

UNIT 5

5.1 can/can't

Can and can't have the same form in all persons.
There is no *do* or *does*.
Can is followed by the infinitive (without *to*).

Positive

I He/She/It We/You/They	can	swim.
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Negative

I He/She/It We/You/They	can't	dance.
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NOT *He doesn't can dance.*

Question

What	can	I he/she/it we/you/they	do?
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Yes/No questions

Can	you/she/they/etc.	drive? cook?
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Short answers

Yes, she can.
Yes, they can.
No, I can't.

5.2 was/were

Was/Were is the past of *am/is/are*.

Positive

I He/She/It	was	in Paris yesterday.
We/You/They	were	in England last year.

Negative

I He/She/It	wasn't	at school yesterday.
We/You/They	weren't	at the party last night.

Question

Where	was	I? he/she/it?
	were	we/you/they?

Yes/No questions

Was	he/she	at work?
Were	you/they	at home?

Short answers

Yes, she was.
No, he wasn't.
Yes, I was./Yes, we were.
No, they weren't.

was born

I was born in 1980. NOT *I am born ...*
She was born in Manchester.

Questions

Where	was	he/she	born?
When	were	we/you/they	

5.3 could/couldn't

Could is the past of *can*.
Could and couldn't have the same form in all persons.
Could is followed by the infinitive (without *to*).

Positive

I He/She/It We/You/They	could	swim.
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Negative

I He/She/It We/You/They	couldn't	dance.
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NOT *He didn't could dance.*

Question

What	could	I he/she/it we/you/they	do?
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Yes/No questions

Could	you/she/they/etc.	drive? cook?
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Short answers

Yes, she could.
Yes, they could.
No, we couldn't.

NOT *Do you can drive?*

Prepositions

I was **at** school.
They're **on** holiday.
I was **at** an exhibition.
She's **in** bed.
He was born **in** January.
He was born **on** January 14.
He's a professor **of** art.
He's good **at** drawing.
What's the Spanish **for** pencil?
She's married **to** Mike.
What's **on** TV tonight?
What do you want **for** your birthday?
Can I speak **to** Dave?
Can I pay **by** credit card?