

CAN, COULD AND CAN'T

1 GRAMMAR EXPLANATION

Task 1: Read the explanation of when to use can and could.

"Can / Could"
We use "can" to ask to do something. Example: Can I open the window, please? For questions and requests, "could" is the same as "can" but it is more polite. Example: Could I open the window, please?
"Can".
We also use "can" to tell other people they are allowed do something: Example: Students can always ask questions during the class.

Task 2: Read about how to use negative form.

Can't
We use "can't" to say what you must not do.

Task 3: In your own words, summarise when you should use can, could, and can't.



2 LET'S MAKE SENTENCES AND QUESTIONS

Study how to form questions and sentences with the can and could.

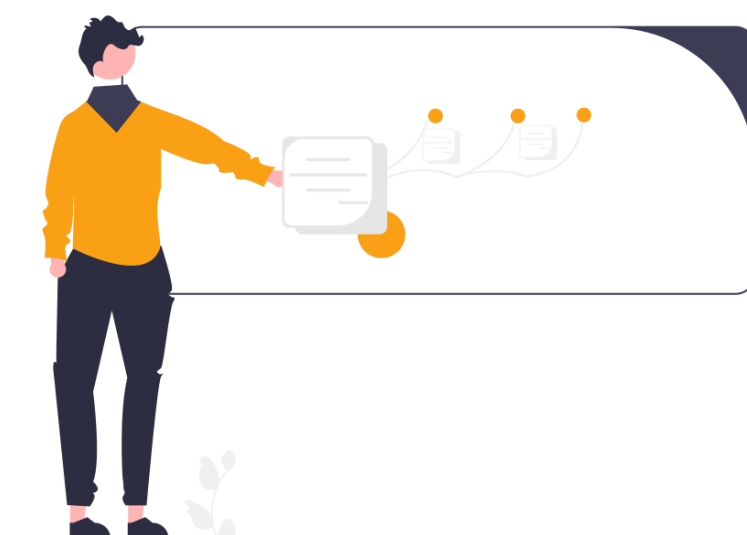
Questions with using can or could.		
Can Could	I you he she it we they	+ infinitive + ?

Positive and negative statements.		
I You He She It We They	can	+ infinitive
	can't	

Task 1: Work in pairs to create five questions using "can" and "could".

Task 2: Work individually and create 5 positive sentences using "can" and "could".

Task 3: Work individually and create 5 negative sentences using "can't".



3 PICTURE ROUND

Look at the pictures and ask for permission using “can” or “could”.

	_____?
	_____?
	_____?
	_____?
	_____?

4 COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

Complete the sentences using; can, could or can't. Some of the answers may be open to interpretation so explain why you chose each verb.

1. _____ I use your pencil? Mine is broken.
2. Sorry, but you _____ talk in the library. Please be quiet.
3. _____ I borrow your car for today?
4. The teacher said we _____ leave the classroom early today.
5. I'm afraid you _____ bring your pet to school. It's against the rules.
6. _____ I answer the phone?
7. You _____ eat here. Please go outside of the classroom.
8. _____ you contact your teacher outside school?
9. Teachers _____ park their cars here. The parking spot is for the principal.
10. _____ I ask you something after class?
11. _____ we stay up a little later tonight?
12. Sorry, but you _____ bring your dog to our house. My mom is afraid of dogs.

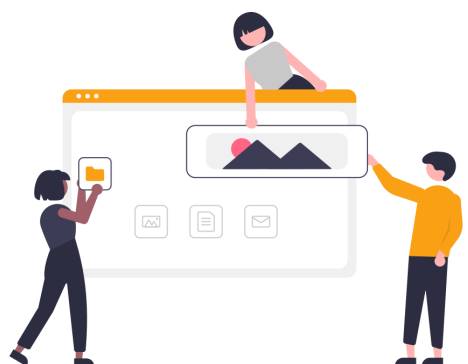


5 COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

Complete the sentences using can, could or can't, and a verb from the grid below.

talk	open	play	sleep	park	go
eat	choose	drink	watch	send	run

1. You _____ here. Please go to the playground.
2. _____ we _____ some chips in class?
3. The children _____ T.V for 30 minutes before they have to go to bed.
4. I _____ on holiday because I lost my passport.
5. The students _____ at school. Running is only allowed outside.
6. _____ students _____ during break time? We're tired.
7. Children _____ coffee. The parents don't let them.
8. You _____ your car in front of our house! Please go somewhere else.
9. _____ I _____ you an email?
10. _____ we _____ all the windows, please? It's so hot today.
11. You _____ a cake and an ice cream. Pick one. .
12. You _____ in the library.



6 CORRECT THE MISTAKES

Correct any mistakes you find. Be careful as not all the sentences have mistakes.

1. Can I opens the window, please?
2. Students can't always ask questions during class.
3. You can eat in English class.
4. Can I bring my dog to the restaurant?
5. Students can't use their cell phones during class.
6. Can I takes a break from studying?
7. Could we calling the doctor later today?
8. Can you coming to my house tonight?
9. Some animals can't traveling on the train.
10. We can go there without asking the teachers first.
11. Could I be use your phone, please?
12. We can ride bikes inside the house.





7 CONVERSATIONS

Complete the conversations using; can, can't or could.

Billy: _____ I borrow your phone, please? Mine is not working.

Jen: Sure. Here you go.

Billy: _____ I have your password?

Jen: Yes, it's 3455.

Billy: Thanks. Wow! What is this picture on your phone?

Jen: Hey, stop! You _____ look at the pictures on my phone!

Conversation 2:

James: Hey, _____ I borrow your bike for a quick ride?

Kelly: Yes, you _____ borrow it. Be careful there is a lot of traffic.

James: Thanks. _____ I take it for 30 minutes?

Kelly: Sure, take your time.

James: Great, thanks! _____ I use your bike lock?

Conversation 3:

Ian: _____ I have some water, please?

Sarah: Of course. You _____ get a glass of water from the kitchen.

Ian: Ok, thank you.

Sarah: Remember, you _____ bring water into class.

Ian: No problem. I will only drink water in the kitchen.

Sarah: Great. Please _____ you close the door?

8 WRITING PRACTICE

Rewrite the sentences using the words in brackets.

1. It is not allowed to park here. (*can't*)

2. May I call my sister, please? (*could*)

3. Is it ok if I go outside now? (*can*)

4. Is it possible to bring food to the library? (*can*)

5. Children are not allowed to bring phones to school. (*can't*)

6. Using your phone is not allowed in class. (*can't*)

7. Is it ok if we join you for lunch? (*can*)

8. Will I get a ticket if I park my car here? (*can*)

9. I would like one more piece of cake, please. (*could*)

10. Students are free to ask questions at any time. (*can*)



9 SPEAKING PRACTICE

Task 1: Study the “School Rules” poster and say what students can and can’t do.



Task 2: Make questions based on the poster using **can** or **could**.

- For example, can the students ask questions?

Task 3: Answer the questions created in task 2 using **can** or **can't**.

- For example, yes, the students can ask questions.

