

# 3 Our things

Can for ability, permission and requests  
Possessive adjectives

## Can for permission and requests



### Questions

Can I ...?  
Can you ...?  
Can he ...?  
Can she ...?  
Can it ...?  
Can we ...?  
Can you ...?  
Can they ...?

### Short answers

Yes, I <b>can</b> .	No, I <b>can't</b> .
Yes, you <b>can</b> .	No, you <b>can't</b> .
Yes, he <b>can</b> .	No, he <b>can't</b> .
Yes, she <b>can</b> .	No, she <b>can't</b> .
Yes, it <b>can</b> .	No, it <b>can't</b> .
Yes, you <b>can</b> .	No, you <b>can't</b> .
Yes, we <b>can</b> .	No, we <b>can't</b> .
Yes, they <b>can</b> .	No, they <b>can't</b> .

We often use **can** to talk about ability.

*I **can** play the guitar.*

We use **Can I ...?** or **Can we ...?** when we ask permission to do something.

***Can I** ride your bike? **Can we** turn on the television?*

We use **Can you ...?** when we ask someone to do something for us (a request).

We can add a **comma + please** at the end of a request to make it sound more polite.

***Can you** buy some bread? **Can you** turn off the radio, **please**?*

When someone asks permission, we reply using the short answer form with **you**.

***Can I** use the computer? Yes, **you can**.*

**1 Read these sentences. Do they talk about permission or a request?**

Write **P** or **R**.

- 1 Can I turn on the TV? P
- 2 Can you pass the sugar, please? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Can we play in the garden? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Can you turn off the radio? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Can you go to the shops for me? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Can we go out for dinner, Mum? \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Write sentences to ask permission.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 I / have / an apple / ?<br><u>Can I have an apple?</u> | 2 I / use / your mobile phone / ?<br>_____    |
| 3 I / turn up / the radio / ?<br>_____                   | 4 I / turn down / the music / ?<br>_____      |
| 5 I / take / this pen / ?<br>_____                       | 6 we / borrow / these books / ?<br>_____      |
| 7 we / turn on / the DVD player / ?<br>_____             | 8 we / listen to / the CD player / ?<br>_____ |

**3 Put the words in the correct order to write requests.**

- 1 pass / sugar / Can / please / you / the / ?  
Can you pass the sugar, please?
- 2 you / Can / please / the / turn up / radio / ?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Can / curtains / the / open / you / ?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 you / turn off / the / Can / music / ?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 turn down / you / television / please / Can / the / ?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6 wash / you / the / car / Can / please / ?  
\_\_\_\_\_



4 Match questions and answers from the box. Write them next to the pictures.

Can we sit here?  
 Can I have some cake?  
~~Can I have an apple?~~  
 Can I borrow your newspaper, please?  
 Can I have a new handbag?

No, you can't.  
 Yes, you can.  
 No, you can't.  
~~Yes, you can.~~  
 Yes, you can.



Can I have an apple?  
 Yes, you can.



5 Look at the table. Write questions to ask for permission and make requests.

Permission	Request
1 turn up the music	2 turn off the DVD player
3 go to the cinema	4 give me the newspaper
5 play with my friends	6 go to the shop for me
7 have a new coat	8 help me in the kitchen

- 1 Can I turn up the music?
- 2 Can you turn off the DVD player, please?
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_

Possessive adjectives

my your his her its your our their

This is **my** DVD. That's **your** CD player.

6 Complete the sentences. Write **our**, **your**, or **their**.

- 1 Our book is red.  
Your book is blue.
- 2 Is this \_\_\_\_\_ dog?  
Yes, it's \_\_\_\_\_ dog.
- 3 Is this \_\_\_\_\_ camera?  
No, it's \_\_\_\_\_ camera.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ cake is big.  
\_\_\_\_\_ cake is small.
- 5 Is this \_\_\_\_\_ project?  
Yes, it's \_\_\_\_\_ project.

