

can and could

A



He **can** play the piano.



can + infinitive (can do / can play / can come etc.):

I/we/you/they he/she/it	can cannot (can't)	do play see come etc.
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can	I/we/you/they he/she/it	do? play? see? come? etc.
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B

I **can** do something = I *know how* to do it or it is *possible* for me to do it:

- I **can** play the piano. My brother **can** play the piano too.
- Sarah **can** speak Italian but she **can't** speak Spanish.
- 'Can you swim?' 'Yes, but I'm not a very good swimmer.'
- 'Can you change twenty pounds?' 'I'm sorry, I **can't**.'
- I'm having a party next week but Paul and Jenny **can't** come.

C

For the past (yesterday / last week etc.), we use **could/couldn't**:

- When I was young, I **could** run very fast.
- Before Anna came to Britain, she **couldn't** understand much English. Now she **can** understand everything.
- I was tired last night but I **couldn't** sleep.
- I had a party last week but Paul and Jenny **couldn't** come.

D

Can you ... ? Could you ... ? Can I ... ? Could I ... ?

We use **Can you ... ?** or **Could you ... ?** when we ask people to do things:

- **Can you** open the door, please? or **Could you** open the door, please?
- **Can you** wait a moment, please? or **Could you** wait ... ?

We use **Can I have ... ?** or **Could I have ... ?** to ask for something:

- (in a shop) **Can I have** these postcards, please? or **Could I have** ... ?

Can I ... ? or **Could I ... ?** = is it OK to do something?:

- Tom, **can I** borrow your umbrella? or Tom, **could I** borrow your umbrella?
- (on the phone) Hello, **can I** speak to Gerry, please? or ... **could I** speak ... ?

A



must + infinitive (must do / must see etc.):

I/we/you/they he/she/it	must	do stop go write etc.
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B

Use **must** when you think it is necessary to do something:

- The windows are very dirty. I **must** clean them.
- It's a fantastic film. You **must** see it.
- We **must** go to the bank today. We haven't got any money.

For the past (yesterday / last week etc.), we use **had to** ... (not **must**):

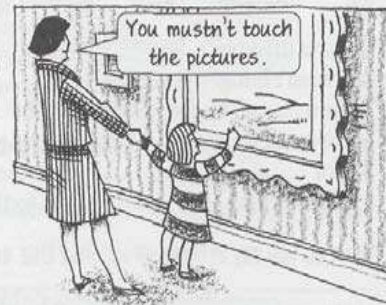
- We **had to** go to the bank yesterday. (not 'We must go ... yesterday')
- I **had to** walk home last night. There were no buses. (not 'I must walk')

C

mustn't (= must not)

I **mustn't** (do something) = it is necessary *not* to do it, it is the wrong thing to do:

- I **must** hurry. I **mustn't** be late.
- I **mustn't** forget to phone Julia.
(= I **must** remember to phone her)
- Be happy! You **mustn't** be sad. (= don't be sad)
- You **mustn't** touch the pictures.
(= don't touch the pictures)



D

needn't (= need not)

I **needn't** (do something) = it is *not necessary* to do it, I don't need to do it:

- I **needn't** clean the windows. They aren't very dirty.
- You **needn't** go to the bank today. I can give you some money.

You can also say **don't need to** ... (= needn't):

- I **don't need to** clean the windows.
- You **don't need to** go to the bank today.

Compare **needn't** and **mustn't**:

- You **needn't** go. You can stay here if you want.
- You **mustn't** go. You must stay here.

should

A



should + infinitive (should do / should watch etc.):

I/we/you/they he/she/it	should shouldn't	do stop go watch etc.
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B

(You) **should** do something = it is a good thing to do, it is the right thing to do:

- Tom **should go** to bed earlier. He goes to bed very late and he's always tired.
- It's a good film. You **should go** and see it.
- When you play tennis, you **should** always **watch** the ball.

C

(You) **shouldn't** do something = it is *not* a good thing to do. **Shouldn't** = should not:

- Tom **shouldn't go** to bed so late.
- You watch TV all the time. You **shouldn't watch** TV so much.

D

We often use **think** with **should**:

I think ... should ... :

- **I think** Carol **should buy** some new clothes.
(= I think it is a good idea.)
- It's late. **I think** I **should go** home now.
- A: Shall I buy this coat?
B: Yes, I **think** you **should**.

I don't think ... should ... :

- **I don't think** you **should work** so hard.
(= I don't think it is a good idea.)
- **I don't think** we **should go** yet. It's too early.

Do you think ... should ... ?:

- **Do you think** I **should buy** this hat?
- What time **do you think** we **should go** home?



E

Must is stronger than **should**:

- It's a **good** film. You **should** go and see it.
- It's a **fantastic** film. You **must** go and see it.

F

Another way to say **should ...** is **ought to ...**:

- It's a good film. You **ought to go** and see it. (= you should go)
- I think Carol **ought to buy** some new clothes. (= Carol should buy)

Would you like ... ? I'd like ...

A Would you like ... ? = Do you want ... ?

We use **Would you like ... ?** to offer things:

- A: **Would you like** some coffee?
B: No, thank you.
- A: **Would you like** a chocolate?
B: Yes, please.
- A: What **would you like**, tea or coffee?
B: Tea, please.



We use **Would you like to ... ?** to invite somebody:

- **Would you like to go** for a walk?
- A: **Would you like to have** dinner with us on Sunday?
B: Yes, **I'd love to**. (= I would love to have dinner with you)
- What **would you like to do** this evening?

B I'd like ... is a polite way to say 'I want'. I'd like = I would like:

- I'm thirsty. **I'd like** a drink.
- (in a tourist office) **I'd like** some information about hotels, please.
- **I'd like to see** the film on television this evening.

C Would you like ... ? and Do you like ... ?

Would you like ... ? / I'd like ...



Would you like some tea? = Do you want some tea?

- A: **Would you like** to go to the cinema tonight? (= Do you want to go tonight?)
B: Yes, I'd love to.
- **I'd like** an orange, please. (= Can I have an orange?)
- What **would you like** to do next weekend?

Do you like ... ? / I like ...



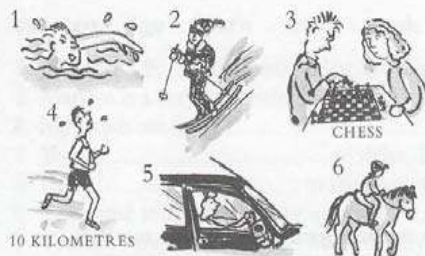
Do you like tea? = Do you think tea is nice?

- A: **Do you like** going to the cinema? (in general)
B: Yes, I go to the cinema a lot.
- **I like** oranges. (in general)
- What **do you like** to do at weekends?

EXERCISES

UNIT
31

31.1 Ask Steve if he can do these things:



YOU



STEVE

1	Can you swim?
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Can you do these things? Write sentences about yourself. Use **I can** or **I can't**.

7 I	9	11
8	10	12

31.2 Complete these sentences. Use **can** or **can't** + one of these verbs:

~~come~~ find hear see speak

- I'm sorry but we can't come to your party next Saturday.
- I like this hotel room. You the mountains from the window.
- You are speaking very quietly. I you.
- Have you seen my bag? I it.
- Catherine got the job because she five languages.

31.3 Complete these sentences. Use **can't** or **couldn't** + one of these verbs:

eat decide find go go sleep

- I was tired but I couldn't sleep.
- I wasn't hungry yesterday. I my dinner.
- Ann doesn't know what to do. She
- I wanted to speak to Martin yesterday but I him.
- Jim to the concert next Saturday. He has to work.
- Paula to the meeting last week. She was ill.

31.4 What do you say in these situations? Use **can** or **could**. Use the words in brackets (...).

1 (open) Could you open the door, please?	2 (pass) SALT	3 (turn off)
4 (have) 	5 (give) 	6 (borrow)

EXERCISES

32.1 Complete the sentences. Use **must** + one of these verbs:

be go go learn meet wash win

- 1 We must go to the bank today. We haven't got any money.
- 2 Marilyn is a very interesting person. You her.
- 3 My hands are dirty. I them.
- 4 You to drive. It will be very useful.
- 5 I to the post office. I need some stamps.
- 6 The game tomorrow is very important for us. We
- 7 You can't always have things immediately. You patient.

32.2 Put in **I must** or **I had to**.

- 1 I had to go to the bank yesterday to get some money.
- 2 It's late. go now.
- 3 I don't usually work on Saturdays but last Saturday work.
- 4 get up early tomorrow. I've got a lot to do.
- 5 I went to London by train last week. The train was full and stand all the way.
- 6 I was nearly late for my appointment this morning. run to get there on time.
- 7 I forgot to phone David yesterday. phone him later today.

32.3 Complete the sentences. Use **mustn't** or **needn't** + one of these verbs:

clean forget hurry lose wait write

- 1 The windows aren't very dirty. You needn't clean them.
- 2 We have a lot of time. We
- 3 Keep these documents in a safe place. You them.
- 4 I'm not ready yet but you for me. You can go now and I'll come later.
- 5 We to turn off the lights before we leave.
- 6 I the letter now. I can do it tomorrow.

32.4 Find the sentences with the same meaning.

- 1 We can leave the meeting early.
- 2 We must leave the meeting early.
- 3 We mustn't leave the meeting early.
- 4 We needn't leave the meeting early.
- 5 We had to leave the meeting early.

- A We must stay until the end.
- B We couldn't stay until the end.
- C We can't stay until the end.
- D We needn't stay until the end.
- E We can stay until the end.

- 1 D
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

32.5 Put in **must** / **had to** / **mustn't** / **needn't**.

- 1 You needn't go. You can stay here if you want.
- 2 It's a fantastic film. You must see it.
- 3 We've got enough food, so we go shopping.
- 4 We didn't have any food yesterday, so we go shopping.
- 5 I want to know what happened. You tell me.
- 6 You tell Sue what happened. I don't want her to know.
- 7 I hurry or I'll be late.
- 8 'Why were you so late?' 'I wait half an hour for a bus.'
- 9 We decide now. We can decide later.

EXERCISES

UNIT
33

33.1 Complete the sentences. Use **you should** + one of these verbs:

clean go take visit watch wear

- 1 When you play tennis, you should watch the ball.
- 2 It's late and you're very tired, ... to bed.
- 3 your teeth twice a day.
- 4 If you have time, ... the Science Museum. It's very interesting.
- 5 When you're driving, ... a seat belt.
- 6 It's too far to walk from here to the station. a taxi.

33.2 Write about the people in the pictures. Use **He/She shouldn't ... so ...**



- 1 She shouldn't watch TV so much.
- 2 He
- 3 hard.
- 4

33.3 You ask a friend for advice. Write questions with **Do you think I should ... ?**

- 1 You are in a shop. You are trying on a jacket. (buy?)
You ask your friend: Do you think I should buy this jacket?
- 2 You can't drive. (learn?)
You ask your friend: Do you think
- 3 You don't like your job. (get another job?)
You ask your friend:
- 4 You are going to have a party. (invite Gary?)
You ask your friend:

33.4 Write sentences with **I think ... should ...** or **I don't think ... should ...**

- 1 It's late. (go home now) I think we should go home now.
- 2 That coat is too big for you. (buy it) I don't think you should buy it.
- 3 You don't need your car. (sell it)
- 4 Diane needs a rest. (have a holiday)
- 5 Sally and Colin are too young. (get married)
- 6 You're not well this morning. (go to work)
- 7 James isn't well today. (go to the doctor)
- 8 The hotel is too expensive for us. (stay there)

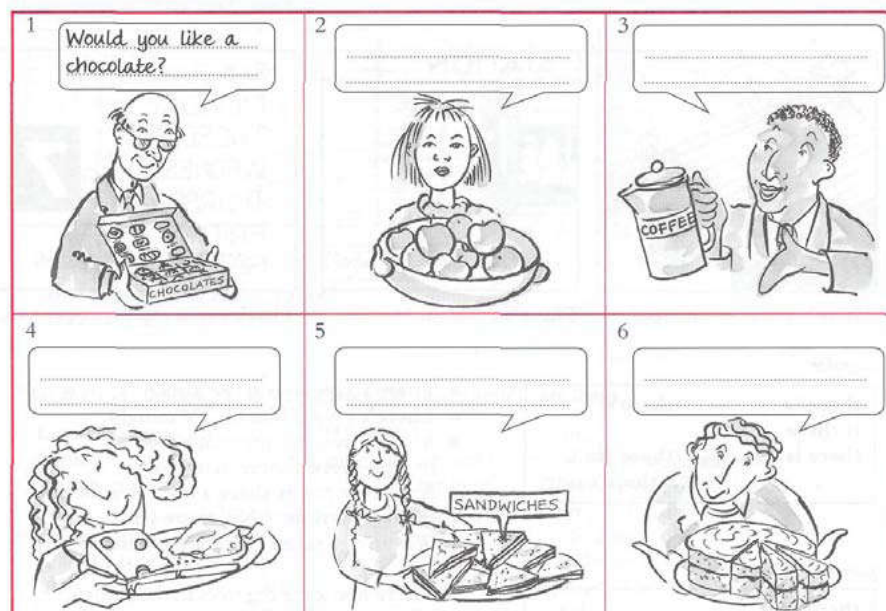
33.5 What do you think? Write sentences with **should**.

- 1 I think everybody should learn another language.
- 2 I think everybody
- 3 I think
- 4 I don't think
- 5 I think I should

EXERCISES

UNIT
35

35.1 What are the people in the pictures saying? Use **Would you like ... ?**



35.2 What do you say to Sue in these situations? Use **Would you like to ... ?**

- 1 You want to go to the cinema tonight. Perhaps Sue will go with you. (go)
You say: Would you like to go to the cinema tonight?
- 2 You want to play tennis tomorrow. Perhaps Sue will play too. (play)
You say:
- 3 You've got some holiday photographs. Sue hasn't seen them yet. (see)
You say:
- 4 You have an extra ticket for a concert next week. Perhaps Sue will go. (go)
You say:
- 5 It's raining and Sue is going out. She hasn't got an umbrella but you have one. (borrow)
You say:

35.3 Which is right?

- 1 ~~Do you like~~ / Would you like a chocolate? 'Yes, please.' Would you like is right
- 2 'Do you like / ~~Would you like~~ bananas?' 'Yes, I love them.'
- 3 ~~Do you like~~ / Would you like an ice-cream? 'No, thank you.'
- 4 'What do you like / would you like to drink?' 'A glass of water, please.'
- 5 ~~Do you like~~ / Would you like to go out for a walk? 'Not now. Perhaps later.'
- 6 I like / I'd like tomatoes but I don't eat them very often.
- 7 What time ~~do you like~~ / would you like to have dinner this evening?
- 8 ~~Do you like~~ / Would you like something to eat? 'No, thanks. I'm not hungry.'
- 9 ~~Do you like~~ / Would you like your new job? 'Yes, I'm enjoying it.'
- 10 I'm tired. ~~I like~~ / I'd like to go to sleep now.

A



He **might go** to New York.
(= it is possible that he will go to New York)



It **might rain**.
(= it is possible that it will rain)

might + infinitive (**might go** / **might be** / **might rain** etc.):

I/we/you/they he/she/it	might (not)	be go play come etc.
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B

I might ... = it is possible that I will ... :

- I **might go** to the cinema this evening. (= it is possible that I will go)
- A: When is Barbara going to phone you?
B: I don't know. She **might phone** this afternoon.
- Take an umbrella with you. It **might rain**.
- Buy a lottery ticket. You **might be** lucky. (= perhaps you will be lucky)
- 'Are you going out tonight?' 'I **might**.' (= I might go out)

Study the difference:

- I'm **playing** tennis tomorrow. (*sure*)
I **might play** tennis tomorrow. (*possible*)
- Barbara **is going to phone** later. (*sure*)
Barbara **might phone** later. (*possible*)

C

The negative is **might not**:

- I **might not go** to work tomorrow. (= it is possible that I will not go)
- Sue **might not come** to the party. (= it is possible that she will not come)

D

may

You can use **may** in the same way. **I may ...** = **I might ...** :

- I **may go** to the cinema this evening. (= I might go)
- Sue **may not come** to the party. (= Sue might not come)

May I ... ? = Is it OK to ... / Can I ... ?:

- **May I** ask a question? (= Can I ask?)
- **'May I** sit here?' 'Yes, of course.'

EXERCISES

30.1 Write sentences with **might**.

- 1 (it's possible that I'll go to the cinema)
- 2 (it's possible that I'll see you tomorrow)
- 3 (it's possible that Ann will forget to phone)
- 4 (it's possible that it will snow today)
- 5 (it's possible that I'll be late tonight)

I might go to the cinema.

I

.....

.....

Write sentences with **might not**.

- 6 (it's possible that Mary will not be here)
- 7 (it's possible that I won't have time to meet you)

30.2 Somebody is asking you about your plans. You have some ideas but you are not sure. Choose from the list and write sentences with **I might**.

fish go away Italy Monday new car taxi

- 1 Where are you going for your holidays?
- 2 What are you doing at the weekend?
- 3 When will you see Ann again?
- 4 What are you going to have for dinner?
- 5 How are you going to get home tonight?
- 6 I hear you won some money. What are you going to do with it?

I'm not sure. I might go to Italy.

I don't know. I

I'm not sure.

I don't know.

I'm not sure.

I haven't decided yet.

30.3 You ask Bill questions about his plans. Sometimes he is sure but usually he is not sure.

- 1 Are you playing tennis tomorrow?
- 2 Are you going out in the evening?
- 3 Are you going to get up early?
- 4 Are you working tomorrow?
- 5 Will you be at home tomorrow morning?
- 6 Are you going to watch television?
- 7 Are you going out in the afternoon?
- 8 Are you going shopping?

Yes, in the afternoon.

Possibly.

Perhaps.

No, I'm not.

Maybe.

I might.

Yes, I am.

Perhaps.



Now write about Bill. Use **might** where necessary.

1 He's playing tennis tomorrow afternoon.

2 He might go out this evening.

3 He

4

5

6

7

8

30.4 Write three things that you might do tomorrow.

1

2

3