GADGETS AND APPLIANCES



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Expemo code:
1K9H-X1L2-102

1 Warm up

In pairs, discuss the following questions.

1. Do you know what the difference is between a gadget and an appliance?
2. What is the most useful appliance that you have in your house these days?
3. Do you think it is important to always buy the most recent gadgets, or do you think they are a waste of money?



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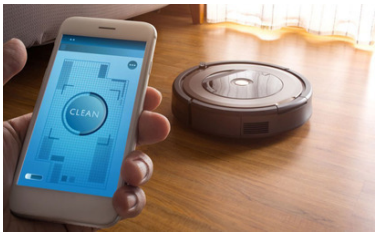
2 Visual guide

Look at the images below and try to match them to the correct gadget or appliance. Then, with your partner rank them in terms of how useful they would be for you.

air fryer
dumbbell alarm clock
handheld espresso maker
hybrid duvet
LED houseplant
robot vacuum cleaner



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____

3 Focus on keywords

Match the underlined words to the definitions below and then put them in the gaps of Part 1 of the article. Read Paragraph A of the article on page six to check your answers.

1. I spend all my money on little **gizmos** because I am always looking for smart, new things. (n)
2. Ever since I took on a second job my life has been completely **hectic**. (adj.)
3. I travelled to Spain this summer and that country is just full of so many **delights**. (adj.)

a. things that give you a lot of pleasure
b. small pieces of equipment that often do things in a way that is new and clever
c. very busy, in a way that is slightly out of control

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Gadgets and appliances

In a world of _____[1] schedules and reduced work-life balance, the use of gadgets and appliances in the household can make our lives just that little bit easier. As technology advances and the range of _____[2] available to us expands, it can be hard to tell which ones can serve us best. So, let's take a journey through our houses and discover what little _____[3] we can find.

4 Reading skills: prediction

You are going to read about the use of gadgets and appliances in three rooms of the house - the kitchen, the living room, and the bedroom. Before reading, think about three ways appliances and gadgets could be useful in that room, then read the article and see if your ideas are there.

Kitchen	Living room	Bedroom
e.g., boil potatoes for dinner	e.g., give you a foot massage after work	e.g., open the curtains in the morning
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.



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5 Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Before checking your predictions let's look at some vocabulary that will help your understanding of the article. Match the following vocabulary to the definitions.

1.	nutrients (n)	a.	a light that goes on and off as it shines
2.	dirt (n)	b.	a substance that makes things dirty e.g., dust, mud
3.	ambiance (n)	c.	the state of being peaceful and calm
4.	fireflies (n)	d.	very clever in the way that something performs a certain task
5.	flickering (v)	e.	the feeling, atmosphere or character of a place
6.	serenity (n)	f.	flying insects with tails that shine in the dark
7.	ingenious (adj.)	g.	coming from creative ideas and perfect for a specific function
8.	encouragement (n)	h.	the act of doing something that helps somebody to keep going
9.	sophisticated (adj.)	i.	substances that allow something to live and help it grow

Part B: Put the vocabulary from Part A into the correct gaps in the following sentences.

1. The _____ I received from my parents was enough to get me through my end of term exams.
2. The _____ of the countryside is perfect in helping me forget my worries.
3. I bought a new air conditioner which I can control from an app on my phone, it is so _____.
4. He spends most of his time eating junk food for dinner and I don't think there are a lot of _____ in those meals.
5. Ever since we had a power cut, the lights on the second floor have been _____.
6. They started playing some jazz in the hope that it would improve the _____ of the place.
7. Jenny had spent the afternoon in the fields and her shoes were completely covered in _____.
8. The group came up with an _____ plan that involved connecting all their phones to one TV screen.
9. As soon as the sun went down, it was obvious how many _____ were living in and around the house.

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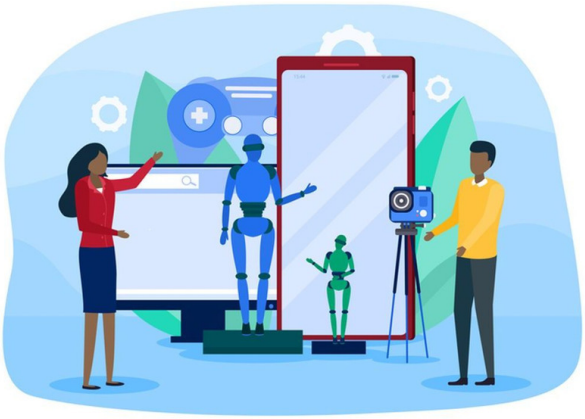
Now with your partner, discuss the following questions.

1. If you are looking for some **encouragement**, who do you go to?
2. Do you think having a good **ambiance** is important for a restaurant or a bar?
3. Do you think that your regular diet provides you with enough **nutrients**?

6 Skimming for general understanding

Read the following paragraph titles for the article on page six. Match them to the correct paragraph, one is not needed.

1. Lazy is as lazy does _____
2. A handy drink _____
3. Sleeping in space _____
4. Helpful household tech _____
5. Lose the grease _____
6. Morning workout _____
7. Automatic cleaning _____
8. Natural illumination _____
9. Cash required _____



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Gadgets and appliances

Little helpers for your busy life

A. In a world of hectic schedules and reduced work-life balance, the use of gadgets and appliances in the household can make our lives just that little bit easier. As technology advances and the range of gizmos available to us expands, it can be hard to tell which ones can serve us best. So, let's take a journey through our houses and discover what little delights we can find.

B. Starting with the kitchen we should go with the air-fryer. If you haven't got yourself one of these yet then you really need to think about splashing out on one. The main advantage of an air-fryer is that it can fry with up to 70% less oil than traditional frying methods and it is a good bit less messy. It also doesn't destroy any of the food's nutrients so you can create healthy meals in little to no time.

C. If you want a lovely cup of coffee to go with your meal but you're struggling for time, then why not use a handheld espresso maker? Take it with you on your walk to work and you can whip it out of your bag in an instant. It can produce strong and creamy shots perfect for that morning pick-me-up.

D. As you head into your living room, you notice your floor has not been dusted and unfortunately you don't have the energy to reach for the broom, perhaps then, it is time to invest in a robot vacuum cleaner. Available these days for less than $100, the cleaner will do everything a human can do, and more! The machine picks up dust and dirt, turns itself before it crashes into a wall, and you can even control it via an app on your phone.

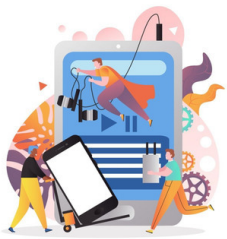
E. If you're a person who likes to add to the ambiance of your living room through the use of lighting, then how about an LED house plant? Made up of leaf shaped LED lights, these unusual plants create a sensation similar to flickering fireflies. Also controllable via an app, you can change the colours, brightness, and movement of each of the hi-tech leaves.

F. After a long day on your feet, the serenity of the bedroom offers the promise of a bit of relief from our aches and pains. Getting a good night's sleep can be tricky, especially if we have a stressful lifestyle, but one thing that might help you is a Hybrid Duvet. This ingenious blanket has temperature-controlling features inspired by astronauts and it knows when you feel too hot or too cold. The filling is made from 100% recycled plastic bottles so you will be doing your bit for the planet while you catch up on some much-needed rest.

G. If you find it difficult to get enough time to exercise, then this next gadget may give you the chance to burn some calories at the start of your day. The dumbbell alarm clock wakes you up and provides you with a chance to do some exercise at the same time. When you put the clever thing in "exercise mode" you will need to lift the dumbbell 30 times to shut off the alarm which might be the encouragement you need to be more active.

H. Each year gadgets and appliances become more sophisticated and if you have money to spare, they might just make your life that little bit more manageable.

Sources: Forbes, Gadgetgram, Android Cure



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7 Reading comprehension

Read the following statements and decide if they are true (T), false (F) or not given (NG).

1. As technology progresses, the range of devices decreases. _____
2. When compared to traditional frying, an air fryer uses only a little bit less oil. _____
3. You can take the handheld espresso maker out of your bag quickly. _____
4. The handheld espresso maker can make a wide range of drinks. _____
5. You can only control the robot vacuum cleaner with its own remote. _____
6. You can control three different things about the LED houseplant. _____
7. The Hybrid Duvet can only keep you cooler. _____
8. To disable the alarm clock, you have to raise the dumbbell 30 times. _____
9. More exercise-related gadgets are available on the market. _____

8 Let's talk

In pairs discuss the following questions.

1. Which of the appliances/gadgets would you most like to buy?
2. Are there any of the devices mentioned that you are not interested in?
3. Do you think you could live without appliances or gadgets in your house?

9 Vocabulary for conversation- Natural language

Look at the expressions from the article with your partner. From the context, try to guess the meaning of each one. Then, to help you remember the language, have a chat with your partner, and use them to talk about your life.

- then you really need to think about **splashing out on one**.
- perfect for **that morning pick-me-up**.
- the bedroom offers the promise of **a bit of relief from our aches and pains**

Let's talk

1. Have you splashed out on any big purchases recently?
2. How do you pick yourself up in the morning?
3. What kind of things can you do to give yourself a bit of relief from aches and pains?

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