

## Grammar Station

## Modal Verb: Can (Ability)

- We use **can** to talk about ability. It comes **before the base verb**.
- We use **can't (= cannot)** to make negative sentences.
- We put **can** before the subject to make yes/no questions.

| Positive                              |            |               | Negative                              |                             |               |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Subject                               | Modal Verb | Base Verb     | Subject                               | Modal Verb                  | Base Verb     |
| I / You<br>He / She / It<br>We / They | <b>can</b> | <b>dance.</b> | I / You<br>He / She / It<br>We / They | <b>can't<br/>(= cannot)</b> | <b>dance.</b> |

| Question   |                                       |               | Answer |                                        |               |
|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| Modal Verb | Subject                               | Base Verb     | Yes/No | Subject                                | Modal Verb    |
| <b>Can</b> | I / You<br>He / She / It<br>We / They | <b>dance?</b> | Yes,   | you / I<br>he / she / it<br>you / they | <b>can.</b>   |
|            |                                       |               | No,    |                                        | <b>can't.</b> |



I can ride a bike.  
I can't drive a car.



He can play the piano.  
He can't play the violin.



Can you swim?  
- Yes, I can.



Can they speak Chinese?  
- No, they can't.

## Write the correct letters.



- ☐ a I can skate.
- ☐ b An eagle can fly.
- ☐ c My friend can't skate.
- ☐ d A penguin can't fly.



## A Circle the correct words.

- I ( can / cans ) jump high.
- He ( can / cans ) run fast.
- We ( cannot / don't can ) ski.
- I ( can't / can't ) speak French.
- It can ( climb / climbs ) trees.
- They can ( play / plays ) chess.
- A ( Can you fly / Do you can fly ) a kite? B Yes, I ( can / can't ).
- A ( Can they ride / Do they can ride ) bikes? B No, they ( can / can't ).

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



- The eagle can't swim.
- The monkeys can climb trees.
- The zebra can run fast.
- The lion can fly.
- The hippos can't jump high.

## C Complete the answers.



- A Can he swim?

B No, he can't.



- A Can she sing well?

B Yes, she can sing well.



- A Can the boys skate?

B No, they can't skate.

A Choose and complete the sentences using *can* or *can't*.speak    ~~open~~    walk    carry    play

- I don't have the key. I can't open the door.
- We practice the violin every day. We \_\_\_\_\_ the violin well.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ the box. He needs some help.
- My friend Mika is from Japan. She \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese.
- My baby brother is six months old. He \_\_\_\_\_ yet.

## B Complete the answers.

- 

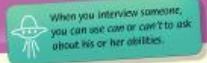

A Can Cathy snowboard? (ski)  
 B No, she can't. But she can ski.
- 


A Can the parrot sing? (talk)  
 B No, it \_\_\_\_\_. But it \_\_\_\_\_.
- 


A Can the girls play chess? (play soccer)  
 B No, they \_\_\_\_\_. But they \_\_\_\_\_.

## C Change and complete the sentences.

- You can drive a car. → Question Can you drive a car?
- I can answer the question. → Negative \_\_\_\_\_ the question.
- They can speak Chinese. → Question \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese?
- She can draw her dog. → Negative \_\_\_\_\_ her dog.
- He can make cookies. → Question \_\_\_\_\_ cookies?



## Complete the interview.

| Ability               | Amy | Alex | Paula | Billy | Tim |
|-----------------------|-----|------|-------|-------|-----|
| pass the ball well    | ✓   |      |       |       |     |
| dribble the ball well |     |      | ✓     |       |     |
| jump high             |     |      |       | ✓     | ✓   |
| shoot the ball well   | ✓   | ✓    |       |       |     |

Let's start, Amy. Can you pass the ball well?

Yes, I can.

\_\_\_\_\_ you dribble the ball well?

No, I can't. Paula \_\_\_\_\_ dribble the ball well.

Can she jump high?

\_\_\_\_\_.

Billy and Tim \_\_\_\_\_ jump high.

\_\_\_\_\_ they shoot the ball well?

No, they can't. Alex and I can \_\_\_\_\_ well.

Great! You're a good team.



## Review!

## Complete the chart.

| Positive                  | Negative                     | Question                   |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| You can fly a kite.       | You <u>can't fly</u> a kite. | <u>Can you fly</u> a kite? |
| He can ride a bike.       | He _____ a bike.             | _____ a bike?              |
| She can cook very well.   | She _____ very well.         | _____ very well?           |
| We can catch balls.       | We _____ balls.              | _____ balls?               |
| They can play the guitar. | They _____ the guitar.       | _____ the guitar?          |