

# 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 /kɑːnt/ 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 \_\_\_\_\_, I use a computer at school and at \_\_\_\_\_.

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

J Well, I can \_\_\_\_\_ fast, very fast, and I can draw a bit. I can draw planes and \_\_\_\_\_ very well but I can't drive a car of course. When I'm big I want to be a farmer and \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_ French at home.

T Can you speak any other languages?

J No, I \_\_\_\_\_. I can't speak German or Spanish, just French – and English of course! And I can cook! I can \_\_\_\_\_ 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.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_

- 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?  
\_\_\_\_\_