

3 LANGUAGE FOCUS • can for ability • Questions with How ... ?

can for ability

1 ★ Complete the table with the words.

can can't Can can't can swim

Affirmative

I/You/He/She/It/We/
You/They **can** swim.

Negative

I/You/He/She/It/We/
You/They **can't** swim.

Questions

² I / you / he / she / it / we / you / they ³ ?

Short answers

Affirmative

Yes, I / you / he / she / it /
we / you / they ⁴ .

Negative

No, I / you / he / she / it /
we / you / they ⁵ .

2 ★★ Look at the pictures. Then complete the sentences with **can** or **can't** and a verb.

dance fly make move
play run speak swim



It **can't move** fast.



1 She **can make** clothes.



2 Help! I **can't swim**!



3 We **can dance** salsa.



4 Oh no! He **can't play** a musical instrument.



5 She **can play** a musical instrument.



6 He **can speak** English.



7 They **can run** fast.

3 ★★ Write questions with **can**. Then answer the questions.

you / play basketball / ?

Can you play basketball? No, I can't.

1 your best friend / run fast / ?

2 your parents / speak French / ?

3 you / communicate with animals / ?

4 an octopus / fly / ?

Questions with How ... ?

4 ★★ Order the words to make questions. Then match the answers.

2.7 metres 40 km an hour 64 million 100 kg
about 130 years old -34°C

old / how / Eiffel Tower / the / is / ?
How old is the Eiffel Tower?
About 130 years old.

1 fast / how / elephant / run / an / can / ?

2 cold / the North Pole / is / how / ?

3 heavy / how / panda / is / a / ?

4 many / people / how / there / are / in / the UK / ?

5 can / tall / how / ostrich / grow / an / ?

5 ★★ Write sentences about your friends and family with **can** and **can't**.

My mum can speak German, but she can't speak English.