Lesson 1

Adjectives Ending with -ing or -ed

Introduction

In English, adjectives can have two different endings: -ing and -ed. These endings change the meaning of the adjective and how they are used to describe feelings or situations. Understanding the difference between these endings is key to using them properly.

The Rule

- 1. Adjectives Ending in –ed
 - These adjectives describe how a person feels.
- They are used to talk about emotions or feelings experienced by a person or, in some cases, an animal.
 - Generally, they are used to describe a sensible being who can experience an emotion.
 - Examples:
 - "interested" feeling curiosity or wanting to know more.
 - "excited" feeling eager or enthusiastic.

For example:

- She is interested in art. (The adjective describes how she feels about art.)
- He was excited about the trip. (It shows his feeling of eagerness.)
- 2. Adjectives Ending in –ing
 - These adjectives describe the thing or situation that causes the feeling.
 - They are used to talk about a source of emotion an object, an event, or an experience.
 - Typically, they describe a non-living thing or situation.
 - Examples:
 - "interesting" something that catches attention and curiosity.
 - "exciting" something that creates a feeling of eagerness or enthusiasm.

For example:

- The book is interesting. (The book causes someone to feel interested.)
- The trip was exciting. (The trip was the source of excitement.)

- Practice with Examples

Let's look at some sentences and decide which form of the adjective is appropriate.

- 1. She is not very (interested / interesting) in fashion. She prefers books and music.
 - Correct Answer: interested
- Why? \rightarrow "She" is a person with feelings. We are talking about her lack of interest, so we use the -ed form.
- 2. I saw a very (excited / exciting) film on TV last night.

- Correct Answer: exciting
- Why? \rightarrow "Film" is a non-living thing that can't have emotions but can cause a feeling. It creates excitement, so the -ing form is correct.
- 3. This book is very (bored / boring). I fall asleep whenever I try to read it.
 - Correct Answer: boring
- Why? \rightarrow "Book" is the source of the feeling (making someone bored), so the -ing form is appropriate.
- 4. We were very (frightened / frightening) when our car broke down in the desert.
 - Correct Answer: frightened
- Why? \rightarrow "We" are people who experience feelings. The situation made them feel fear, so we use the -ed form.
- 5. He's a very (interested / interesting) person. He has lots of great stories to tell.
 - Correct Answer: interesting
- Why? \rightarrow "Person" here is being described as the cause of interest to others. He makes others feel interested, so the -ing form is correct.

Quick Tips

- If you are describing someone's feelings, use the -ed form: e.g., "I am bored."
- If you are describing the source of a feeling, use the -ing form: e.g., "The lecture is boring."

Additional Practice

Try filling in the blanks with the correct form of the adjective:

1. This movie is really	(amused / amusing). It makes me laugh.
2. She feels ((tired / tiring) after a long day at work.
3. The news was quite	(shocked / shocking) to everyone in the office.
4. I'm not very	_ (interested / interesting) in sports, but I love reading.