

# UJDS

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# MODAL VERB CAN



## what is

Modal verbs (or 'modal verbs') are certain verbs that are invariable, that is, they are formed the same with all personal pronouns. In this case we are going to see the use of the modal 'can'. Invariables, es decir, que se forman igual con todas los pronombres personales. En este caso vamos a ver el uso del modal 'can'. The modal verb 'can' is used to express ability and to express permission (possibility). It is usually translated as 'power', although in some cases it is translated as 'know'.



Can

## structure

Modal verbs are the same for all people and are always followed by an infinitive (without 'to'). Furthermore, they do not need an auxiliary to form the negative and the interrogative.

**AFFIRMATIVE:** To form the affirmative we use the modal verb followed by another verb without the preposition 'to'.

subject + can + main verb + rest of sentence

I know how to swim.  
I can swim.



**NEGATIVE:** To negate a modal verb we do not need any auxiliary. To do this we add the negation particle 'not'.

subject + can't + main verb + rest of sentence.

**INTERROGATIVE:** To ask with a modal verb we invert the modal verb with the subject.

can + subject + main verb + rest of sentence...?

Can you come here?

Can you come here?



# GLOSSARY



**baseball = beisbol**



**basketball = basket /  
baloncesto**



**football (UK) /  
soccer (US) = fútbol**



**football (US) = fútbol  
americano**



**football (UK) /  
soccer (US) = fútbol**



**Tennis=tenis**



**Ping pong = ping  
pong**



**Handball=Balonmano**

# GLOSSARY



**Boxing=Boxeo**



**cycling=Ciclismo**