

# 5 | Language reference

## GRAMMAR

### Can/can't

*Can* is a modal auxiliary verb. This means:

- it goes with the infinitive without *to*.
- it has the same form for all subjects.
- the negative is with *not* (*n't*).
- to make a question, put *can* before the subject and the infinitive after the subject.

#### Affirmative

I		
You		
He/She/It	can	speak another language.
We		
They		

#### Negative

I		
You		
He/She/It	can't	speak another language.
We		
They		

*I can speak French.*

Not *I can to speak French.*

*I can't understand.*

Not *I don't can understand.*

#### Question & short answer

Can	I you he/she/it we they	do that, please?	
	Yes,	I you	can.
	No,	he/she/it we they	can't.

*Can you hear me?*

Not *Do you can hear me?*

*Can* has different uses.

Use *can* to talk about ability.

*I can speak English.*

Use *can* to ask for permission.

*Can I use your phone?*

## Past simple *was/were*

The past simple of *to be* is *was/were*.

*I was in Canada.*

*We weren't in a lovely hotel.*

#### Affirmative & negative

I	was	on holiday.
He/She/It	wasn't	
You	were	
We	weren't	
They		

#### Question

Was	I he/she/it	in Toronto?
Were	you/we/they	

#### Short answer

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

## Past simple regular verbs

For most regular verbs, add *-ed* to the verb for the past simple.

*He closed the door.*

*He walked to work.*

*He started work at nine o'clock.*

#### Affirmative

I		
You		
He/She/It	packed	our bags.
We		
They		



For negatives, use the auxiliary *did* and *did not (didn't)* and the infinitive.

Negative			
I			
You			
He/She/It	didn't	visit	the museum.
We			
They			

For questions, use the auxiliary *did*. Put the auxiliary before the subject and the infinitive after the subject.

Question			
	I		
	you		
Did	he/she/it	remember	the passports?
	we		
	they		

## FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

### Asking for permission

Can I + infinitive?

Could I + infinitive?

May I + infinitive?

Is it OK if I + infinitive?

Is it OK to + infinitive?

### Responses

Yes, of course.

Go ahead.

Sure.

No, I'm sorry but ...

No, I'm afraid not.

## WORD LIST

### Things to take on holiday

alarm clock <i>n</i> C **	/əla:(r)m klɒk/
guidebook <i>n</i> C *	/ˈgaɪd ˌbʊk/
passport <i>n</i> C *	/ˈpɑːspɔ:(r)t/
sunglasses <i>n</i> pl	/ˈsʌŋ glɑːsɪz/
ticket <i>n</i> C ***	/ˈtɪkt/

## The weather

cloudy <i>adj</i>	/ˈklaʊdi/
cold <i>adj</i> ***	/kəʊld/
cool <i>adj</i> ***	/ku:l/
rainy <i>adj</i>	/ˈreɪni/
snowy <i>adj</i>	/ˈsnəʊi/
sunny <i>adj</i> *	/ˈsʌni/
warm <i>adj</i> ***	/wɔ:(r)m/
windy <i>adj</i> *	/ˈwɪndi/

## Other words & phrases

accessible <i>adj</i>	/əkˈsesəb(ə)l/
airport <i>n</i> C ***	/ˈeə(r)pɔ:(r)t/
animal <i>n</i> C ***	/ˈænm(ə)l/
available <i>adj</i> ***	/əˈveɪləb(ə)l/
barbecue <i>n</i> C *	/ˈbɑ:(r)bɪ,kjuː/
bilingual <i>adj</i>	/bɪˈlɪŋɡwəl/
bird <i>n</i> C ***	/bɜ:(r)d/
bullet <i>n</i> C **	/ˈbʊlɪt/
clean <i>adj</i> ***	/kli:n/
complimentary <i>adj</i>	/ˌkɒmplɪˈment(ə)ri/
convenient <i>adj</i> **	/kənˈvi:niənt/
concert <i>n</i> C **	/ˈkɒnsə(r)t/
continental breakfast <i>n</i> C/U	/ˌkɒntɪˈnent(ə)l ˈbrekfəst/
cook <i>v</i> ***	/kʊk/
design <i>n</i> C/U ***	/dɪˈzaɪn/
destination <i>n</i> C **	/ˌdestɪˈneɪʃ(ə)n/
dictionary <i>n</i> C **	/ˈdɪkʃən(ə)ri/
draw <i>v</i> ***	/drɔː/
drive <i>v</i> ***	/draɪv/
electronic <i>adj</i> ***	/ˌelekˈtrɒnɪk/
establishment <i>n</i> C/U ***	/ɪˈstæblɪʃmənt/
exchange rate <i>n</i> C *	/ɪksˈtʃeɪndʒ reɪt/
friendly <i>adj</i> ***	/ˈfren(d)li/
go skiing <i>v</i>	/gəʊ ˈski:ɪŋ/
hear <i>v</i> ***	/hɪə(r)/
high-speed <i>adj</i>	/ˈhaɪspiːd/
iPod <i>n</i> C	/ˈaɪpɒd/
jazz <i>n</i> U *	/dʒæz/
machine <i>n</i> C ***	/məˈʃiːn/
meal <i>n</i> C/U ***	/mi:l/
money <i>n</i> U ***	/ˈmʌni/
passenger <i>n</i> C ***	/ˈpæsɪndʒə(r)/
play chess/tennis <i>v</i>	/pleɪ tʃes, ˈtenɪs/
sing <i>v</i> ***	/sɪŋ/
swim <i>v</i> **	/swɪm/
torch <i>n</i> C *	/tɔ:(r)tʃ/
translate <i>v</i> **	/trænsˈleɪt/
translation <i>n</i> C/U **	/trænsˈleɪʃ(ə)n/
type <i>v</i> *	/taɪp/
unnecessary <i>adj</i> **	/ʌnˈnesəs(ə)ri/
view <i>n</i> C/U ***	/vjuː/
warm <i>adj</i> ***	/wɔ:(r)m/