

# Can & Can't

## Interrogative

Can + I YOU HE SHE IT WE THEY + Verb In infinitive ?  
Can I dance?

Can I dance?

Yes, I YOU HE SHE IT WE THEY can

Can a giraffe dance?

No, I YOU HE SHE IT WE THEY can't

## Questions and negatives

### 4 T 11.2 Listen and repeat the questions and answers.

Can Josh use a computer? Yes, he can.

Can you use a computer? Yes, I can.

Can Lucy draw well? Yes, she can.

Can you draw well? No, I can't. I can't draw at all!

### 5 Ask and answer more questions with a partner. First ask about the people, then ask about your partner.

Can Sharon run fast?

Yes, she can.

Can you run fast?

No, I can't.

## GRAMMAR SPOT

### 1 Can/can't have the same form for all persons.

I/You/He/She/It/We/They can draw.

can't can't = can not = negative

### 2 There is no do/does in the question.

I can speak French. Can you speak French?

### 3 T 11.3 Listen and repeat the different pronunciations of can.

He can /kən/ speak Spanish. They can't /kə:nt/ speak Spanish.

Can /kən/ you speak Spanish? Yes, I can /kæn/.

► Grammar Reference 11.1 p126

6 **T 11.4** Read and listen to Josh and Tessa. Complete the conversation.



7 Answer the questions about Josh.

- 1 What can Josh do?
- 2 What can't Josh do?
- 3 Does he use a computer at school?
- 4 What does he want to be when he's big?
- 5 Why can he speak French well?
- 6 What did he do yesterday?

T Can you use a computer, Josh?

J Yes, of course I can. All my friends can. I use a computer at school and at home.

T That's very good. What other things can you do?

J Well, I can type fast, very fast, and I can draw a bit. I can draw planes and cars very well but I can't drive a car of course. When I'm big I want to be a farmer and drive a tractor.

T And I know you can speak French.

J Yes, I can. I speak French very well because my dad's French. We sometimes speak French at home.

T Can you speak any other languages?

J No, I can't. I can't speak German or Spanish, just French – and English of course! And I can cook! I can make cakes. My grandma makes lovely cakes and I sometimes help her. Yesterday we made a big chocolate cake.

## can/can't

2 Write about you. Write three sentences with *can* and three sentences with *can't*. Use the activities in exercise 1.

- 1 I can draw.
- 2 I can't make a cake.

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3 **T 11.2** Write sentences.

	Bill	Amanda	Jill and Sam
read music	✓	✗	✓
use a computer	✓	✗	✓
ride a horse	✗	✓	✗

- 1 Bill / read music  
Bill can read music.
- 2 Amanda / use a computer  
Amanda can't use a computer.
- 3 Bill / use a computer

4 Bill / ride a horse

5 Amanda / read music

6 Amanda / ride a horse

7 Jill and Sam / read music

8 Jill and Sam / use a computer

9 Jill and Sam / ride a horse

4 **T 11.3** Write questions and answers.

- 1 Amanda / read music?  
A Can Amanda read music? B No, she can't.
- 2 Bill / use a computer?  
A Can Bill use a computer? B Yes, he can.

- 3 Bill / read music?

A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_

- 4 Bill / ride a horse?

A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_

- 5 Amanda / use a computer?

A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_

- 6 Amanda / ride a horse?

A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_

- 7 Jill and Sam / read music?

A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_

- 8 Jill and Sam / use a computer?

A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Jill and Sam / ride a horse?

A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_

5 **T 11.4** Answer the questions about you.

- 1 Can you drive?

2 Can you read music?

3 Can you swim?

4 Can you ski?

5 Can you cook?

6 Can you understand Japanese?