IELTS PREPARATION

STUDY NOTES

EPISODE 19 WEATHER REPORT

PARTICIPIAL ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are an important part of good writing because they provide specific, qualifying detail.

There are various kinds of adjectives that perform this function but the focus here is on the use of **participles** as adjectives.

They will provide variety, and make your writing more interesting.

Participles used as Adjectives: -ing and -ed forms

Study Tips

Remember the **present participle** has an active
meaning, referring to a person
or thing that causes a feeling,
while the **past participle** has a
passive meaning, referring to a
person who experiences a
feeling. Set time aside to learn
the differences between and
uses of these two participles.

Adjectives provide specific, qualifying detail. There are various kinds of adjectives that perform this function but these notes focus on the use of **participles** as adjectives.

There are two forms of participles:

- present participle (-ing)
- past participle (-ed)

FORMS

Infinitive	Present Participle	Simple Past	Past Participle
fascinate	fascinat ing	fascinated	fascinat ed
interest	interesting	interested	interest ed
entertain	entertain ing	entertained	entertain ed

MEANING

The **present participle (-ing)** has an active meaning, indicating an active state.

For example:

The **interesting** and **entertaining** performance attracted huge crowds.

The **past participle (-ed)** carries a passive meaning.

For example:

The audience was thoroughly **entertained** and **fascinated** by the performance.



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Sometimes it is difficult to decide whether the present or past participle should be used, particularly with pairs of participial adjectives that express emotion or describe feelings and reactions.

Was the audience entertained or entertaining?

The **-ing form** is used to describe a person or thing that makes us have a feeling or reaction; it refers to the person or thing that causes an emotion.

The audience was **entertaining** because they participated in the performance and contributed to the enjoyment.

Meaning: the audience causes the feeling of being entertained.

The **-ed form** is used to describe a person's feeling or reaction; it refers to the person who feels the emotion.

The audience was thoroughly **entertained** and **fascinated** by the performance.

Meaning: the audience experiences the feeling of being entertained and fascinated

Pairs of Participial Adjectives describing

-ing form	-ed form	
amazing	amazed	
annoying	annoyed	
appalling	appalled	
astonishing	astonished	
boring	bored	
charming	charmed	
confusing	confused	
disappointing	disappointed	
disturbing	disturbed	
embarrassing	embarrassed	
entertaining	entertained	
exciting	excited	
fascinating	fascinated	
frightening	frightened	
horrifying	horrified	
impressing	impressed	
insulting	insulted	
interesting	interested	
overwhelming	overwhelmed	
pleasing	pleased	
reassuring	reassured	
relaxing	relaxed	





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surprising	surprised	
satisfying	satisfied	
terrifying	terrified	
tiring	tired	
touching	touched	
worrying	worried	

Emotions, Feelings or Reactions

