**Participial Adjectives**

Both present and past participles can be used as adjectives. How can you tell the difference between the two?

A. One way to understand these two forms has to do with **cause** and **effect**.

1. Present participles are **the cause** of something.
2. Past participles show the person or thing has **received an effect**.

*For example:*

*The movie was frightening the children.*  
Explanation: In this example, the movie is **the cause** of the children being afraid.

*The children were frightened by the movie.*  
Explanation: In this example, the children received the action of the past participle.

B. One can also view these two forms as the present participle **making something happen** and past participle **describing a state of being**.

*For example:*

*The explanations were very confusing.*

*The students were very confused.*

**Let’s work with some other verbs.**

Use the present or past participial form of the word given in parentheses depending on the meaning of the sentence.

1. The (bore) __________________ meeting lasted forever.
2. I really love working with (excite) __________________ people.
3. The (lose) __________________ team said they would win the next game.
4. When Jane couldn’t find her credit card, her (worry) ______ mother called the credit card company to cancel it.

5. Two days later, Jane’s supposedly (steal) ____________ card was found in her bedroom.

6. As the boys played ball outside, the sound of (break) ____________ __________ glass announced that a ball had hit the window.

7. Some people are totally (fascinate) ____________ by the book that describes some codes in Leonardo da Vinci's paintings.

8. The da Vinci Code tells a very (fascinate) ____________ story.

9. Students who are (interest) ____________ in signing up for the history class should make a line here.

10. Professors become extremely (annoy) ____________ when cell phones go off in their classes.

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