

Adjectives or present participles

Present participles are verb forms ending in -ing. Examples are: crying, learning, singing, interesting etc. Some -ing forms can also be used as adjectives.

State whether the -ing forms used in the following sentences are adjectives or present participles.

1. Interesting though it was, we didn't enjoy the concert much.

Interesting is an adjective

Interesting is a present participle

2. It was raining when I got home.

Raining is an adjective

Raining is a present participle

3. I love the noise of falling rain.

Falling is an adjective

Falling is a present participle

4. It is a pressing problem.

Pressing is an adjective

Pressing is a present participle

Adjectives or present participles

5. She was writing a letter.

Writing is an adjective

Writing is a present participle

6. The lecture was very interesting.

Interesting is an adjective

Interesting is a present participle

7. She is an interesting writer.

Interesting is an adjective

Interesting is a present participle

8. The woodcutter was felling trees.

Felling is an adjective

Felling is a present participle

9. The news was exciting.

Exciting is an adjective

Exciting is a present participle

Adjectives or present participles

10. I was working on that report when she called.

Working is an adjective

Working is a present participle

Answers

1. Interesting is an adjective. It modifies the noun concert.
2. Raining is a present participle. It forms the continuous verb with be.
3. Falling is an adjective. It modifies the noun rain.
4. Pressing is an adjective. It modifies the noun problem.
5. Writing is a present participle. It forms the continuous verb form with be.
6. Interesting is an adjective. It modifies the noun lecture.
7. Interesting is an adjective. It modifies the noun writer.
8. Felling is a present participle. It forms the past continuous verb form with be.
9. Exciting is an adjective.
10. Working is a present participle. It forms the past continuous verb form with be.