

The verb 'can'

Affirmative	Negative		Questions	Short answers
	Long form	Short form		
I can	I cannot	I can't	Can I swim?	Yes, I can. / No, I can't.
You can	You cannot	You can't	Can you swim?	Yes, you can. / No, you can't.
He can	He cannot	He can't	Can he swim?	Yes, he can. / No, he can't.
She can	She cannot	She can't	Can she swim?	Yes, she can. / No, she can't.
It can	It cannot	It can't	Can it swim?	Yes, it can. / No, it can't.
We can	We cannot	We can't	Can we swim?	Yes, we can. / No, we can't.
You can	You cannot	You can't	Can you swim?	Yes, you can. / No, you can't.
They can	They cannot	They can't	Can they swim?	Yes, they can. / No, they can't.

We use can:

- to say what we are able to do in the present. I can run fast.
- to ask for permission to do something. Can I go out, Miss?

7 Write sentences as in the example:



	swim	draw	play baseball	sing	ride a horse
Sam	✓		✓	✓	
Claire and Tom	✓	✓			✓
Mary		✓	✓	✓	
You					

1 Sam can swim, play baseball and sing. He can't draw or ride a horse.

2 Claire and Tom

3 Mary

4 I

8 Look at the prompts. Write questions using Can I?



go / bathroom

Can I go to the bathroom?



open / window

.....



go / party

.....



have / last piece

.....



help / you

.....

► Now, in pairs, ask and answer questions using one of the responses from the box.

Yes, of course.

Certainly.

Sure.

No problem.

No, I'm afraid not.

No, you can't.

A: Can I go to the bathroom?

B: Yes, of course.

9 Put the words in the correct order.

1 got / Melek / hair / has / long

Melek has got long hair.

2 quiet / are / the children

.....

3 computer / can / you / use / the?

.....

4 pencil / got / you / have / a?

.....

5 video camera / she / the / find / cannot

.....

6 has / a mobile phone / got / she / not

.....

10 Fill in the gaps with am, is, are, have (got), can or can't.

Dear Lucy,

My name 1) is Michelle and I 2) 10 years old. I 3) from France.
I 4) long brown hair. My eyes 5) brown. I love ballet
and I 6) dance quite well but I 7) draw very well.

My father 8) a dentist and my mother 9) an engineer.
My father 10) play the guitar but he 11) sing very well. My
mother 12) a great photographer and takes fantastic photos with her
camera. I 13) a brother just like you do and his name
14) Pierre.

This 15) some information about me and my family.

Write back soon.

Michelle





Who am I?

Choose a photo. In pairs, ask and answer questions to find out who you are.



Name	Stella	Lucia	Terry	Tony	Micaela	Haruki
Age	12	12	10	10	12	10
Hair	brown	black	blond	brown	black	black
Abilities	play tennis	play volleyball	play tennis	play volleyball	play basketball	play basketball

Student A: How old are you?

Student B: I'm 12.

Student A: What colour hair have you got?

Student B: I've got black hair.

Student A: What can you do?

Student B: I can play volleyball.

Student A: Are you Lucia?

Student B: Yes, I am.



Writing Activity

Write a short email about yourself to your new e-pal.

Hi!
 I'm (name).
 I'm (age).
 I've got (hair).
 I can What about you?
 Write soon.
