

# ★ ALL STARS ★ ENGLISH IN USE!



## **CAN : PRESENT ABILITY**

- *I can speak English.*
- *She can drive very well.*
- *They can't run today.*

## **COULD : PAST ABILITY**

- *I could ride a bike when I was young.*
- *My dad could speak French at school.*
- *She couldn't drive a car when she was a teenager.*

### **A. Complete with CAN or CAN'T**

1. Tourists \_\_\_\_\_ cross the street at the crosswalk when the pedestrian light is green.
2. You \_\_\_\_\_ walk on the bike lane because it's only for cyclists.
3. Visitors \_\_\_\_\_ buy a MetroCard at most subway entrances.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ cross here because the traffic lights are red.
5. My friend \_\_\_\_\_ find the museum without a map.
6. You \_\_\_\_\_ catch a taxi at the taxi stand.
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ pay with my phone, but I \_\_\_\_\_ use cash because I forgot my wallet.
8. They \_\_\_\_\_ walk five blocks to Central Park from here.
9. She \_\_\_\_\_ tell us which avenue we need to take.
10. We \_\_\_\_\_ stand in the middle of the sidewalk because many people are walking.

### **B. Short Answers**

1. Can you cross the street here? ✓ → \_\_\_\_\_
2. Can tourists walk on the bike lane? ✗ → \_\_\_\_\_
3. Can you buy a MetroCard at the subway station? ✓ → \_\_\_\_\_
4. Can cars drive on the sidewalk? ✗ → \_\_\_\_\_
5. Can visitors ask police officers for directions? ✓ → \_\_\_\_\_
6. Can people cross when the traffic light is red? ✗ → \_\_\_\_\_
7. Can you catch a bus at the bus stop? ✓ → \_\_\_\_\_
8. Can cyclists use the bike lane? ✓ → \_\_\_\_\_
9. Can you stop in the middle of a busy crosswalk? ✗ → \_\_\_\_\_
10. Can tourists pay by card in most stores? ✓ → \_\_\_\_\_



# LISTENING FOR MEANING!

Listen to the four conversations. Complete the tasks below.

What is the speaker doing?

Write the expression you hear and decide how CAN is being used.

| Conversation | Expression                             | Polite Request           | Asking for Permission    |
|--------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1            | <i>can I see your ID?</i>              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1            | <i>can you sign here?</i>              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2            | <i>can I get the chicken sandwich?</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2            | <i>Can I take your order?</i>          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3            | <i>can I get your address?</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3            | <i>Can I e-mail it to you?</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4            | <i>Can I pay by debit card?</i>        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4            | <i>And can I get a receipt?</i>        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## ★ FRIENDLY REMINDER!

Instead of saying **YES**, you can say:

- ✓ Sure.
- ✓ Certainly.
- ✓ Of course.
- ✓ Absolutely.
- ✓ No problem.
- ✓ I'd be glad to.
- ✓ That will work.
- ✓ Can do.

Instead of saying **NO**, you can say:

- ✗ I'm sorry...
- ✗ I'm afraid I can't.
- ✗ I'd rather not.
- ✗ Sorry, I can't because...
- ✗ Unfortunately, I can't.