

Language Tip – Expressing Permission and Prohibition

When we want to talk about permission or prohibition, we usually use 'can' and can't. However, there are other ways to express this.....

In the video:

We go visiting all the tourist spots

The one thing we do is go fishing

Only a few residents remain

Are allowed to Aren't able to Are permitted to

Modals of Permission and Prohibition:

Affirmative – Everyone's **allowed to** speak for five minutes

You **may** start writing once the exam starts

(formal) Visitors **are permitted** between the hours of 10 and 12

Negative - We **weren't allowed to** touch the museum artefacts

You **may not** enter the office while I am on the phone

(formal) Taking photos **is not permitted** in the cathedral

Interrogative – Will we **be allowed to** bring partners to the wedding?

May I take a look at that book you're reading?

(formal) **Is** smoking **permitted** in this building?