

Unit 94

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

**a** There are many pairs of adjectives ending 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 it any more and would like to do something different.

**Jane's job is boring.**  
**Jane is bored** (with her job).

Someone is **-ed** if something (or someone) is **-ing**. Or, if something is **-ing**, it makes you **-ed**. So:

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

Now study these examples:

Someone is **interested** because something (or someone) is **interesting**:

- Tom is **interested** in politics. (*not* 'interesting in politics')
- Tom finds politics **interesting**.
- Are you **interested** in buying a car?
- Did you meet anyone **interesting** at the party?

Someone is **surprised** because something is **surprising**:

- Everyone was **surprised** that he passed the examination.
- It was quite **surprising** that he passed the examination.

Someone is **disappointed** because something is **disappointing**:

- I was **disappointed** with the film. I expected it to be much better.
- The film was **disappointing**. I expected it to be much better.

Someone is **tired** because something is **tiring**:

- He is always very **tired** when he gets home from work.
- He has a very **tiring** job.

**b** Other pairs of adjectives ending in **-ing** and **-ed** are:

fascinating	fascinated	horrifying	horrified
exciting	excited	terrifying	terrified
amusing	amused	frightening	frightened
amazing	amazed	depressing	depressed
astonishing	astonished	worrying	worried
shocking	shocked	annoying	annoyed
disgusting	disgusted	exhausting	exhausted
embarrassing	embarrassed	satisfying	satisfied
confusing	confused		

Someone is **surprised** because something is **surprising**:

