

5C can and can't

We use *can* and *can't* to talk about:

- ability.

I can swim.

My brother can play the guitar.

I can't speak Italian.

My sister can't cook.

- possibility.

You can make money from your hobby.

It can snow here in the winter.

You can't get there by bus.

- permission.

You can take my umbrella.

We can sit here.

We can't park on this street.

You can't use this gym if you're not a member.

To make questions with *can*, we put *can* before the subject. We use the same form for all people.



5.8 I / you / he / she / it / we / they

+

I **can play** the piano.

They **can go** to the city by bus.

We **can finish** work early today.

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She **can't speak** Japanese.

They **can't work** at night.

You **can't walk** on the grass.

?

Can she **play** the guitar?

Can you **come** to my party?

Can we **park** the car here?

Y/N

Yes, we **can**. / No, we **can't**.

Look! The full form of *can't* is *cannot*. We don't often use *cannot*; *can't* is the usual negative form.

I can't meet you tonight. NOT ~~*I cannot meet you tonight.*~~

- 2** Write short answers to the questions about the people in exercise 1.

	Craig	Helen	Manuel	Silvia
cook	✓	✓	x	✓
play tennis	✓	x	✓	x
drive	✓	✓	✓	x
speak French	x	x	x	✓

- 1 Can Silvia drive? _____
- 2 Can Craig play tennis? _____
- 3 Can Helen cook? _____
- 4 Can Manuel speak French? _____
- 5 Can Helen and Silvia play tennis? _____
- 6 Can Craig and Manuel drive? _____