

PARTICIPLES: ‘-ED’ vs. ‘-ING’

What is a participle?

A participle is a word formed from a verb which can be used as an adjective.

PAST PARTICIPLES*

examples

- **bored**

“I was **bored** at the movie theater.”

- **surprised**

“I was **surprised** when I heard the news.”

PRESENT PARTICIPLES*

examples

- **boring**

“The movie was **boring**.”

- **surprising**

“The news was very **surprising**.”

***Note:** ‘-ed’ adjectives often describe people’s feelings: “I feel **bored**.” A **boring** movie, however, will make you feel bored.

- *Choose the correct participle adjective form in each of the sentences below.*

1. I don’t understand chess. The rules are very **confused** / **confusing**.
2. He was **embarrassed** / **embarrassing** when he arrived late for class.
3. There is a new movie playing at the theater. Are you **interested** / **interesting**?
4. My little brother makes too much noise. He is **annoyed** / **annoying**.
5. I like my new chair. It’s quite **relaxed** / **relaxing**.
6. Moving to a new home is hard work. It’s **tired** / **tiring**.
7. The sad news made me **depressed** / **depressing**.
8. Louise got a B+. She was **satisfied** / **satisfying** with her test results.
9. Our company isn’t making any money. It’s very **worried** / **worrying**.
10. Robert thinks that roller coasters are **terrified** / **terrifying**.
11. I think that insects are **fascinated** / **fascinating**. I love to study them!
12. When the TV program was cancelled, Kelly was **disappointed** / **disappointing**.