

Can



- General ability (present)**
-I **can** speak English.
- Ask for permission (informal)**
-**Can** I borrow your pen please?
- To request something**
-**Can** you help me please?
- Possibility**
- It **can** get very cold there at night.
- Offer to help someone**
-**Can** I carry your bags for you?
- Cannot (can't) = not allowed**
-You **cannot** smoke in this room.
-You **can't** go to the party.

Could



- General ability in the past**
- I **could** play the piano when I was younger.
- Ask for permission (more polite)**
-**Could** I use your bathroom please?
- To request something (more polite)**
-**Could** you pass me the salt please?
- Possibility in the past could+have+past participle**
-What? You **could have broken** your leg.
- Suggestion (when asked what to do)**
-We **could** go to the movies if you like.
- Conditional of Can (would be able to)**
-If we had some oranges I **could** make you some fresh juice. (=would be able to).