Aggie Grammar Guide: Adjectives That Come from Verbs

Intermediate Practice

For each sentence, circle the correct form of the word in parenthesis. Some sentences require adjectives, and some require other parts of speech. To see more about the placement of adjectives in a sentence, check out the glossary.

Example:  
*I think that that new one is better because I took out an unnecessary and (confuse/confusing/confused) sentence.*

Answer:  
*I think that that new one is better because I took out an unnecessary and confusing sentence.*

1) Letting colleges rank each other would lead to a (bias/biasing/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 (bore/boring/bored).

3) It was true, but I felt more (stress/stressing/stressed) in my second quarter.

4) There will always be people doubting themselves and being put down while there are others that are (motivate/motivating/motivated) and have a deep inspiration.

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

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

7) Sadly, these rankings are (prejudice/prejudicing/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

For each set of sentences, first underline the participial adjective(s) in each sentence, and second, decide whether or not each one is used correctly. Correct any participial adjective mistakes you see (not every sentence will have a mistake).

Example:  This newly design bicycle allows women to better ride it.

Answer:  This newly design bicycle allows women to better ride it. (Incorrect ⬅ designed)

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.

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.

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

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.”

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

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

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