CAN: Expressing ability and possibility

The auxiliary modal CAN is used to express what is possible or impossible to do.

This auxiliary does not change its form. It is always the same.

Structure: Subject (We) Auxiliary (can) Verb stem (eat).

1. Affirmative form

2. Negative form

Short form: Can't Full form: Cannot

Example: I can't play. Example: I cannot write.

3. Interrogative form

a. Yes/No questions

Can you play? Yes, I can./ No, I can't.

b. WH-questions

What can you do?

I can dance.