

Participial Adjectives

You can recognise these words by their endings, either ‘-er’ or ‘-ing’, They are called participial adjectives because they often have the same endings as verb participles. The past participle ‘ed’ ending to describe feelings; the present participle ‘ing’ to indicate the cause of the feeling. They are like any other adjective in that they help to describe a noun:

*“Pablo has been doing the same job for ages. Every day he does exactly the same thing. Pablo’s job is **boring**. Pablo is **bored** with his job.”*

You can say:

My job is...**boring, interesting, tiring, depressing**, etc.

‘-ing’ tells you about the job. Think of it like your opinion of something.

You can say:

I’m **bored** with my job.
I’m not **interested** in my job anymore.
I’m always **tired** when I finish work.
My job makes me **depressed**.

‘-ed’ tells you how you feel about your job. Since only people (and some animals) have feelings, -they can’t be used to describe an object/situation.

This is a list of common participial adjectives:

1. Alarmed - Alarming
2. Aggravated - Aggravating
3. Amused - Amusing
4. Annoyed - Annoying
5. Astonished - Astonishing
6. Astounded - Astounding
7. Bored - Boring
8. Captivated - Captivating
9. Challenged - Challenging
10. Charmed - Charming
11. Comforted - Comforting
12. Confused - Confusing
13. Convinced - Convincing
14. Depressed - Depressing
15. Disappointed - Disappointing
16. Discouraged - Discouraging
17. Disgusted - Disgusting
18. Distressed - Distressing
19. Disturbed - Disturbing
20. Embarrassed - Embarrassing
21. Encouraged - Encouraging
22. Entertained - Entertaining
23. Excited - Exciting
24. Exhausted - Exhausting
25. Fascinated - Fascinating
26. Frightened - Frightening
27. Frustrated - Frustrating
28. Fulfilled - Fulfilling
29. Gratified - Gratifying
30. Inspired - Inspiring
31. Insulted - Insulting
32. Interested - Interesting
33. Moved - Moving
34. Overwhelmed - Overwhelming
35. Perplexed - Perplexing
36. Pleased - Pleasing
37. Relaxed - Relaxing
38. Relieved - Relieving
39. Satisfied - Satisfying
40. Shocked - Shocking
41. Sickened - Sickening
42. Soothed - Soothing
43. Surprised - Surprising
44. Tempted - Tempting
45. Terrified - Terrifying
46. Threatened - Threatening
47. Thrilled - Thrilling
48. Tired - Tiring
49. Touched - Touching
50. Troubled - Troubling
51. Unsettled - Unsettling
52. Worried - Worrying