



Presentation

Use *can* to describe ability.

Affirmative and negative

I / You / He / She / It / We / They	can	play ...
	can't (cannot)	

Questions

Can	I / you / he / she / it / we / they	play ...?
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Short answers

Yes, I can.	No, I can't.
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Can is a modal verb. This means no third person *s*.

Say *He can play the guitar*. (don't say ~~*He cans play the guitar*~~.)

Adverbs of manner

- Use adverbs of manner to talk about how we do something:

He can play the guitar very well.

She can't run very fast.

- Put the adverb of manner at the end of the sentence.

Say: *He can play the saxophone really well.*

He can play really well.

(don't say ~~*He can play really well the saxophone*~~.)

Key vocabulary **Adverbs of manner:** (really/very) well/fast not very well = badly

Exercises

1 Match the questions to the answers.

1 Can you speak Chinese?

☒ c

2 Can you run fast?

☐

3 I can play the guitar. Can you play a musical instrument?

☐

4 I can't play the guitar. Can you?

☐

5 Can you play golf?

☐

a Yes, I can play the saxophone.

b No, but I can swim fast.

c Yes, I can. But not very well.

d No, but I can play tennis.

e No, I can't, but my friend can play really well.

2 Complete the conversations with *can* or *can't*.

Conversation 1

A: I ¹ can swim ten kilometres. ² you?

B: No, I ³ swim, but I ⁴ run fast.

Conversation 2

C: ⁵ you play the piano?

D: No, I ⁶, but I can sing very well.

C: Great. ⁷ you sing this song?

Conversation 3

E: My mother and father are from Barcelona. They ⁸ speak Catalan.

F: ⁹ you and your brothers speak Catalan?

E: No, we ¹⁰ speak it very well. We always speak Spanish.

Conversation 4

G: ¹¹ you play tennis?

H: Yes, I ¹², but not very well. ¹³ you?

G: No, I ¹⁴ I'm terrible, but my sister ¹⁵ play really well.

3 Choose the correct forms.

- 1 Can / Can't you play the piano?
- 2 Can you *speak* / *play* Arabic?
- 3 No, I *can* / *can't*.
- 4 She can't swim *very well* / *not very well*.
- 5 Yes, I *can* / *can't*.
- 6 Can you play the guitar *well* / *not very well*?
- 7 I *can* / *can't* run fast, but I can swim well.



4 Write the conversations. Then listen and check.

1 you + speak Spanish? → no: speak Chinese

A: Can you speak Spanish?

B: No, I can't. I can speak Chinese.

2 they + play the piano? → yes + very well

A:

B:

3 she + run fast? → yes

A:

B:

4 you + play tennis? → yes: also + play golf

A:

B:

5 he + speak three languages? →
no + but + speak two languages

A:

B:

B:

5 Complete the sentences so that they are true for you.

- 1 I can play, but I can't play
- 2 I can speak, but I can't speak