

Modals

Can

1)Present ability

I can run fast.

She can swim.

He can drive a four wheeler.

I can operate a computer.

Raju can type fast.

I can lift this table.

2)Can't is used to talk about present inability.

I can't run fast.

She can't swim.

He can't drive a four wheeler.

I can't operate a computer.

Raju can't type fast.

I can't lift this table.

3)In positive Yes/No questions to know about someone's ability.

Can you type fast?

Yes,I can.

No,I can't.

Can you run fast?

Can she speak English?

Can he drive a four wheeler?

Yes,he can.

No,he can't.

4) In negative Yes/No questions
to show surprise or anger.

Can't you speak English?

Can't you sit silently.

Can't he drive a four wheeler?

Can't she swim?

Can't you ride a bike?

5.To make a request.
(Informal)

Can you give me your book?

Sure/Yes,of course.

No,I can't.

Can you please drop me at
college?

Can you turn on the
fan,please?

Can you take me there?

6)To take and give permission.

(Informal)

Can I ask you a question?

Yes,you can/Yes,of course.You can/Yes,you may.

No,you can't/No,you may not.

Can I take your book?

Can I glance through the book?

Can we sit here?

Can I talk to you a minute?

7)To talk about possibility or suggest a possible action.

Anybody can learn English.

You can get it anywhere.

You can go walking.It is nearby.

We can stay at hotel.

We can go to zoo park.

Smoking can cause cancer.

8)In WH questions in different situations.

What can I do for you?

Where can I get it?

How can I go there?

Who can solve the problem?

When can I get it?

Why can't you go there?

9)Used in polite offers of help.

Can I help you?

Yes,please/No,thanks.

Can I drop you there?

Note:Shall is usually used to make offers in this context.

Modals(for practice)

To know about someone's ability

1	2	3
Can	you	speak English
	he	run fast?
	she	walk fast?
	Raju	type fast?
	your father	sing well?
	your brother	dance well?
	your friend	cook well?
	your parents	drive a four wheeler?
	your brothers	swim?
	your friends	lift the table?
		operate a computer?

Reply:

Yes,I can/No,I can't.

Yes,he can/No,he can't.

Yes,she can/No,she can't.

Yes,they can/No,they can't.

Modals(for practice)

To make a request

1	2	3
Can	you	come with me?
		help me?
		drop me at college,please?
		please bring vegetables for us?
		give me the book?
		take me there?
		do it for me?
		wait for me,please?
		you turn on the fan?
		you book the tickets for us?

Reply:

Yes,of course/Sure/
Yes,of course,why
not?/Sure,why not?

No,I can't.

Modals(for practice)

To take and give permission

1	2	3
Can	I	come with you?
	we	take this book?
		ask you a question?
		practise with you?
		use your mobile?
		sit here?
		glance through the book?
		talk to you a minute?
		put it here?

Reply:

Yes,you can/No,you can't.

Yes,of course.You can.

Yes,you may/No,you may not.