Aggie Grammar Guide: Adjectives That Come from Verbs

Answer Key

Intermediate Practice

1) Letting colleges rank each other would lead to a biased result because colleges do not know anything about the others and are also competitive against each other.

2) These students barely speak or ask questions during lectures and make the class boring/bored. (Either option works but has a different meaning. “Boring” describes the classroom atmosphere [active meaning] and “bored” describes the students’ feelings in the class as a result of those silent students [passive meaning]. In this second interpretation, “the class” is used to mean people.)

3) It was true, but I felt more stress/stressed in my second quarter. (Either option works here. “Stress” is the noun form so using it emphasizes stress as an object. “Stressed” is the adjective form so using it emphasizes the emotion of having stress. “Stressed” and not “stressing” is the correct adjective because “I” receives the feeling of “stress” and doesn’t cause it.)

4) There will always be people doubting themselves and being put down while there are others that are motivating/motivated and have a deep inspiration. (Either option works but has a different meaning. “Motivating” means that someone inspires others [active meaning] and “motivated” means that someone is encouraged to act by someone else’s actions [passive meaning]).

5) Last quarter, it was very important for me to find some great stress relievers so that I could relax and learn better.

6) Last quarter, it was very important for me to find some great stress relievers so that I could feel more relaxed and learn better.

7) Sadly, these rankings are prejudiced because one institution doesn’t know anything about the other institution, so they rank each other based on the U.S News’ information.
Advanced Practice

1) In the data that Tough mentions, the gap between disadvantage students and white students obtaining twelve credits by Christmas was cut by half in no more than a year. (Incorrect, disadvantaged)

2) Also, students who are not good at sports or don’t feel comfortable doing physical exercises might be concerning about their grades or how to pass the class. (Incorrect – concerned)

3) The only thing that this publication may need to improve is the placement of the supported materials, such as case studies. (Incorrect, supporting)

4) When I first arrived in Sacramento to begin my first school year, I was surprised and depressed when I heard many different racial comments such as "all Asians look the same" and "they all suck in English." (Correct; Correct)

5) Readers may feel annoy if they need to jump back and forth to different pages of the magazine to finish the whole article. (Incorrect, annoyed)

6) It made me think of how great an impact a simple college student’s essay admitting the fear of belonging had on entering freshmen who may be going through the same thing upperclassmen went through in the past. (Incorrect, entering)

7) This demonstrates how the author is reaching out to her audience to keep them engaged in the information she explained. (Correct)