# 19 May I sit here?

## Grammar Station

### Modal Verbs: *Can / May* (Permission)

- We use *can* or *may* to give or ask for permission.
- The modal verbs ***can*** and ***may*** come **before the base verb**.
- *May* is more formal than *can*. We don't use a short form for *may not*.

| Positive | | | Negative | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Subject | Modal Verb | Base Verb | Subject | Modal Verb | Base Verb |
| I / You<br>He / She / It<br>We / They | can<br>may | **watch** TV. | I / You<br>He / She / It<br>We / They | can't<br>may not | **watch** TV. |

| Question | | | Answer | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Modal Verb | Subject | Base Verb | Yes | No |
| Can<br>May | I | **sit** here? | Yes, you **can**/**may**.<br>Sure. / Of course. | No, you **can't**/**may not**.<br>Sorry, you **can't**. |

You **can** use my phone.

You **may not** come in.

**Can** I drink the milk?
– Yes, you **can**.

**May** I take your picture?
– No, you **may not**.

**Circle the correct words.**

1. You ( can / can't ) sit down.
2. You ( may / may not ) read it.
3. You ( can / can't ) eat this.
4. You ( may / may not ) run.





**A Circle the correct words.**

1. You ( can / cans ) go out.
2. You ( can't / don't can ) run here.
3. You ( may / mayn't ) sit here.
4. You ( mays / may ) leave now.
5. You can ( eats / eat ) the snacks.
6. You may ( sit / sits ) on the sofa.
7. You ( cannt / can't ) use the computer.
8. You ( may not touch / may touch not ) the vase.

**B Complete the sentences with *can* or *can't*.**

① X
② O
③ X
④ O
⑤ O
⑥ X

1. You ___can't___ listen to music here.
2. You _____ use the bathroom.
3. You _____ sit on the bench.
4. You _____ read the books.
5. You _____ borrow my umbrella.
6. You _____ wear my new coat.

**C Check the correct answers.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Can I sit here? | ☑ Yes, you can. | ☐ Yes, you can't. |
| 2. May I play outside? | ☐ No, you may. | ☐ No, you may not. |
| 3. Can I take a break? | ☐ Yes, you can. | ☐ Yes, you may not. |
| 4. May I open the door? | ☐ No, you can't. | ☐ No, you can. |
| 5. Can I use your scissors? | ☐ Yes, you may not. | ☐ No, you may not. |

LIVEWORKSHEETS

## Practice

**A** **Complete the sentences.**

1.
( may / jump )
You ___may___ ___not___ ___jump___ in the elevator.

2.
( can / open )
You _____ _____ the window.

3.
( may / speak )
You _____ _____ _____ loudly.

4.
( can / use )
You _____ _____ my pencil.

**B** **Match the questions with the correct answers.**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. May I go now? • | • Sure, come in and take a seat. |
| 2. Can I swim here? • | • Yes. What is your question? |
| 3. Can I use your phone? • | • Of course. Here you are. |
| 4. May I come in? • | • Sure. See you tomorrow. |
| 5. Can I ask a question? • | • No, you can't. It's too deep. |

**C** **Correct the underlined words and rewrite the sentences.**

1. You <u>use can</u> my smartphone. → ___You can use my smartphone.___
2. You <u>mayn't</u> touch this painting. → _____
3. You <u>brings may</u> your pet. → _____
4. Can I <u>borrows</u> your scarf? → _____
5. May <u>uses I</u> your computer? → _____



## Grammar in Writing

When you ask for permission, you can use *can* or *may*.

**Complete the comic strip dialogue using *can* or *may*.**

**Review!**

**Complete the chart.**

| Positive | Negative | Question |
|---|---|---|
| You can eat snacks. | You ___can't eat___ snacks. | ___Can I eat___ snacks? |
| You can go home. | You _____ home. | _____ home? |
| You may sit here. | You _____ here. | _____ here? |
| You may watch TV. | You _____ TV. | _____ TV? |

LIVEWORKSHEETS