

Unit 11 Lesson 2

People and things



Ability

Study *can* and *can't* for ability.

	can	can't
I	I can run.	I can't swim.
you	You can drive a car.	You can't ride a bike.
he	He can speak Russian and Chinese.	He can't draw.
she	She can use a computer.	She can't play the piano.
we	We can play soccer.	We can't speak Japanese.



Can't = cannot. Today, we use *can't* more than *cannot*.

He **can't** run. = He **cannot** run.

Yes/No questions and short answers

Study the questions and short answers with *can*.

question	positive short answer	negative short answer
Can you run a marathon?	Yes, you can .	No, you can't .
Can she play the piano?	Yes, she can .	No, she can't .
Can he write in English?	Yes, he can .	No, he can't .
Can they speak German?	Yes, they can .	No, they can't .

We use *well* and *very well* with *can*.

She can swim **well**.

He can't sing **very well**.

We use *well*, *very well* and *at all* with *can't*.

They can't write **well**.

You can't ski **very well**.

I can't cook **at all**.



Elliot and Clara

Complete the text with *can* or *can't*. Listen and check.



Elliot: For a school project, our teacher asked us to show the class a skill that we have.

Clara: What are you going to do?

Elliot: I don't know. _____ you help me think of an idea?

Clara: Sure. _____ you sing?

Elliot: No, I am a terrible singer.

Clara: _____ you play any instruments?

Elliot: No, I _____. I don't have any musical skills.

Clara: OK, _____ you play any sports?

Elliot: I _____ play hockey and basketball, but I am not very good.

Clara: Hmm, I know! You can speak two languages. _____ you teach the class some French words?

Elliot: Yes, I _____! That's a great idea.

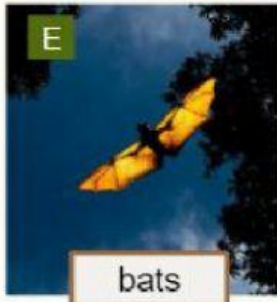
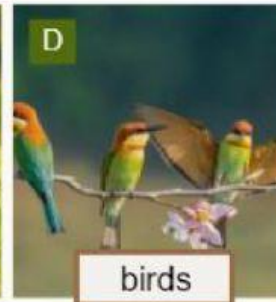
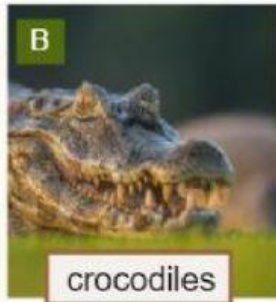
Practice

Complete the sentences with *can* or *can't*.

1. I don't like the beach because I _____ swim well.
2. He studied in France. He _____ speak and read French very well.
3. Brian _____ cook. This hamburger is disgusting!
4. Eric is a carpenter. He _____ make things from wood.
5. I took German lessons for two years. I _____ speak German well.
6. This concert is bad. The band _____ play their instruments at all, and the singer _____ sing!
7. Justin is an artist. He _____ draw, paint and make beautiful things.

Ability

Every animal has an ability. What can it do?



It can run fast!

Complete the sentences with *can* or *can't*. Listen and check.

1. People _____ cry, but animals _____ cry.
2. Birds _____ see colors that humans _____ see.
3. Bats _____ see in the dark, but humans _____ see in the dark.
4. Some animals _____ change the color of their skin, but humans _____ do this.
5. Dogs _____ hear sounds that humans _____ hear.
6. Crocodiles _____ live without food for up to two years. Humans _____ live without food for about two months.
7. Cheetahs _____ run 73 miles per hour. The fastest human _____ run about 27 miles per hour.



Write questions

Write a question for each image.



What can you do?

Ask questions and give answers.

Can you play football?

No, I can't play at all, but I can play tennis very well!