

English grammar

can / can't

ability



can / can't

AFFIRMATIVE

I can

You can

He can

She can

It can

We can

You can

They can



can / can't

Parrots
can talk



ability

can / can't

Kangaroos
can jump



ability

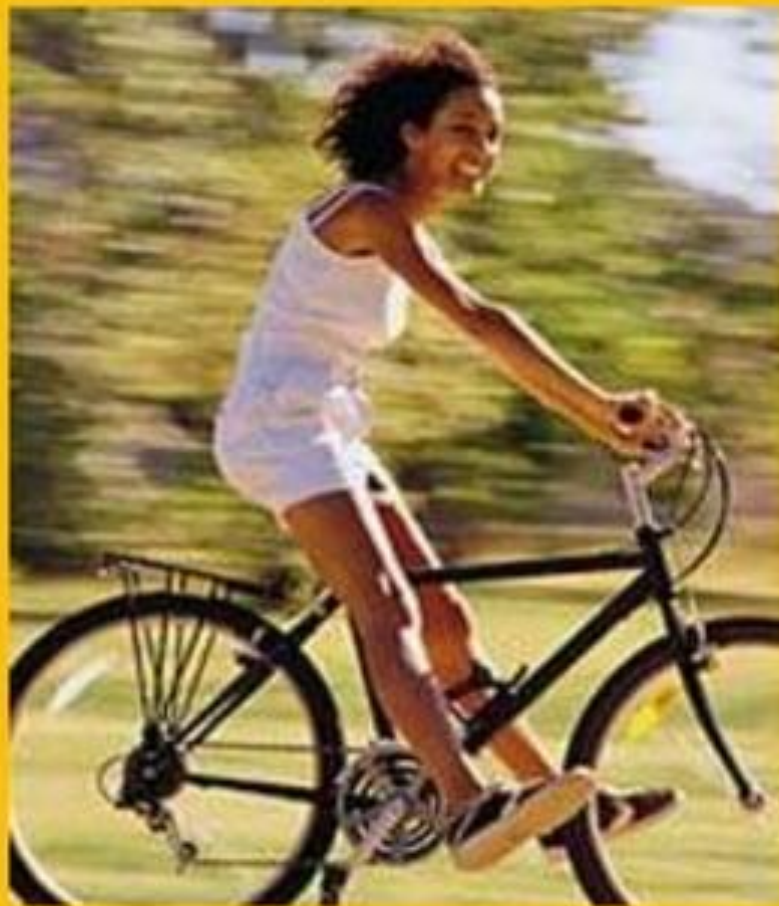
My brother **can** **play** the piano.



Michael Phelps can swim very well.

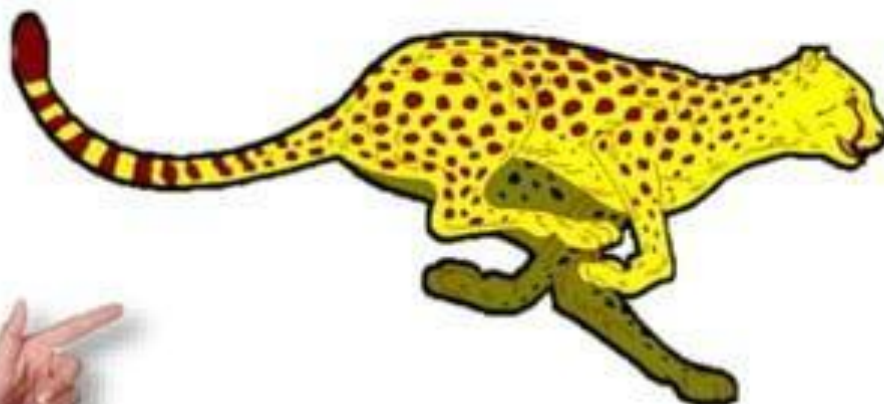


The girl **can** **ride** a bike.



can / can't

Cheetahs **can**
run very fast



ability

can / can't

Dolphins **can**
swim



ability

can / can't

NEGATIVE

I can't
You can't
He can't
She can't
It can't
We can't
You can't
They can't



can / can't

Parrots
can't swim



ability

The babies can't read.



He can't run 10 km.



can / can't

Kangaroos
can't talk



ability

can / can't

Dolphins **can't**
run



ability

can / can't

Elephants
can't jump



ability

can / can't

INTERROGATIVE

QUESTIONS

Can I? **

Can you?

Can he?

Can she?

Can it?

Can we?

Can you?

Can they?

SHORT ANSWERS

Yes, I can

No, I can't

Yes, he/she/it can

No, he/she/it can't

Yes, we/you/they can

No, we/you/they can't



can / can't

Can dolphins
swim?

Yes, they
can



ability

can / can't

Can elephants
jump?

No, they
can't



ability

can / can't

Can kangaroos
fly?

No, they
can't



ability

can / can't

Can parrots
talk?

Yes, they
can



ability

English grammar

can / can't

permission



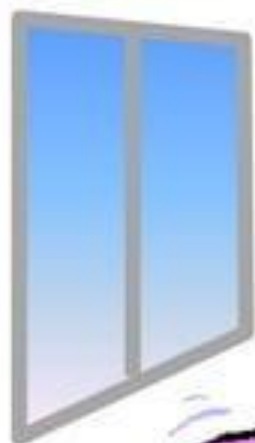
can / can't

Can I clean the
blackboard,
please?



permission

can / can't



**Can I open
the window,
please?**

permission

can / can't



**Can I sharpen my
pencil, please?**



permission

can / can't



**Can I go to the
toilet, please?**



permission

English grammar

can / can't

request

Please do it



Requests

- And we use "can" to ask somebody to do something!
- Can you, please?

Can you close the door, please?



Can you turn on the lights, please?



Can you pass me some water, please?



English grammar

can / can't

Possibilities

It is possible for me



The girls can go to the party on Friday but, they can't go to the party on Tuesday.



They can't smoke here.
(it's not allowed)



USES OF CAN

1. ability or possibility

- I can swim.

2. permission

- You can use my pen.

Simple Present Tense

CAN + VERB * * Base form of the infinitive

He can speak English. ✓

He can speaks English. ✗ No S

He can to speak English. ✗ No TO

AFFIRMATIVE

SINGULAR

I	can	speak English.
You	can	ride a bike.
He	can	drive a car.
She	can	play the guitar.
It	can	swim.

NEGATIVE

I	can't	speak French.
You	can't	ride a horse.
He	can't	drive a truck.
She	can't	play the piano.
It	can't	fly.

PLURAL

We	can	play football.
You	can	see the stars.
They	can	dance.

We	can't	play tennis.
You	can't	see germs.
They	can't	sing.

QUESTIONS

+ Affirmative They **can** speak Spanish.

? Question **Can** they speak Spanish?

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

CONTRACTION

can't = cannot

He *can't* sing.
= He *cannot* sing.

can / can't

