★ ALL STARS ★ ENGLISH IN USE!

CAN = PRESENT ABILITY

- *I can speak English.*
- *She can drive very well.*
- *They can't run today.*

COULD = PAST ABILITY

- *I could ride a bike when I was young.*
- *My dad could speak French at school.*
- *She couldn't drive a car when she was a teenager.*

A. Complete with CAN or CAN'T

1. Tourists _____ cross the street at the crosswalk when the pedestrian light is green.
2. You _____ walk on the bike lane because it's only for cyclists.
3. Visitors _____ buy a MetroCard at most subway entrances.
4. We _____ cross here because the traffic lights are red.
5. My friend _____ find the museum without a map.
6. You _____ catch a taxi at the taxi stand.
7. I _____ pay with my phone, but I _____ use cash because I forgot my wallet.
8. They _____ walk five blocks to Central Park from here.
9. She _____ tell us which avenue we need to take.
10. We _____ stand in the middle of the sidewalk because many people are walking.

B. Short Answers

1. Can you cross the street here? ✔ → _____
2. Can tourists walk on the bike lane? ✘ → _____
3. Can you buy a MetroCard at the subway station? ✔→ _____
4. Can cars drive on the sidewalk? ✘ → _____
5. Can visitors ask police officers for directions? ✔ → _____
6. Can people cross when the traffic light is red? ✘ → _____
7. Can you catch a bus at the bus stop? ✔ → _____
8. Can cyclists use the bike lane? ✔ → _____
9. Can you stop in the middle of a busy crosswalk? ✘ → _____
10. Can tourists pay by card in most stores? ✔ → _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LISTENING FOR MEANING!

Listen to the four conversations. Complete the tasks below.

What is the speaker doing?
Write the expression you hear and decide how CAN is being used.

Conversation	Expression	Polite Request	Asking for Permission
1	*can I see your ID?*	☐	☐
1	*can you sign here?*	☐	☐
2	*can I get the chicken sandwich?*	☐	☐
2	*Can I take your order?*	☐	☐
3	*can I get your address?*	☐	☐
3	*Can I e-mail it to you?*	☐	☐
4	*Can I pay by debit card?*	☐	☐
4	*And can I get a receipt?*	☐	☐

★ FRIENDLY REMINDER!

*Instead of saying **YES**, you can say:*
- ✔ *Sure.*
- ✔ *Certainly.*
- ✔ *Of course.*
- ✔ *Absolutely.*
- ✔ *No problem.*
- ✔ *I'd be glad to.*
- ✔ *That will work.*
- ✔ *Can do.*

*Instead of saying **NO**, you can say:*
- ✘ *I'm sorry...*
- ✘ *I'm afraid I can't.*
- ✘ *I'd rather not.*
- ✘ *Sorry, I can't because...*
- ✘ *Unfortunately, I can't.*

LIVEWORKSHEETS