

16 Question Strips

CAN (Ability)



- How many languages **can** you speak?
- What **can** you do that most people **can't** do?
- What **can't** you do that most people **can** do?
- What songs **can** you sing?
- What kinds of food **can** you cook?
- What **can** you do to make yourself feel happy?
- What **can** you do to improve your English?
- At what age **can** people drive in your country?
- Which student(s) in our class **can** tell funny jokes?
- **Can** you remember what you dreamed about last night?
- What six animals **can** eat you?
- **Can** you make a sound like a bird or an animal?
- **Can** you say "Hello" in other languages?
- Why **can't** chickens fly?
- **Can** you remember what we studied in our last English class?
- What kinds of things **can** you do when you feel bored?

Grammar Focus Can (Ability)

Level Elementary to Pre-Intermediate (CEFR Level A2)

- **As a Seated Activity**

Have your students seated in pairs or in groups of three.

Lay the sixteen cut-up questions – face-down – between the students.

Students take turns randomly selecting questions to ask their partner(s).

Encourage follow-up questions.

Be sure to set a time frame for your students (try starting with 10 – 15 minutes for 16 questions; you may want to adjust this in later classes). Monitor and assist.

- **As a Standing Activity 1**

Have all your students stand up.

Give one question strip to each student.

Students find a partner and ask their question. Encourage follow-up questions.

After the students have asked each other their questions, have them exchange question strips and find new partners and continue.

Set a time frame as above. Monitor and assist.

- **As a Standing Activity 2**

This activity runs exactly the same as in ‘Standing Activity 1’ except that students first have about a minute to memorize their question (before placing it in their pocket – it can be used as a prompt if needed).

After each short conversation, students ‘mentally exchange’ their questions – they must help each other memorize their new questions before setting off to find a new partner.

This activity version is a little challenging, but also lots of fun – and it’s great to see all the learning that takes place!

Set a time frame as above. Monitor and assist.