't been cleaned for ages. It was really .....
- I don't go to art galleries very often. I'm not very ..... in art.
- There's no need to get ..... just because I'm a few minutes late.
- The lecture was ..... I fell asleep.
- I've been working very hard all day and now I'm .....
- I'm starting a new job next week. I'm very ..... about it.
- Steve is good at telling funny stories. He can be very .....
- Helen is a very ..... person. She knows a lot, she's travelled a lot and she's done lots of different things.