

Grammar *can* and *can't* for ability; Degrees of ability

1. Study the grammar.

你好

I'm sorry. I **can't** speak Chinese.
Can you **speak** English?



Degrees of ability

- ♂♂ I can speak English **very well / really well**.
- ♂ I can speak English **well**.
- ♀ I can't speak English **well / very well**.
- ♀♀ I can't speak English **at all**.

Affirmative statements		
I / You / We	can	speak English.
He / She / They		
Negative statements		
I / You / We	can't	speak Chinese.
He / She / They		

yes / no questions				Short answers	
Can	I	ride	a horse?	Yes, I can. / No, I can't.	
	you			Yes, you can. / No, you can't.	
	she			Yes, she can. / No, she can't.	
	he			Yes, he can. / No, he can't.	
	we			Yes, we can. / No, we can't.	
	they			Yes, they can. / No, they can't.	



Language tip • *can't* = *can not*

2. Look at the pictures. Complete each statement. Circle *can* or *can't*.



1. We can / can't speak German!



2. He can / can't sing really well.



3. They can / can't play basketball very well.



4. She can / can't play the piano well.