



can and **could**



He **can play** the piano.



can + *infinitive* (**can do**
can play
can come)

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

can
can't (cannot)

do
play
see
come etc.

can

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

do?
play?
see?
come? etc.

I **can** do something = *I know how to do it*

- ▶ I **can play** the piano. My brother **can play** the piano too.
- ▶ Sarah **can speak** Italian, but she **can't speak** Spanish.
- ▶ A: **Can** you swim?
B: Yes, but I'm not a very good swimmer.
- ▶ A: **Can** you change twenty pounds?
B: I'm sorry. I **can't**.
- ▶ I'm having a party next week, but Anna and Paul **can't come**.



For the past(yesterday / last week), we use
could / couldn't

- When I was young, I **could run** very fast.
- I was tired last night, but I **couldn't sleep**.
- Before Maria came to Britain, she **couldn't understand** much English. But she **can understand** everything.

Can you...? Could you..? Can I ..? Could I....?

- ▶ We use **Can you....?** or **Could you...?** when we ask people to do things:
Can you open the door, please? or Could you open the door, please?
Can you wait a moment, please? or Could you wait.....?
- ▶ We use **Can I have ...?** or **Can I get ...?** to ask for something:
Can I have a glass of water, please? or Can I get.....?
- ▶ **Can I?** or **Could I ...?** = is it OK to do something?
Can I sit here?
Tom, could I borrow your umbrella?

Vocabulary

enable

- ▶ разрешать, давать возможность, делать возможным, облегчать, создавать возможность

verb: to make someone able to do something, or to make something possible.

- ▶ Computerization should **enable** us to cut production costs by half.

verb: to allow or make it possible for someone to behave in a way that damages them.

- ▶ It is wrong to **enable** or support any addict to become re-addicted to any drug.
- ▶ Parents must always ask themselves if they are **enabling** their child's drug use.

verb: to make someone or something able to do something by providing whatever is necessary to achieve that aim.

- ▶ Saving enough money now will **enable** you to retire comfortably.

engage

- ▶ заниматься, привлекать, вступать, вовлекать, включать

verb: *to employ someone.*

- ▶ I have **engaged** a secretary to deal with all my paperwork.

verb: *to interest someone in something and keep them thinking about it.*

- ▶ The debate about food safety has **engaged** the whole nation.

verb: *to become involved, or have contact, with someone or something.*

- ▶ She's an intelligent child but in class she doesn't really **engage**.

verb: *to make one part of a machine fit into and move together with another part of a machine.*

- ▶ When the large gear wheel **engages** (with the smaller one), the mill stone will start to go round.

entertain

- ▶ **развлекать, принимать, угощать, питать, занимать, поддерживать**

verb: *to keep a group of people interested or enjoying themselves.*

- ▶ We hired a magician to **entertain** the children.
- ▶ Most children's television programmes aim to educate and **entertain** at the same time.

verb: *to invite someone to your home and give food and drink to them.*

- ▶ We **entertain** a lot of people, mainly business associates of my wife's.
- ▶ Now that I live on my own, I don't **entertain** much.

verb: *to hold something in your mind or to be willing to consider or accept something.*

- ▶ The General refused to **entertain** the possibility of defeat.

convince

- ▶ убеждать, уверять, доводить до сознания

verb: *to persuade someone or make someone certain.*

- ▶ He managed to **convince** the jury of his innocence.
- ▶ It's useless trying to **convince** her (that) she doesn't need to lose any weight.
- ▶ I hope this will **convince** you to change your mind.

verb: *to cause someone to believe something or to do something:*

- ▶ We tried to **convince** my grandfather to live with us.
- ▶ I'm **convinced** (that) she's lying.

consider

- ▶ рассматривать, учитывать, считать, принимать во внимание, полагать, считаться

verb: to spend time thinking about a possibility or making a decision.

- ▶ Don't make any decisions before you've **considered** the situation.
- ▶ We're **considering** selling the house.

verb: to give attention to a particular subject or fact when judging something else.

- ▶ You've got to **consider** the time element when planning the whole project.
- ▶ If you **consider** how long he's been learning the piano, he's not very good.

verb: to believe someone or something to be, or think of him, her, or it as something.

- ▶ He is currently **considered** (to be) the best British athlete.
- ▶ We don't **consider** her to be right for the job.