

"Can"



Can they ride a horse?  
Yes, they **can**.  
They **can** ride a horse.



Can we play on the computer, please?

The verb **can** is the same in all persons in the singular and in the plural and is always followed by a verb. We use it:

- a) to show ability e.g. *I can sing.*
- b) to ask somebody to do something for us e.g. *Can you open the door, please?*
- c) to ask for something e.g. *Can I have a piece of cake, please?*
- d) to ask for permission to do something e.g. *Can we play on the computer, please?*

Affirmative		Negative		Interrogative
		Long form	Short form	
I can walk		I cannot walk	I can't walk	Can I walk?
You can walk		You cannot walk	You can't walk	Can you walk?
He can walk		He cannot walk	He can't walk	Can he walk?
She can walk		She cannot walk	She can't walk	Can she walk?
It can walk		It cannot walk	It can't walk	Can it walk?
We can walk		We cannot walk	We can't walk	Can we walk?
You can walk		You cannot walk	You can't walk	Can you walk?
They can walk		They cannot walk	They can't walk	Can they walk?

Note: the negative form *cannot* is one word.

**7** Look at the pictures and ask and answer as in the example.

SA: *What can he do?*  
SB: *He can ski.*



**8** Make sentences which are true using *can* or *can't*.

- 1 An artist / paint pictures *An artist can paint pictures.*
- 2 A cat / fly *A cat can't fly.*
- 3 A monkey / climb trees .....
- 4 A leopard / run fast .....
- 5 A pilot / fly an aeroplane .....
- 6 A dog / talk .....
- 7 A fish / walk .....
- 8 An elephant / fly .....
- 9 A baker / make bread .....
- 10 A hamster / ride a bicycle .....

The Verbs "Have Got" - "Can"

Short Answers

Can I/you/he, etc. ...? Yes, I/you/he, etc. can.  
No, I/you/he, etc. can't.

**9** Put a tick (✓) for each thing you can do and a cross (X) for each thing you can't do. Then, ask your partner what he/she can or can't do. Finally, tell the class what you and your friend can and can't do as in the example.

e.g. *I can speak English, cook spaghetti and draw but I can't play a musical instrument, drive a car or type. My friend Maria ...*

	I	My friend
play a musical instrument		
speak English		
cook spaghetti		
drive a car		
draw		
type		

**10** For each of the situations below, fill in the gaps with *Can you or Can I* and a verb from the list.

*borrow, carry, have, help*



ORAL Activity

Jim Lawton is a stunt man. He can do many dangerous things, but there are some simple things that he can't do. Look at the pictures and in pairs ask and answer questions as in the example.

e.g. SA: Can he drive a racing car?  
SB: Yes, he can.



WRITING Activity

Jim Lawton had an accident. He broke his leg.  
a) What can't he do now? Use the verbs from the list below to write sentences using *can't*.

drive - jump - dive - climb  
e.g. *He can't drive a racing car.*

b) What can Jim do? Use the verbs from the list below to write sentences using *can*.

read - talk - write - watch - listen  
e.g. *He can read a magazine.*

### Possessive Case



*This is John.  
These are John's parents.  
John's ball is white.*



*This is Mary and Tony's dog.*



*Jill's bicycle is red.  
Bob's bicycle is blue.  
These are Jill's and Bob's bicycles.*

- ◆ We use the possessive case a) to show that something belongs to somebody e.g. *Mary's bag*, b) to explain the relationship between two or more people e.g. *Tom's uncle* and c) to talk about shops and houses.  
e.g. *He's at the baker's.* (= *He's at the baker's shop.*)  
*They are at Bob's.* (= *They are at Bob's house.*)

- ◆ The possessive case is formed in two ways:  
a) with **'s** for people and animals e.g. *Jim's flat* and b) with the preposition **of** for things.



*the legs of the table*



*the cat's tail*

- ◆ Singular nouns or proper nouns take **'s**.  
e.g. *the boy's ball*, *Emily's car*  
When the proper noun ends in **-s** we add **'s** or only an apostrophe (**'**).  
e.g. *Doris's hat* or *Doris' hat*
- ◆ Plural nouns ending in **-s** take **'** (apostrophe).  
e.g. *the girls' house*  
Irregular plural nouns take **'s**.  
e.g. *the men's boat*

- ◆ When the same thing belongs to two or more people we add **'s** only to the last noun.



*Paul and Tina's house.*  
(The house belongs to both of them.)

- ◆ When two or more things belong to two or more people and we want to show that each person has his/her own thing we add **'s** to each noun.



*Mary's and Sarah's roller skates.*  
(Each girl has her own roller skates.)

- ◆ When we want to know to whom something belongs we use the question word **whose**.



*Whose horse is this?*  
*It's Helen's.*

**1 Ask and answer as in the example.**



1 (car/Alan and Jane)  
...*Whose car is this?*  
*It's Alan and Jane's...*



2 (computer/Helen)  
.....  
.....  
.....



3 (gloves/the boxers)  
.....  
.....  
.....



4 (ball/the footballers)  
.....  
.....  
.....



5 (teddy bear/Janet)  
.....  
.....  
.....



6 (rackets/Ben and Rita)  
.....  
.....  
.....

### Pronunciation

The **s** of the possessive case is pronounced /s/, /z/ or /z/. The pronunciation rules for the possessive case are the same as the rules for plural nouns.

/s/	/f/, /k/, /p/, /t/, /θ/
	Cliff's, Frank's, Pat's
/z/	/s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, /dʒ/, /z/, /ʒ/
	Alice's, Trish's, Mitch's
/z/	after all other sounds
	the woman's, the boy's, the dog's

**2 Put the nouns in the correct list in the possessive case and read them out.**

the girl, Tom, George, the cat, Beth, the child, Liz, Philip, Scott

/s/	/z/	/z/
		the girl's

**3 Choose the right item.**

- ..... **B** ..... are green.  
A The eyes of Helen    B Helen's eyes  
C Helens' eyes
- ..... is old.  
A My father's car    B My fathers' car  
C The car of my father
- ..... are dirty.  
A The shoes of the girls    B The girls' shoes  
C The girls shoes
- This is ..... hamster.  
A Peter    B Peters'    C Peter's
- Is this ..... ?  
A Melanies' house    B Melanie's house  
C the house of Melanie
- ..... is Pippin.  
A My cat's name    B My cats' name  
C My cats name
- ..... are red.  
A The trees leaves    B The tree's leaves  
C The leaves of the tree

**Note:** Tony's got = Tony has got  
He's a ... = He is a ...  
Tony's book = possessive case

**4 Say if the 's is a possessive case, is or has.**

- Kim's got a pet.
- This is Mr Dixon's house.
- Look at Steve's shoes.
- She's in France.
- He's ten years old.
- Go to Mr Baker's shop.
- Feed Helen's rabbit.
- She's a doctor.
- Darren's hair is black.
- He's got a blue ball.

Possessive Adjectives/  
Pronouns



A: Is this **your** wallet?  
 B: No, it isn't **mine**.  
 A: Whose is it, then?  
 B: I think it's Simon's. **His** wallet is brown.



A: Simon, is this wallet **yours**?  
 C: Yes, it's **mine**. Thanks.

Possessive adjectives	Possessive pronouns
my	mine
your	yours
his	his
her	hers
its	- *
our	ours
your	yours
their	theirs

\* Note: There is no possessive pronoun for the personal pronoun *it*.

- ◆ Possessive adjectives/pronouns show:
  - that something belongs to somebody,
  - and b) the relationship between two or more people. We put *possessive adjectives* before nouns. *Possessive pronouns* are not followed by nouns.

*This is my bag. This bag is mine.*  
*That is their car. That car is theirs.*

**5** Write the possessive adjectives and pronouns.

	adjectives	pronouns
1 You	... <i>your</i> ...	... <i>yours</i> ...
2 Mary	.....	.....
3 Andy and Sally	.....	.....
4 Mike	.....	.....
5 Mark and I	.....	.....
6 John	.....	.....
7 Susan and Kate	.....	.....
8 Helen	.....	.....
9 the dog	.....	.....
10 Jim and you	.....	.....

**6** Underline the correct word.

- This is our/ours car.
- Is this yours/your house?
- Whose is this umbrella? It's my/mine.
- That bicycle is hers/her.
- Are these their/theirs books?
- Whose are these boots? Are they your/yours?
- This is mine/my camera.
- Is that her/hers dog?
- These aren't our/ours pens. They are your/ yours.
- She's mine/my sister. Her/Hers name is Ann.

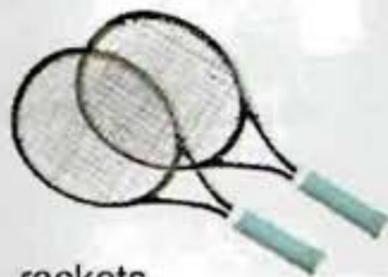
**7** Fill in the gaps with the correct possessive adjective (my, your, etc.) and one of the words from the list.

*homework, flat, honeymoon, handbag, car, parents, umbrella*

- Greg wants to buy a house. ...*His flat*... is too small.
- Gerry and Mary got married last week. They went to Hawaii for .....
- It's raining! Take ..... with you.
- I have to take the bus to work tomorrow. .... has got a flat tyre.
- Ann lost ..... when she was on holiday.
- My brother and I live in the city, but ..... live in the country.
- Billy left his books at school and now he can't do .....

8

Look at the pictures. Match the objects with the people and make sentences as in the example.



rackets

1 *These are the tennis players' rackets. These are their rackets. These rackets are theirs.*



spoons

2 .....



camera

3 .....



typewriter

4 .....

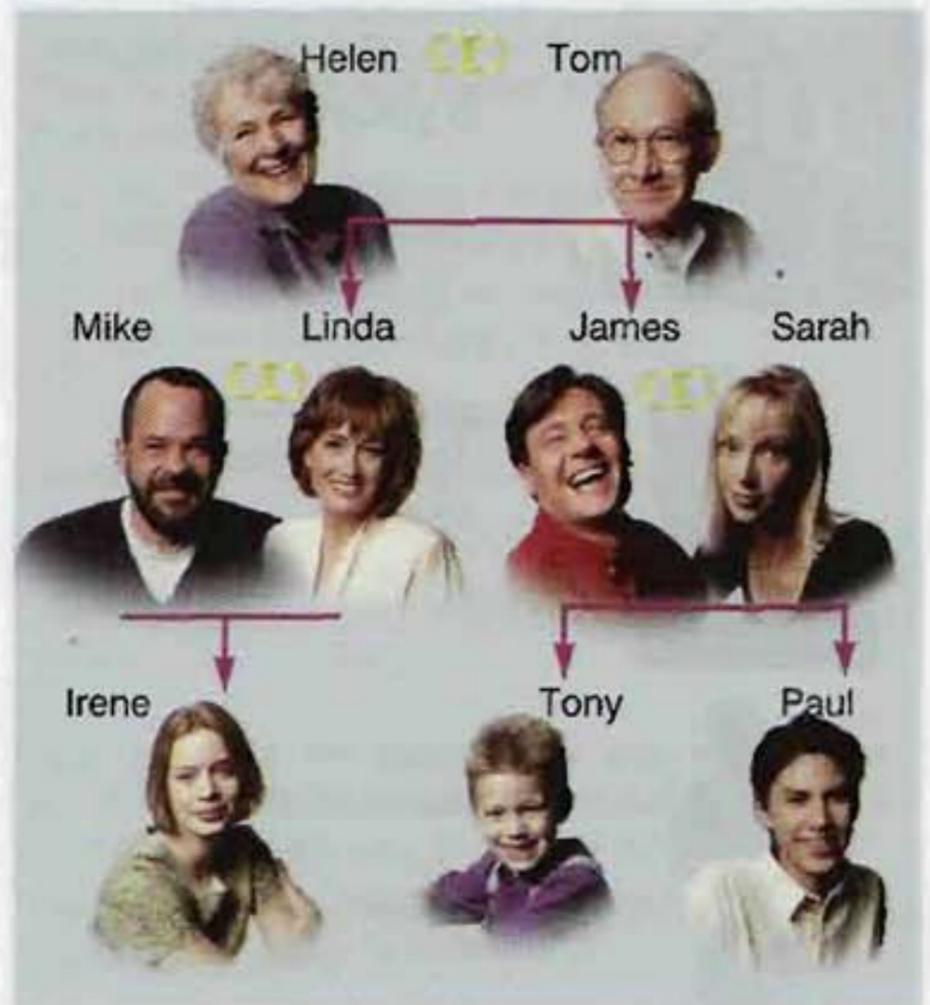


shoes

5 .....

9

Look at the family tree and fill in the gaps with the possessive case in the answers below.



Who is Mike? He's 1) ...*Linda's*... husband.  
 Who is Paul? He's 2) ..... and ..... son.  
 Who is Irene? She's 3) ..... and ..... daughter.  
 Who is Sarah? She's 4) ..... wife.  
 Who is Helen? She's 5) ..... and ..... mother.  
 Who is Tony? He's 6) ..... brother.

10

Fill in the blanks with the correct possessive adjective.

Helen and Tom are having their 50th wedding anniversary.

Tom: Are Linda and 1) ...*her*... husband coming to 2) ..... party tomorrow night?

Helen: Yes. 3) ..... daughter is coming too.

Tom: Did you remember to invite James and 4) ..... wife?

Helen: Yes, but I don't think 5) ..... sons are coming.

Tom: Oh yes. Tony and 6) ..... brother are in Spain for the summer holidays.

Helen: Shall we invite some of 7) ..... friends, then?

Tom: Yes. Why not?

**11** Make sentences using the possessive case ('s or of+noun).



1 door/house/yellow  
*The door of the house is yellow.*



2 owl/eyes/round  
*The owl's eyes are round.*



3 nurse/uniform/white  
.....  
.....  
.....



4 handle/briefcase/small  
.....  
.....  
.....



5 kangaroo/tail/long  
.....  
.....  
.....



6 hands/clock/black  
.....  
.....  
.....



7 clown/clothes/funny  
.....  
.....  
.....



8 leaves/rose/green  
.....  
.....  
.....

**12** Fill in the gaps in the dialogue with *my/your*. Then, in pairs, act out the dialogue.

A: Good afternoon, officer.  
B: Good afternoon. How can I help you?  
A: I have lost 1) ...*my*... bag.  
B: What was in 2) ..... bag?  
A: 3) ..... purse, 4) ..... keys and 5) ..... passport.  
B: Okay. What is 6) ..... address, please?  
A: 7) ..... address is 24 Park Lane, London.  
B: And 8) ..... telephone number?  
A: It is 01-658-9254.  
B: That's all. Thank you, madam.  
A: Thank you very much. Goodbye.

**13** Choose the correct word.

- 1 Excuse me, is this pen ...*A*... ?  
A yours    B you    C your
- 2 This is Sarah. .... is my sister.  
A She    B Hers    C Her
- 3 Mr and Mrs Tate live next door. This is ..... dog.  
A ours    B his    C their
- 4 Jason lives in a big house. It belongs to ..... father.  
A he    B his    C him
- 5 We take ..... children to the park every afternoon.  
A our    B ours    C hers
- 6 ..... are all going to the beach.  
A Their    B They    C Theirs

**14** Fill in the gaps with the correct possessive pronoun or adjective.



**15** Put the words in the right order.

- 1 photo / this / is / yours
- 2 hat / a / on / head / has / his / got / Phil
- 3 record / cousin's / this / isn't / my
- 4 socks / your / these / are / ?
- 5 got / you / bag / my / have / ?
- 6 is / long / it's / its / and / a / giraffe / neck

**16** Correct the mistakes.

- 1 Mine room is big.
- 2 The tail of the dog is long.
- 3 The womens' dresses are red.
- 4 Are those pencils your?
- 5 That is Mike's and Helen's house.
- 6 Whose are these rackets? They're their.
- 7 This is hers book.
- 8 Those are Rita and Jim's bicycles.
- 9 Is that Kates' hat?
- 10 The house's windows are green.

ORAL  
Activity

Read the information about Philippa and Colin. Then, in pairs, ask and answer questions as in the example.

- e.g. SA: *What is Philippa's favourite hobby?*  
 SB: *Her favourite hobby is reading.*  
 SA: *What is Colin's favourite hobby?*  
 SB: *His favourite hobby is fishing.*

	PHILIPPA	COLIN
Hobby	Reading	Fishing
Food	Pizza	Pizza
Film	"Batman"	"Superman"
Sport	Swimming	Swimming
Colour	Blue	Green

Now complete the table below with information about yourself. Then, ask questions to find out information about your partner as in the example:

- e.g. SA: *What is your favourite hobby?*  
 SB: *My favourite hobby is .....*

	YOU	YOUR PARTNER
Hobby		
Food		
Film		
Sport		
Colour		

WRITING  
Activity

Look at the oral activity and fill in the gaps with the correct possessive adjective / pronoun or possessive case.

Philippa and Colin are friends. They have hobbies. 1) ..... hobby is reading but 2) ..... is fishing. 3) ..... favourite food is pizza. Philippa and Colin like films. 4) ..... favourite film is "Batman" but 5) ..... is "Superman". They both enjoy sports. 6) ..... favourite sport is swimming. 7) ..... favourite colour is blue but 8) ..... is green.

Now, write a similar text about you and your friend. Start like this.

*My favourite hobby is .....*