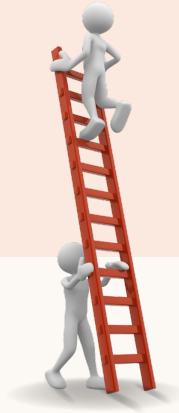


# English Ladder

## Student Workbook

### Concept: To X / For Xing

A polished self-study handout designed for print or tablet use. Read the concept, notice the pattern, and then complete the matching practice set on your own.



Grammar Concepts

Key Points

Further Examples and Pr

Practice Sentences for Non-Native

Summary

#### Visual anchor

Use the concept poster to spotlight the main language pattern in **Concept: To X / For Xing** and keep the explanation visible during practice and discussion.

**ENGLISH LADDER**

Concept 29 ► **To X / For Xing**

Generally, if we say "Y is **for Xing**", we are saying "X" is the primary purpose of "Y". If we want to indicate "X" is a not the main purpose of "Y", we say "I am using Y **to X**."

Primary Purpose	Secondary Purpose
Pens are <b>for writing</b> .	I used the pen <b>to scratch</b> my head.
Keys are <b>for opening</b> locks.	He used the key <b>to open</b> the letter.
Golf clubs are <b>for hitting</b> golf balls.	She used the golf club <b>to fight</b> monsters.

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## Core Idea

Understanding the distinction between "to" and "for" is essential for accurately expressing the purpose of actions and objects in English. This concept helps clarify whether an action is the primary purpose or a secondary use of an object or activity. Let's dive deeper into this grammar concept with more examples and thorough explanations.

### Quick reference

#### Primary Purpose (For Xing)

Pens are for writing. Explanation: The main function of a pen is to write. Example Sentence: She always carries a pen for writing notes during meetings.

#### Secondary Purpose (To X)

I used the pen to scratch my head. Explanation: Scratching my head is not the primary function of a pen; it's a secondary or incidental use. Example Sentence: When I couldn't find anything else, I used the pen to scratch my head.

## Key Points

### Primary Purpose (For Xing)

When we use "for Xing", we indicate that the action is the primary or intended purpose of the object or activity. This form emphasizes the main function or role.

Examples:

- Pens are for writing. Explanation: The main function of a pen is to write. Example Sentence: She always carries a pen for writing notes during meetings.
- Keys are for opening locks. Explanation: The primary purpose of a key is to unlock locks. Example Sentence: Make sure to bring your keys for opening the front door when you get home.
- Golf clubs are for hitting golf balls. Explanation: The main function of a golf club is to hit golf balls in the game of golf. Example Sentence: He bought a new set of golf clubs for hitting golf balls more accurately.
- Knives are for cutting. Explanation: The primary use of a knife is to cut things. Example Sentence: We need a sharp knife for cutting vegetables for dinner.
- Books are for reading. Explanation: The main purpose of a book is to be read. Example Sentence: She borrowed several books from the library for reading over the weekend.
- Phones are for making calls. Explanation: The primary purpose of a phone is to make calls. Example Sentence: He uses his phone for making calls to his family every evening.

### Secondary Purpose (To X)



When we use "to X", we indicate that the action is a secondary, incidental, or unintended use of the object for activity. This form highlights an alternative or less common function.

Examples:

- I used the pen to scratch my head. Explanation: Scratching my head is not the primary function of a pen; it's a secondary or incidental use. Example Sentence: When I couldn't find anything else, I used the pen to scratch my head.
- He used the key to open the letter. Explanation: Opening a letter is not the primary use of a key; it's an unusual or secondary function. Example Sentence: Without a letter opener, he used the key to open the envelope.
- She used the golf club to fight monsters. Explanation: Fighting monsters is not the primary purpose of a golf club; it's an imaginative or secondary use. Example Sentence: In the children's game, she used the golf club to fight monsters in the backyard.
- They used the knife to tighten the screw. Explanation: Tightening a screw is not the main purpose of a knife; it's a secondary or improvisational use. Example Sentence: Lacking a screwdriver, they used the knife to tighten the loose screw.
- We used the book to prop open the door. Explanation: Propping open a door is not the primary function of a book; it's a secondary or practical use. Example Sentence: Since the door kept closing, we used the book to prop it open.
- She used her phone to take a picture of the sunset. Explanation: Taking pictures is a secondary function of a phone; the primary function is making calls. Example Sentence: While on vacation, she used her phone to take a picture of the beautiful sunset.

## Further Examples and Practice

### Primary Purpose (For Xing)

- Cameras are for taking pictures. Example Sentence: They bought a new camera for taking pictures during their trip.
- Computers are for processing information. Example Sentence: His job requires a powerful computer for processing large amounts of data.
- Watches are for telling time. Example Sentence: She wears a watch for telling time while she's at work.
- Shoes are for protecting your feet. Example Sentence: He bought sturdy shoes for protecting his feet during the hike.
- Televisions are for watching shows. Example Sentence: The new television is perfect for watching our favorite shows in high definition.

### Secondary Purpose (To X)



- I used the camera to hold down the papers. Example Sentence: To prevent the papers from flying away, I used the camera to hold them down.
- He used the computer to play games. Example Sentence: After finishing his work, he used the computer to play his favorite games.
- She used the watch to reflect sunlight. Example Sentence: Bored in class, she used the watch to reflect sunlight onto the ceiling.
- They used the shoes to block the door. Example Sentence: They left their shoes by the door and used them to block it from closing completely.
- We used the television to display a slideshow. Example Sentence: At the family reunion, we used the television to display a slideshow of old photos.

### Practice Sentences for Non-Native Speakers

- Write a sentence using "for" to show the primary purpose of a flashlight. Example: Flashlights are for illuminating dark areas.
- Write a sentence using "to" to show a secondary purpose of a ruler. Example: I used the ruler to scratch my back.
- Write a sentence using "for" to show the primary purpose of a refrigerator. Example: Refrigerators are for keeping food fresh.
- Write a sentence using "to" to show a secondary purpose of a chair. Example: He used the chair to stand on and change the light bulb.
- Write a sentence using "for" to show the primary purpose of an umbrella. Example: Umbrellas are for protecting you from the rain.
- Write a sentence using "to" to show a secondary purpose of a stapler. Example: She used the stapler to open the package.

### Summary

Understanding the difference between "to" and "for" helps non-native speakers accurately describe the intended and unintended uses of objects and activities in English. Using "for Xing" indicates the primary purpose, while using "to X" suggests a secondary or incidental use. Practicing with various sentences can solidify this grammar concept and enhance overall language proficiency.



## Practice Check

Answer the quiz questions below with responses consistent with the grammar concepts taught in this article.

### ITEM 01

Flashlights are \_\_\_ dark areas.

- a) to illuminate
- b) for illuminating

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

### ITEM 02

I used the ruler \_\_\_ my back.

- a) to scratch
- b) for scratching

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

### ITEM 03

Refrigerators are \_\_\_ food fresh.

- a) to keep
- b) for keeping

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

### ITEM 04

He used the chair \_\_\_ on and change the light bulb.

- a) to stand
- b) for standing

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 05**

**Umbrellas are \_\_\_ you from the rain.**

- a) to protect
- b) for protecting

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 06**

**She used the stapler \_\_\_ the package.**

- a) to open
- b) for opening

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 07**

**Cameras are \_\_\_ pictures.**

- a) to take
- b) for taking

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 08**

**He used the camera \_\_\_ down the papers.**

- a) to hold
- b) for holding

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_



## ITEM 09

Computers are \_\_\_ information.

- a) to process
- b) for processing

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITEM 10

He used the computer \_\_\_ games.

- a) to play
- b) for playing

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITEM 11

Watches are \_\_\_ time.

- a) to tell
- b) for telling

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## ITEM 12

She used the watch \_\_\_ sunlight.

- a) to reflect
- b) for reflecting

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 13**

**Shoes are \_\_\_ your feet.**

- a) to protect
- b) for protecting

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 14**

**They used the shoes \_\_\_ the door.**

- a) to block
- b) for blocking

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 15**

**Televisions are \_\_\_ shows.**

- a) to watch
- b) for watching

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 16**

**We used the television \_\_\_ a slideshow.**

- a) to display
- b) for displaying

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 17**

**Knives are \_\_\_\_.**

- a) to cut
- b) for cutting

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 18**

**They used the knife \_\_\_\_ the screw.**

- a) to tighten
- b) for tightening

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 19**

**Pens are \_\_\_\_.**

- a) to write
- b) for writing

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 20**

**I used the pen \_\_\_\_ my head.**

- a) to scratch
- b) for scratching

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 21**

**Cars are \_\_\_ people.**

- a) to transport
- b) for transporting

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 22**

**He used the car \_\_\_ his belongings to the new house.**

- a) to move
- b) for moving

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 23**

**Cell phones are \_\_\_ calls.**

- a) to make
- b) for making

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**ITEM 24**

**She used her cell phone \_\_\_ a picture.**

- a) to take
- b) for taking

Correct choice: \_\_\_\_\_



## Self-check Answer Key

Use the key after you have completed every item on your own.

**ITEM 01**

b) for illuminating

**ITEM 02**

a) to scratch

**ITEM 03**

b) for keeping

**ITEM 04**

a) to stand

**ITEM 05**

b) for protecting

**ITEM 06**

a) to open

**ITEM 07**

b) for taking

**ITEM 08**

a) to hold

**ITEM 09**

b) for processing

**ITEM 10**

a) to play

**ITEM 11**

b) for telling

**ITEM 12**

a) to reflect

**ITEM 13**

b) for protecting

**ITEM 14**

a) to block



ITEM 15

b) for watching

ITEM 16

a) to display

ITEM 17

b) for cutting

ITEM 18

a) to tighten

ITEM 19

b) for writing

ITEM 20

a) to scratch

ITEM 21

b) for transporting

ITEM 22

a) to move

ITEM 23

b) for making

ITEM 24

a) to take