

## **Lesson Plan: Can, Can't (ability)**

**Level:** Beginner (A1)

**Time:** 45–60 minutes

**Skills:** Speaking, listening, reading, writing

### **1. Objectives**

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Use can to talk about abilities
- Use can't to talk about lack of ability
- Ask and answer simple questions with Can you...?

### **2. Target Language**

- Affirmative:

*I can swim.*

*She can read English.*

- Negative:

*I can't drive.*

*He can't cook.*

- Question:

*Can you swim?*

- Short answers:

*Yes, I can. / No, I can't.*

### 3. Materials

- Board / slides
- Flashcards or pictures (swim, read, write, run, sing, draw, ride a bike)
- Worksheet (optional)

### 4. Warm-Up (5–10 minutes)

Activity: Teacher Demonstration

1. Act out an ability (e.g., pretend to swim).
2. Say: "I can swim."
3. Write on the board:  
I can swim.
4. Act out something you can't do (e.g., fly).
5. Say: "I can't fly."
6. Write:  
I can't fly.

→ Use gestures and pictures to support understanding.

### 5. Presentation (10 minutes)

Step 1: Form

Write on the board:

- Subject + can + verb  
*I can read.*
- Subject + can't + verb  
*I can't drive.*

Highlight:

- No "to" after can ❌ can to swim
- Verb does not change ❌ can swims

## Step 2: Meaning Check

Ask simple yes/no questions:

*"Can I swim?" (gesture swimming)*

*"Can I fly?" (gesture flying)*

Let students answer together: *Yes! / No!*

## 6. Controlled Practice (10–15 minutes)

### Activity 1: Repeat & Point

- Show a picture.
- Say: "I can \_\_\_\_."
- Students repeat.

Example:

- Picture of a bike → "I can ride a bike."

### Activity 2: Fill in the Blanks

Write on the board or worksheet:

1. I \_\_\_\_ read English.
2. I \_\_\_\_ fly.
3. She \_\_\_\_ swim.

Students choose can or can't.

## 7. Speaking Practice (15 minutes)

### Activity 1: Yes/no game

Teacher asks:

"Can you swim?", "Can you draw?", "Can you sing?"

Students answer:

"Yes, I can." / "No, I can't."

### Activity 2: Pair work

Students ask and answer in pairs:

Student A: Can you \_\_\_\_?

Student B: Yes, I can. / No, I can't.

(Provide a word list on the board.)

## 8. Freer Practice (10 minutes)

Activity: Class Survey

Students ask 3 classmates:

*"Can you \_\_\_\_?"*

They report:

*"Anna can swim.", "Tom can't cook."*

## 9. Review & Wrap-Up (5 minutes)

- Ask concept questions:

*"Do we say can to swim?" (No)*

*"Do we change the verb?" (No)*

- Elicit examples from students:

*"Tell me one thing you can do."*

## 10. Optional Homework

- Write 3 things you can do and 2 things you can't do.
- Draw pictures and label them (for younger learners).