

-ed and -ing Adjectives

Some adjectives look a lot like verbs. But what is the difference? The word *excited*, for example, comes from the verb *excite*. But so does the word *exciting*. So which one is it? Is the football game *excited* or *exciting*? The difference is that -ed adjectives tell us how people feel about something, and -ing adjectives describe the thing or person that causes the emotion.

-ed Adjectives Show How We Feel About Something

Adjectives ending in -ed are called participles (or past participles) and they describe a noun or a pronoun. Below are some examples of -ed adjectives that describe how we feel:

- I was *amused* by his jokes.
- I always feel *energized* after my run.
- She feels *relaxed* after her yoga class.

Notice how each adjective ending in -ed is describing a noun, let's break it down. In the sentence, "She feels relaxed after her yoga class," *she* is the noun, and *relaxed* is the -ed adjective.

-ing Adjectives Describe What Causes an Emotion

Adjectives ending in -ing are also called participles (or present participles) and they, too, describe either a noun or pronoun. The -ing adjectives below describe things that could invoke emotions like the ones previously listed:

- His jokes were *amusing*.
- My run is always *energizing*.
- Her yoga class is *relaxing*.



The person speaking through the phone is **boring**.
The person holding the phone is **bored**.