



# ADJECTIVES

## Ending in -ED and -ING

HE IS  
**BORED**



THESE  
BOOKS  
ARE  
**BORING**

ADJECTIVES  
THAT END IN

**-ING**

Describe the *characteristic* of a person, a thing or a situation. It **CAUSES** a feeling.

*The books are boring. We are describing a characteristic of these books. What do these books cause? They make people feel bored.*

ADJECTIVES  
THAT END IN

**-ED**

Describe *a feeling* or an emotion. It is how we **FEEL** about something.

*He is bored. This is his feeling right now. This feeling was caused by the books. He is not going to be bored for eternity. He feels bored for now. (It is temporary)*

**Example Sentences** (compare the difference)

*I am **tired** right now. My flight was **tiring** (because it was a twelve-hour flight).*

*Public toilets are sometimes **disgusting**. I am **disgusted** by the smell of them.*

*Your speech was **inspiring**. I'm now **inspired** to do great things with my life.*

## Using Adjectives Ending in –ed and –ing

Adjectives are used all the time in English. They're a great way of adding more information about a noun, and generally helping you to say something more about a person or thing.

### **If it ends in –ing, it's used to describe a characteristic**

If you are describing an object, place, or another noun, you would use adjectives that end in –ing. These are used to describe a particular characteristic or aspect of the noun.

*E.g. "The bowl was quite striking."*

*"Paris is so fascinating!"*

### **If it ends in –ed , it's used to describe a feeling**

There's one simple and clear rule for adjectives that end in –ed. This ending is only used when you are describing a feeling or emotion. This can be to describe how you feel something yourself – or how somebody else feels.

*E.g. "I was bored during the film."*

*"She was really tired after she came home."*

### **Using –ing adjectives to describe people**

Although you would normally use –ed adjectives to describe a particular emotion or feeling someone is experiencing, you do not use these adjectives if you want to describe something about the person themselves.

### **Using –ed and –ing adjectives to describe situations**

When describing an event or situation, it is possible to use either adjective ending – depending on the context and your meaning. The same rules still apply – if you are describing someone's feelings, then you would use –ed, and if you are describing the characteristic of the event, then you would use –ing.

*E.g. "The film premiere was very exciting."*

*"The fans were depressed at the match."*

### **Using both at the same time**

Once you have got the hang of both endings, you can even use both of them in the same sentence – but as always, just make sure that you have the correct ending for the intended meaning!

*E.g. "The audience felt thrilled to see such an exciting event."*