



General English - Beginner

Unit 11: We can! We can do it!

Objectives

- Grammar: can/can't; Adverbs of manner
- Vocabulary: Adjective + noun (2)
- Everyday Language: Daily problems
- Reading: The Smartphone



1. What are you good at? Tick (✓).

- ☐ dancing
- ☐ swimming
- ☐ singing
- ☐ making cakes
- ☐ playing computer games
- ☐ playing a musical instrument

2. Talk about what you are and aren't good at.

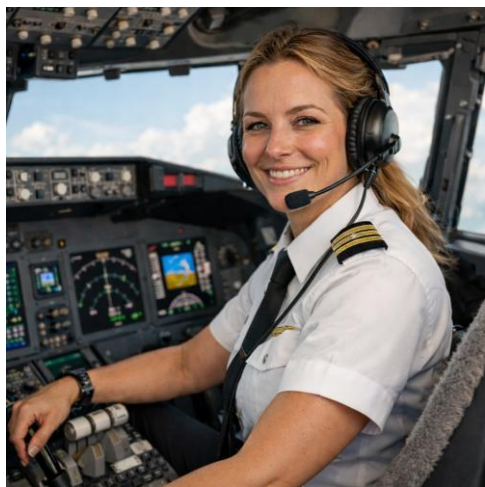
I'm good at ... , but I'm not good at ...

1. Match the words and the photos.

athlete | dad | mechanic | pilot | musician | schoolgirl | interpreter



1. _____.



2. _____.



3. _____.



5. _____.



4. _____.



6. _____.



7. _____.

Let's check!

2. Complete the sentences with a word from 1.

- 1. Marcus is a/an _____. He can speak Norwegian and Spanish fluently.
- 2. Cheryl is a/an _____. She can play the violin really well.
- 3. Dennis is a/an _____. He can run very fast.
- 4. Liam is Brian's _____. He can tell fantastic stories about his youth.
- 5. Juan is a/an _____. He can mend cars.
- 6. Lilly is a/an _____. She can write interesting stories.
- 7. Anita is a/an _____. She can fly an Airbus A321.

3. Say what you can do from 1.

I can play many musical instruments.

I can speak Japanese.

1. Listen and repeat the questions and answers.  11.2

Can Marcus **speak** Spanish? Yes, he **can**.
Can you **speak** Spanish? No, I **can't**.
Can Leo **make** cakes? Yes, he **can**.
Can you **make** cakes? No, I **can't**. I **can't** cook at all!

2. Ask your teacher if s/he can do the following.
Then, report it.

Can you play the guitar?

My teacher Jane can't play the guitar but she can play the violin.

- play the guitar?
- ride a bike?
- swim well?
- type emails fast?
- speak / ...?
- drive / ...?
- cook / ...?
- use / ...?

LANGUAGE FOCUS

1. **Can / can't** have the same form for all persons.

I / You / He / She / It / We / They	can can't	_____
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_____ speak Korean.

For Grammar reference, see page 12.

Of course I can!

3. Read and listen to Lucy and her grandad, James. Complete the conversation.  11.4

James: Lucy, you're really good at using the computer. I can't do that. Can you do lots of things on it?

Lucy: Of course I 1. _____, Grandad! I can play lots of games on it. My favourite game is Minecraft – you can build your own house. It's great!

J: Wow! Can you build a house for me?

L: Of course I can. I 2. _____ make a really big one for you with six bedrooms.

J: Six bedrooms – amazing! What other things can you 3. _____ on your computer?

L: Lots and lots. I can do my maths homework and write stories. Sometimes I 4. _____ my stories to my friends, and I can chat to my friends, too.

J: Wow! That is clever. Now, your mum says you 5. _____ speak a little French?

L: Don't tell Mum, but I'm terrible at French. I 6. _____ speak it at all. But my friend Helen can speak French really well because her mum's French. They 7. _____ French at home all the time.

J: Well, you can learn from Helen. 8. _____ you speak any other languages?

L: No, I 9. _____. Can you speak French, Grandad?

J: No, I can't, but I can speak German. What other things can you do?

L: I can cook! I can 10. _____ delicious cakes! Dad makes great cakes, and sometimes I help him. Yesterday we made a really big chocolate cake!

J: Mmm! Can I have some?

L: Of course you can.



4. Answer the questions about Lucy.

1. What can Lucy do? What can't she do?
2. What is her favourite game?
3. Who can speak French well?
4. What language can Lucy's grandad speak?
5. What did Lucy do yesterday?

Practice I He can speak Portuguese very well!

1. Bobby Boyd is Irish, but he lives in Lisbon, in Portugal. Listen and 11.5 tick (✓) the things he can do. Can Bobby ... ?

1. ☐ speak Portuguese
2. ☐ speak German
3. ☐ ride a horse
4. ☐ surf
5. ☐ sing Fado
6. ☐ play the guitar
7. ☐ cook sardines
8. ☐ make Irish coffee

2. Complete Bobby's sentences with words from below.

very well | a little bit | fluently | really well | quite well | (not) at all

1. I can speak Portuguese _____.
2. I can speak German _____.
3. All my Portuguese friends can surf _____.
4. I can't surf _____.
5. I can sing Fado _____.
6. I can't cook _____.

Listen again and practise the sentences. 11.5



Practice I He can speak Portuguese very well!

Pronunciation

3. Listen and underline *can* or *can't*. 🎧_{11.6}

1. I *can / can't* ski quite well.
2. She *can / can't* speak German at all.
3. He *can / can't* speak English fluently.
4. Why *can / can't* you come to my party?
5. We *can / can't* run fast.
6. They *can / can't* read music.
7. *Can / Can't* you play the violin?
8. *Can / Can't* cats swim?

LANGUAGE FOCUS

1. **Adverbs** can come after the verb.

They can run *fast*.
He plays football *well*.

2. Regular adverbs end in **-ly**.

She can speak French **fluently**.
Please speak more **slowly**.

Talking about you

4. Complete the questions about you. Then ask your teacher.

Can you speak Italian?

A little bit. Can you?

No, I can't speak Italian at all.

Can you... ?

- cook
- drive
- speak German
- play the guitar
- dance
- ride a horse
- surf
- swim

1. Arrange the questions.



slowly | more | you ?
speak | please | Can

1. _____.



for | me | Can | the |
please | open | you |
door ?

2. _____.



the | have | I |
Can | bill | please ?

3. _____.



time | me | Can | you
tell | the ?

4. _____.



help | Can | you | I ?

5. _____.



lift | Can | a | you |
give | I ?

6. _____.

2. Match these answers with the questions in exercise 1.

- a. ____ Of course I can. Careful!
- b. ____ It's 4 o'clock.
- c. ____ Yes, please! That's so kind of you!
- d. ____ I'm sorry. Is this better? Can you understand me now?
- e. ____ Yes. Can you tell us about this TV, please?
- f. ____ Yes, of course. Here you are.

Hands on!

3. Tick (✓) the correct sentence.

- 1. ☐ He plays very well the piano.
☐ He plays the piano very well.
- 2. ☐ I no can understand.
☐ I can't understand.
- 3. ☐ You speak Spanish very good.
☐ You speak Spanish very well.
- 4. ☐ He can drive fast cars.
☐ He cans drive fast cars.
- 5. ☐ We can to play tennis quite well.
☐ We can play tennis quite well.
- 6. ☐ Can you swim fast?
☐ Do you can swim fast?

Reading and speaking | The Smartphone

1. Look at these apps. What are they for?



2. Match the verbs and nouns.

Verbs	Nouns
text	videos
book	a friend
find	games
take	photos
listen	emails
watch	to music
send	a hotel
play	a bill
read	a message
pay	info on the web

What do you use your phone for?

3. What do you know about smartphones?

- When did we start to use smartphones?
- Why do we use smartphones so much?

4. Read the text about smartphones.
Answer the questions in exercise 3.

5. All the sentences below are false. Read the text again and correct them.

1. A GPS app can drive your car.
2. Our phones can sing songs for us.
3. Apple made the first smartphone.
4. The first smartphone was cheap.
5. Only a few people used Blackberries.



What can't you do on your SMARTPHONE?



Was there ever a world with no smartphones?
Well, yes there was!
IBM made the first smartphone in 1993. It was big and heavy. It also cost an amazing \$899!
The first Blackberry went on sale in 2002. Tens of millions of people used the Blackberry. It sent emails and “surfed” the net.
In 2007 Apple’s first iPhone arrived in the shops and it was very popular.

Today Samsung sells the most smartphones worldwide. Now more people in the world have mobile phones than have toilets, and we use our smartphones more than 110 times a day!

NOT MUCH! Hundreds of uses

Of course, you can text friends, send emails and take photos and videos with your phone, but we use our phones for so much more. Our phones can open and lock our front doors, and a GPS app can give us directions when we’re lost! There’s an app that tells us how healthy we are and there’s even an app that tells us how well we sleep. We can ask our phone what song is on the radio, we can play chess with a friend thousands of miles away and we can use Teams our family when we’re not at home. The smartphone is a really important part of our lives.

We can't live without it!



Listening and speaking | What do you do on your smartphone?

1. Look at the photos. Who do you think says the lines below?

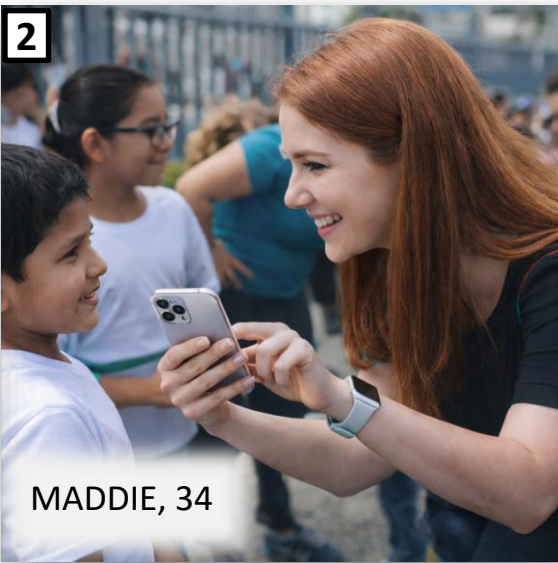
- 1. I can arrange meetings and talk to clients when I'm on the train.
- 2. I use FaceTime to see and speak to my family so I don't feel so sad. I can even see my dog, Clara.
- 3. I live in Scotland and my son lives in London. Playing Scrabble makes us feel nearby.
- 4. I often go on Facebook too – it's a great way to get everybody's news and we can share all our photos.
- 5. It is amazing that I can send a video from Mumbai in India and it's on the 6 o'clock news!
- 6. Mostly I play games on it with my friends. My favourite game is Flappy Birds.

Listen and check your ideas. Were you right?  11.9

2. Listen to the people again. When do they use their phones?
What other information do you learn about each person?  11.9

What do you think?

- Which of the six people do you think most needs their phone?
- Can you live without your phone?
- What are the most important things you use your phone for?
- What are your favourite apps/games?



1. Match the groups of adjectives with the noun.

Adjectives	Nouns
dangerous exciting	films
delicious fresh	
big busy cosmopolitan	
old young tall	city
	weather
	car
	sport
funny interesting boring	people
	food
warm and sunny cold and wet	
fast expensive	



2. Complete the sentences with words from exercise 1.

1. A Ferrari is **an expensive** car.
2. Charlie Chaplin made some very _____.
3. We can't go for a walk, it's too **cold and wet**.
4. New York is a very _____.
5. Can I have a _____ orange juice, please?
6. "How _____ is your brother?"
"He's very _____, 1.9 metres."
7. I think F1 is a _____.

3. Think of examples of these things:

- a **funny movie** and a **boring movie**
- an **expensive car** and a **cheap car**
- an **old film** star and a **young film** star
- a **dangerous sport** and a **safe sport**
- an **old city** and a **modern city**

1. Match the problems to the photos.

- ☐ an accident
- ☐ a ticket machine
- ☐ arriving late
- ☐ computers
- ☐ directions
- ☐ lost keys



2. Match the lines with the pictures.

- ☐ Are you all right?
- ☐ I can't find them anywhere!
- ☐ I can't get on the Internet!
- ☐ This machine doesn't work.
- ☐ I'm sorry I'm late!
- ☐ I'm lost!

3. Listen and complete the conversations. 11.11

1.

A: Excuse me! Can you help me? I'm lost.

B: Where do you _____ to go?

A: The Canadian Embassy.

B: Turn left onto Trafalgar Square. It's _____ on. You _____ miss it.
2.

A: Excuse me! This ticket machine _____!

B: Did you _____ the green button?

A: No, I didn't.

B: Ah, well. Here's your _____.

A: Thank you very much.
3.

A: I'm so sorry I _____.

B: It's OK. The film _____ in 15 minutes!

A: I missed the _____.

B: I told you, it doesn't _____. Come on! Let's go.
4.

A: Come on! It's time to leave.

B: But I _____ the car keys! I can't find them anywhere!

A: You _____ them in your bag.

B: Did I? Oh yes, _____ they are! Phew!
5.

A: Are you _____?

B: Yes, I think so.

A: Does your arm hurt?

B: It hurts _____, but I think it's OK.
6.

A: Oh no!

B: What's the matter?

A: There's something _____ with my computer. I can't _____ the Internet, so I can't send emails.

B: Turn everything off and try _____. That sometimes _____.

Can

Positive

I	can	run fast.
He/She/It		drive.
You		cook.
We		
They		

Negative

I	can't	sing well.
He/She/It		speak Finnish.
You		swim.
We		
They		

Questions with these question words

What	can	you do?
When		I go away?
How many languages		she teach?

Yes/No questions and short answers

Can you run fast?	Yes, I can .
Can he play soccer?	No, he can't .

We don't use do / does / don't / doesn't with can.

I can't swim. NOT ~~I don't can swim.~~

Can you cook? NOT ~~Do you can cook?~~

She can't speak Spanish. NOT ~~She doesn't can...~~

They can't dance. NOT ~~They don't can...~~

Adverbs

1. Adverbs give more information about verbs.

go **fast** draw **well** sing **beautifully**

2. Notice the word order.

You speak English well. NOT ~~You speak well English.~~

He drives his car fast. NOT ~~He drives fast his car.~~

3. Regular adverbs end in -ly.

Adjective → **Adverb**

fluent → fluently

beautiful → beautifully

slow → slowly

careful → carefully

usual → usually

4. Some adverbs are irregular.

Adjective → **Adverb**

good → well

fast → fast

late → late

Adjective → **Adverb**

early → early

hard → hard