

33 What things are for

English uses gerunds and infinitives to talk about why people use things. This is useful for describing the purpose of everyday objects and household gadgets.

 **New language** Gerunds and infinitives

 **Aa Vocabulary** Household gadgets

 **New skill** Talking about why you use things

33.1 KEY LANGUAGE GERUNDS AND INFINITIVES

When you talk about why you generally use things, you can use "for" with a gerund, or the infinitive ("to" plus verb). The meaning is the same.



I use my blender  soup.

The present simple
expresses a routine action.

"For" with a gerund

Infinitive



33.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES GERUNDS AND INFINITIVES



She uses her laptop  emails.



He uses this cloth  the dishes.



33.3 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE WORDS IN THE PANEL

I use this knife to chop vegetables.

- 1 They use the microwave for heating food.
- 2 We use our juicer to make fruit juice.
- 3 She uses her phone for watching her friends.
- 4 They use this corkscrew to open bottles of wine.
- 5 He uses his laptop for texting movies.

texting

chop

open

watching

heating

make



33.4 KEY LANGUAGE INFINITIVES FOR SPECIFIC ACTIONS

When you talk about why someone does a specific action rather than what you do with something in general, you must use the infinitive. It is incorrect to use "for" and a gerund in this case.

Sentence refers to a specific action, not a routine action.

Sentence refers to one particular email, not emails in general.

I turned on my laptop **to write** an email. 

I turned on my laptop **for writing** an email. 



33.5 MATCH THE BEGINNINGS OF THE SENTENCES TO THE CORRECT ENDINGS

I went to the washing machine

to keep food fresh.

1 I turned on the heating

for taking photos.

2 You use a refrigerator

to warm up the house.

3 He uses this remote control

to do the laundry.

4 We turned on our sound system

for turning on the TV.

5 I sometimes use my smartphone

to listen to music.



33.6 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

On a radio show, three inventors present their new gadgets.



Bilal's gadget is for household cleaning.

True False

1 Bilal's gadget can find dirt on the floor.

True False

2 Harry's gadget is for opening bottles.

True False

3 You press a button to use Harry's gadget.

True False

4 You use Lauren's gadget when you are at home.

True False

5 Lauren's gadget can keep your house secure.

True False

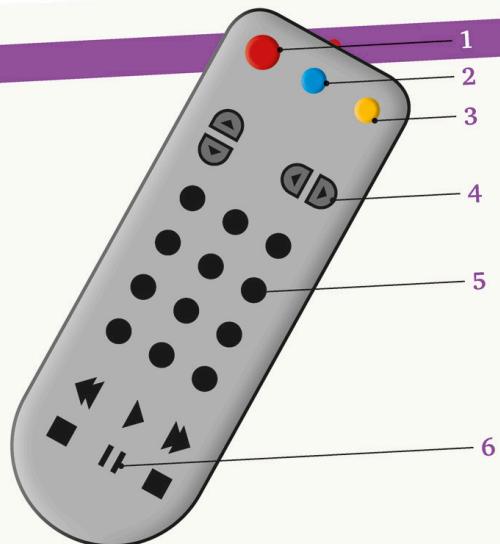


33.10 READ THE GUIDE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

YOUR GUIDE TO YOUR NEW ALL-IN-ONE REMOTE

This versatile remote is for controlling all the audio-visual equipment in your home.

- 1 The red button is for turning the TV on and off.
- 2 Use the blue button to control the DVD player.
- 3 The yellow button is for turning the sound system on and off.
- 4 Use these buttons to change TV channels, or skip tracks when you listen to music.
- 5 The round black buttons are for selecting a particular TV channel.
- 6 Use this button to pause DVDs, music, or live TV.



What gadget can't you control using the all-in-one remote?

The television

The refrigerator

The sound system

1 What can you do if you press the red button on the remote control?

Turn on the TV

Turn the TV up

Pause the TV

2 Which button are you most likely to use for watching movies?

The red button

The blue button

The yellow button

3 Why would you press the yellow button on the remote control?

To watch a documentary

To listen to music

To change TV channels

4 What gadget can't you control using the buttons labeled 4?

The DVD player

The sound system

The TV

5 Which gadget are the round black buttons for?

The sound system

The DVD player

The TV

33 ✓ CHECKLIST

Gerunds and infinitives

Aa Household gadgets

Talking about why you use things