



Gadgets and appliances



Lesson code: 83S9-SFGB-89EK-V

INTERMEDIATE

1 Classify the gadgets

Where in the house can you typically find the following gadgets and appliances? Put them into the correct categories:

a DVD player
a hi-fi system

a blender
a hoover

a dishwasher
a toaster

a flat screen TV
an iron

a freezer
an oven

In the kitchen:

In the storeroom:

In the living room:

In pairs or groups, rank the above gadgets/appliances in order of necessity, from 1 (most important) to 10 (least important). Justify your reasons to each other.

2 UK/US English

Match the following British English words to their equivalent US names for appliances.

British English

1. a hoover
2. a torch
3. a tumble dryer
4. a mobile
5. a aerial

American English

- a. a cellphone
- b. a clothes dryer
- c. a flashlight
- d. a vacuum cleaner
- e. an antenna

Work in pairs. Tell your partner which of the above gadgets/appliances you use often, sometimes, rarely and never. Use the British English names first, then repeat with American English.



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PHOTOCOPIABLE

3 What's it for?

Match the appliances to their function.

Gadget/appliance	It's used for ...
1. a lawnmower	a. boiling water
2. a radiator	b. changing the TV channel
3. a remote control	c. cutting grass
4. a refrigerator	d. keeping food cool and fresh
5. a kettle	e. listening to downloaded music
6. an MP3 player	f. warming up the room

Work in pairs. Take turns to choose a gadget or appliance from the previous page. Describe its function to your partner without saying its name. Your partner should try to give the correct word for the gadget/appliance. Example:

Student A: *It's used for washing dishes / You use it to wash dishes. / It's an appliance that washes dishes.*
 Student B: *A dishwasher.*

4 Guess the object

Complete the questions below with the following verbs in their correct form, active or passive.

charge up
put

operate
run

plug in
set

power
unplug

power up
use up

- Can it _____ by remote control?
- _____ it _____ by electricity or gas?
- Does it _____ on batteries or do you need to _____ it _____ ?
- How long does it take to _____ the battery?
- If you _____ it, will it keep working?
- Does it _____ a lot of energy?
- How long does it take to _____ after you switch it on?
- Can you _____ it on standby or do you need to switch it off after using it?
- Can you _____ it to work automatically at different times of the day?

Work in pairs. Student A, select a gadget/appliance from the list below, but don't tell your partner. Student B, ask Student A appropriate questions from above in order to guess the object that your partner has chosen. Change roles and repeat several times, selecting a different gadget/appliance each time.

a boiler
a stove

a laptop
a torch

a microwave oven
an air conditioner

a smart phone
an ebook reader



5 Talking point

Discuss any of the following questions:

1. What gadgets and appliances do you use everyday? For what purposes?
2. Do you think our lives have been improved by new gadgets or we have been spoiled?
3. "Technology makes our lives easier." How true is this statement?

6 Review

Review the words from this lesson with the Expemo memorization system. Go to www.linguahouse.com, enter Lesson code: 83S9-SFGB-89EK-V, add the lesson to your knowledge collection and click 'Start My Review'.

Remember to review your knowledge collection regularly if you want the lessons to stay fresh in your memory. If you have a large collection, try to review it every day for at least 15-20 minutes.



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PHOTOCOPIABLE

1 Classify the gadgets

In the kitchen: a freezer, an oven, a toaster, a dishwasher, a blender

In the storeroom: an iron, a washing machine, a hoover

In the living room: a DVD player, a hi-fi system, a flat screen TV

For students who have completed the situation-based worksheet lesson 'For and against', this activity can be used to practise expressions for agreeing/disagreeing and giving opinions.

2 UK/US English

Note: The term 'vacuum cleaner' is also used in British English, whereas 'hoover' is not used in American English.

1. d

2. c

3. b

4. a

5. e

3 What's it for?

1. c

2. f

3. b

4. d

5. a

6. e

4 Guess the object

1. be operated
2. Is it powered
3. Does it run; plug it in
4. charge up
5. unplug
6. Does it use up
7. power up
8. put
9. set



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