

can

I

[kæn (полная форма); kən, kn (редуцированные формы)]v (could; *отриц. форма cannot, can't*; 2-е л. ед. ч. наст. вр. уст. canst)

выражает:

1) **объективную возможность** мочь, быть в состоянии

I can do it - я могу это сделать

it can be done at once - это можно сделать сразу

can you see him? - вы его видите?

he can't come to you tomorrow - он не может прийти к вам завтра

it was so dark we could see nothing - было так темно, что мы ничего не видели

you cannot go there by bus - автобусом вы туда не доедете, автобусом вы доехать туда не сможете

I will help you all I can - я помогу вам всем, чем смогу

she tried to lift the sack but she couldn't - она пыталась поднять мешок, но не смогла

he could do no more, he was quite exhausted - больше он не мог, он совершенно выбился из сил

how can you tell? - откуда вы знаете?

he reassured her as well as /as best/ he could - он её утешал, как только мог

he ran as quickly as he could - он бежал изо всех сил

make all haste you can! - не теряйте ни минуты!, не задерживайтесь!

2) **умение, способность** уметь, мочь

I can swim - я умею плавать

she can't cook - она не умеет готовить

can they translate such texts? - они могут /умеют/ переводить такие тексты?

she can read and write - она умеет читать и писать

she can make her own dresses - она может сама шить себе платья

he can learn anything with ease - учение даётся ему легко

could he read when he was five? - умел ли он читать, когда ему было пять лет?

children can be very trying - с детьми иногда бывает очень трудно

he could walk twenty miles - он мог пройти пешком двадцать миль

3) **моральное право** быть вправе, иметь право, мочь

I can't very well accept this offer - я не чувствую себя вправе принять это предложение

I can hardly go away and leave you alone - не могу же я уйти и оставить вас одного

the Lower House alone can initiate financial measures - только нижняя палата имеет право вносить на рассмотрение финансовые законопроекты

2. **разг. амер.**

1) **просьбу (в вопросительных предложениях)** можно?, разрешите?

can he go to the picnic? - можно ему поехать на пикник?

can I have some more bread, please? - дайте мне ещё хлеба, пожалуйста; передайте мне, пожалуйста, хлеб

2) **разрешение (в утвердительных и отрицательных предложениях):**

you can go now - теперь можете идти

you can cross the street here - вы можете перейти улицу здесь

you cannot play football in England on Sundays - по воскресеньям в Англии в футбол не играют; в воскресенье в Англии не разрешается /нельзя/ играть в футбол

3. 1) **предположение (обыкн. с перфектным инфинитивом в утвердительных предложениях)** может быть, возможно

he can have walked there, it is not far - возможно, он пошёл туда пешком, это недалеко

2) **сомнение (в вопросительных и отрицательных предложениях)** может ли?, возможно ли?, неужели?

that cannot be - этого не может быть

can it be true? - неужели (это правда)?

can he have meant it? - неужели он говорил это серьёзно?; неужели он имел это в виду?

she can't have done it! - она не могла этого сделать!

do you think he can still be living? - ты думаешь, он ещё жив?

4. **в сочетаниях:**

can but ..., cannot but ... *см.* but III 5

cannot help laughing [smiling *etc*] - быть не в состоянии удержаться от смеха [улыбки *и т. п.*]

as can be - *эмоц.-усил.* очень, чрезвычайно

she is as pleased as can be - она очень /страшно/ довольна

the neighbours were as generous as could be - соседи проявили необычайную щедрость

it's as ugly as can be - трудно представить себе что-нибудь уродливее /страшнее/

II

1. [kæn] *n*

1. жестяная коробка *или* банка; жестянка

2. *амер.*

1) консервная банка; банка (*из любого материала*)

2) банка консервов

a can of beer - банка пива

a can of peaches - консервированные персики

3. 1) бидон

can company - *воен.* рота подвоза горючего (в бидонах)

2) канистра

3) кружка; жбан; манерка

4. оболочка; чехол; кожух; контейнер

5. *кино* коробка для киноплёнки

6. колпак дымовой трубы

7. лейка

8. *амер.* урна, мусорный ящик

garbage can - а) мусорный ящик; б) *шутл.* лачуга

9. *шотл.* мера

10. *амер. сл.* нужник, отхожее место

11. *амер. сл.* каталажка, тюрьма

12. *pl амер. сл.* телефонныенаушники

13. *сл.* унция марихуаны

14. *ав. жарг.* самолёт

15. *мор. жарг.* эскадренный миноносец, эсминец

◇ can of worms - *амер. сл.* (целая) куча неприятностей запутанное, безнадежное дело; ≅ сам чёрт не разберёт

to carry the can - стать козлом отпущения; отдуваться за других; расхлёбывать кашу

in the can - а) *кино* «уже в коробке», отснятый (о *готовом фильме*); готовый для демонстрации; б) *обыкн. радио, тлв.*

готовый, законченный; завершённый

2. [kæn] *v*

1. консервировать (*пищевые продукты*)

2. разливать в бидоны, канистры *и т. п.*

3. *амер. сл.* посадить в тюрьму

4. *амер. сл.* исключить (*учащегося*); уволить (*служащего*)

5. *амер. сл.* прекратить перестать

can it! - хватит!, замолчи!, заткнись!

can the stuff! - брось это

6. *разг.* записывать (*на плёнку, пластинку*)

can

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

• **can** 1 *BrE* [kæn] ^m *NAme* [kæn] ^m *BrE strong form* [kæɪn] ^m *AmE strong form* [kæɪn] ^m modal verb

see also ↑can ² (negative **can-not** *BrE* ['kæɪnɒt] ^m ; *NAme* ['kæɪnɑː] ^m , short form **can't** *BrE* [kɑːnɪ] ^m ; *NAme* [kæɪnt] ^m , pt **could** *BrE* [kəd] ^m ; *NAme* [kəd] ^m strong form *BrE* [kʊd] ^m ; *NAme* [kʊd] ^m , negative **could not**, short form **couldn't** *BrE* ['kʊdnt] ^m ; *NAme* ['kʊdnt] ^m)

1. used to say that it is possible for sb/sth to do sth, or for sth to happen

- I can run fast.
- Can you call back tomorrow?
- He couldn't answer the question.
- The stadium can be emptied in four minutes.
- I can't promise anything, but I'll do what I can.
- Please let us know if you cannot attend the meeting.

2. used to say that sb knows how to do sth

- She can speak Spanish.
- Can he cook?
- I could drive a car before I left school.

3. used with the verbs 'feel', 'hear', 'see', 'smell', 'taste'

- She could feel a lump in her breast.
- I can hear music.

4. used to show that sb is allowed to do sth

- You can take the car, if you want.
- We can't wear jeans at work.

5. (*informal*) used to ask permission to do sth

- Can I read your newspaper?
- Can I take you home?

6. (*informal*) used to ask sb to help you

- Can you help me with this box?
- Can you feed the cat, please?

7. used in the negative for saying that you are sure sth is not true

- That can't be Mary— she's in New York.
- He can't have slept through all that noise.

8. used to express doubt or surprise

- What can they be doing?
- Can he be serious?
- Where can she have put it?

9. used to say what sb/sth is often like

- He can be very tactless sometimes.
- It can be quite cold here in winter.

10. used to make suggestions

- We can eat in a restaurant, if you like.

- I can take the car if necessary.
- 11. (informal) used to say that sb must do sth, usually when you are angry

• You can shut up or get out!

Idioms: ↑can't be doing with somebody doing something ▪ ↑no can do

Word Origin:

[can] Old English cunnan 'know' Middle English 'know how to' Dutch kunnen German können Indo-European Latin gnoscere 'know' Greek gignōskein 'know'

Grammar Point:

modal verbs

The modal verbs are can, could, may, might, must, ought to, shall, should, will and would. Dare, need, have to and used to also share some of the features of modal verbs.

Modal verbs have only one form. They have no -ing or -ed forms and do not add -s to the 3rd person singular form: ▪ He can speak three languages. ◇▪ She will try and visit tomorrow.

Modal verbs are followed by the infinitive of another verb without to. The exceptions are ought to and used to: ▪ You must find a job. ◇▪ You ought to stop smoking. ◇▪ I used to smoke but I gave up two years ago.

Questions are formed without do/does in the present, or did in the past: ▪ Can I invite Mary? ◇▪ Should I have invited Mary?

Negative sentences are formed with not or the short form -n't and do not use do/does or did.

You will find more help with how to use modal verbs at the dictionary entries for each verb

Grammar Point:

can / could / be able to / manage

Can is used to say that somebody knows how to do something: ▪ Can you play the piano? It is also used with verbs of seeing, noticing, etc: ▪ I can hear someone calling, and with passive infinitives: ▪ The DVD can be rented from your local store.

Can or be able to are used to say that something is possible or that somebody has the opportunity to do something: ▪ Can you/are you able to come on Saturday?

You use be able to to form the future and perfect tenses and the infinitive: ▪ You'll be able to get a taxi outside the station. ◇▪ I haven't been able to get much work done today. ◇▪ She'd love to be able to play the piano.

Could is used to talk about what someone was generally able to do in the past: ▪ Our daughter could walk when she was nine months old.

You use was/were able to or manage (but not could) when you are saying that something was possible on a particular occasion in the past: ▪ I was able to/managed to find some useful books in the library. ◇I could find some useful books in the library. In

negative sentences, **could not** can also be used: ▪ We weren't able to/didn't manage to/couldn't get there in time. **Could** is also used with this meaning with verbs of seeing, noticing, understanding, etc: ▪ I could see there was something wrong.

Could have is used when you are saying that it was possible for somebody to do something in the past but they did not try: ▪ I could have won the game but decided to let her win.

Which Word?:

can / may

Can and cannot (or can't) are the most common words used for asking for, giving or refusing permission: ▪ Can I borrow your calculator? ◇▪ You can come with us if you want to. ◇▪ You can't park your car there.

May (negative may not) is used as a polite and fairly formal way to ask for or give permission: ▪ May I borrow your newspaper? ◇

▪ You may come if you wish. It is often used in official signs and rules: ▪ Visitors may use the swimming pool between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. ◇▪ Students may not use the college car park. The form mayn't is hardly ever used in modern English.

• **II. can 2** [can cans canned canning] noun, verb **BrE** [kæn] ^m **NAmE** [kæn] ^m

see also ↑can 1

noun



1. (BrE also **tin**) **countable** a metal container in which food and drink is sold

• a can of beans

• a beer/paint can In **NAmE** **can** is the usual word used for both food and drink. In **BrE** **can** is always used for drink, but **tin** or **can** can be used for food, paint, etc.

2. **countable** the amount contained in a can

• We drank a can of Coke each.

3. **countable** a metal or plastic container for holding or carrying liquids

• an oil can

• a watering can

4. **countable** a metal container in which liquids are kept under pressure and let out in a fine spray when you press a button on the lid

• a can of hairspray

5. **the can singular** (NAmE, slang) prison
 6. **the can singular** (NAmE, slang) the toilet
more at carry the can **at** ↑carry

Word Origin:

Old English canne Dutch **kan** German **Kanne** Germanic late Latin **canna**

Thesaurus:

can noun C

- a can of beans/beer/paint

jar • • **pot** • |BrE **tin** •

a can/tin of **beans/paint**

a jar/pot of **honey/jam/marmalade**

Can or tin? In American English use **can**. In British English you can also use **tin** for food, paint, etc. but not for drinks:

- a can of Coke

✗ a tin of Coke

Example Bank:

- He filled a can with water from the pump.
- He was filling a jerry can with petrol from the pump.
- She drained her can of beer and threw it away.
- She sipped from a can of Coke.
- The floor was littered with empty food cans.
- This special type of milk comes in a can.
- We keep the hoses and watering cans in the shed at the end of the garden.
- We opened a can of sardines for lunch.
- a 200 g can of tuna
- cans of oil
- a can of beans/beer/paint

Idioms: ↑can of worms ▪ ↑in the can

verb (-nn-)

1. ~ **sth** (especially NAme) to preserve food by putting it in a can
2. ~ **sb** (NAme, informal) to dismiss sb from their job

Syn: ↑fire. **Syn:** ↑sack

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	can
	BrE /kæn/
	NAme /kænz/
he / she / it	can
	BrE /kænz/
	NAme /kænz/
past simple, past participle	canned
	BrE /kænd/
	NAme /kænd/
-ing form	canning
	BrE /kænzɪŋ/
	NAme /kænzɪŋ/

See also: ↑tin

can

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **can**¹ **S1 W1** /kən; strong kæn/ BrE ² AmE ³ modal verb (negative short form **can't**)

[Language: Old English; Origin: cunnan]

1. **ABILITY** to be able to do something or to know how to do something:

- You can swim, can't you?
- Even a small personal computer can store vast amounts of information.
- Gabriella can speak French fluently.
- I'm afraid Mr Harding can't see you now – he's busy.
- The police are doing all they can to find her.

2. **REQUESTING spoken** used to ask someone to do something or give you something:

- Can I have a cigarette, please?
- Can you help me lift this box?

3. **ALLOWED** to be allowed to do something or to have the right or power to do something:

- You can't park here – it's a no parking zone.
- 'Can we go home now, please?' 'No you can't.'
- Any police officer can insist on seeing a driver's license.

4. **POSSIBILITY** used to say that something is possible:

- I am confident a solution can be found.
- There can be no doubt that he is guilty.

The boxes can be stored flat.

Can he still be alive after all this time?

5. **SEEING/HEARING ETC** used with the verbs 'see', 'hear', 'feel', 'taste', and 'smell', and with verbs connected with thinking, to mean that someone sees something, hears something etc:

Here they are – I can see their car.

Can you smell something burning?

I can't understand why you're so upset.

He can't remember where he put the tickets.

6. **NOT TRUE** [in negatives] used to say that you do not believe that something is true:

This can't be the right road.

It can't be easy caring for a man and a child who are not your own.

7. **SHOULD NOT** [in questions and negatives] used to say that someone should not or must not do something:

You can't expect the world to change overnight.

We can't go on like this.

Jill's left her husband, but can you blame her after the way he treated her?

8. **SURPRISE/ANGER** [usually in questions and negatives] *spoken* used when you are surprised or angry:

You can't be serious!

They can't have arrived already, surely!

How can you be so stupid!

9. **SOMETIMES** used to say what sometimes happens or how someone sometimes behaves:

It can be quite cold here at night.

Peter can be really annoying.

10. **GIVING ORDERS** *spoken* used to tell someone in an angry way to do something:

And you can stop that quarrelling, the pair of you.

If you won't keep quiet, you can get out.

11. **no can do** *spoken* used to say that it is impossible for you to do what someone has asked you to do:

Sorry, John, no can do.

• • •

THESAURUS

■ to be able to do something

▪ **can do something** to have the ability, opportunity, time, or equipment that you need in order to do something. **Could** is used as the past form, and is also used to say what is or may be possible: 'I don't think Mike can drive.' 'Yes, he can.' | He can run faster than me. | Can you see the TV, or should I move? | This program can translate your e-mail into other languages. | How many hamburgers do you think you can eat? | Adrian could read when he was four. | If we had a boat we could row across to the island. | Why didn't they ask me? I could have done it for them for half the price. | She could win.

▪ **be able to do something** used when talking about ability or success in the past or ability in the future, or when you need to use an [↑]infinitive. It is also used instead of **can** in more formal English: I was able to get a good job (=I got one). | Will you be able to carry those bags on your own? | If you want to join the expedition, you must be able to speak Spanish. | The young birds are now able to fly.

▪ **be capable of something** to have the ability, energy, or qualities needed to do something, especially something very difficult or unusual – use this about people or machines: She's perfectly capable (=completely capable) of dealing with the situation. | The car is capable of a top speed of 200 mph. | No one thought he was capable of murder.

▪ **have the ability to do something** to be able to do something, especially something that is unusual or that most people cannot do: She seemed to have the ability to make people do anything she wanted. | I believe the team definitely has the ability to win the championship.

▪ **be in a position to do something** to be able to do something because you have enough knowledge, power, money, or equipment to do it: We will have to run more tests before we are in a position to say whether the document is authentic or not. | They expect be in a position to begin construction within two years.

▪ **manage to do something** to succeed in doing something difficult, especially after trying very hard: He finally managed to find an apartment near his office. | At least three of the hostages managed to escape.

■ to be unable to do something

▪ **can't/cannot do something** to be unable to do something because you do not have the ability, opportunity, time, or equipment that you need. **Couldn't/could not** is used as the past form: Louise can't see anything without her glasses. | He couldn't remember where he had left the car. | 'Will you help me move this?' 'I'm sorry, I can't – my back's still giving me trouble.' | I couldn't have done it without your help. | I could never have climbed that ridge – I'm too out of shape. | Scientists still cannot explain exactly how the virus reproduces. | Sarah could not understand why anyone would want to hurt her.

▪ **not be able to do something** used when talking about inability in the past or the future, when you need to use an [↑]infinitive, and in more formal English: Unfortunately, I wasn't able to help them. | I don't think I'll be able to come to the meeting after all. | The doctor told Tina she wouldn't be able to have children. | I've looked all over the house but I haven't been able to find my keys anywhere.

▪ **be unable to do something** *especially written* to not be able to do something, especially something important that you want to do or need to do: He was unable to sleep and lay awake all night. | Many passengers were unable to reach the lifeboats in time.

▪ **not be in a position to do something** (*also be in no position to do something*) *formal* to not be able to do something because you do not have enough knowledge, power, money, or equipment to do it: I'm afraid I'm not in a position to answer your questions. | Having committed military force there, America is in no position to repeat this strategy elsewhere.

▪ **not be capable of something** (*also be incapable of something*) to not have the physical strength or mental ability to do something – often used when criticizing someone: My son seems to be incapable of keeping a job. | She's not capable of looking after herself any more. | Her father was a man who was utterly incapable of pity or sympathy.

II. **can**² /kæn/ *BrE* ² *AmE* ² *noun* [countable]



1. a metal container in which food or drink is preserved without air:

a Coke can

can of

All we've got is a couple of cans of soup.

2. a special metal container that keeps the liquid inside it under pressure. The liquid is released as a **spray** when you press the button

can of

a can of hairspray

3. **especially American English** a metal container with a lid that can be removed, used for holding liquid:

Two large cans of paint ought to be enough.

4. **can of worms** a very complicated situation that causes a lot of problems when you start to deal with it:

I just don't know what to do – every solution I can think of would just **open up** a whole new **can of worms**.

5. **in the can informal** a film that is in the can is complete and ready to be shown

6. **the can informal**

a) a prison

b) **American English** a toilet

⇒ **carry the can** at **carry**¹⁽²⁶⁾

III. **can**³ **BrE** **AmE** **verb** (past tense and past participle **canned**, present participle **canning**) [**transitive**] **American English**

1. to preserve food by putting it into a metal container from which all the air is removed **SYN tin British English** ⇒ **canned**

2. **informal** to dismiss someone from a job **SYN sack**

3. **can it! spoken** used to tell someone to stop talking or making a noise

can

12500 **36**^{MCW}

15000 **47**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k CAN** 913640

can 913546

cannot 94

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

142869 **49**⁸⁹⁸⁰⁷⁰ *vm*

7550 **4598**⁸⁵⁷⁶ *vv0*

4426 **5872**⁶³¹⁴ *nn1*

311 **39501**³⁴³ *jj*

53 **72000**¹¹¹ *np1*

69 **91853**⁶⁹ *vvi*

47 **106657**⁵² *nnu*

7 **319082**⁷ *ra*

3 **468781**⁴ *rg*