

# Modal Auxiliaries: Can

Modal auxiliaries modify the mood of a verb. The verb *can* is used to express ability, willingness, permission, or possibility. The negative of *can* is *cannot* or the contraction *can't*.

Sample Sentence	Can Expresses
I can take you to school.	ability
Can you bring me an apple?	willingness
Can I stay after school today?	permission
Dogs can learn to understand many words.	possibility

**DIRECTIONS:** Identify what *can* is expressing in each sentence.

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1. I can't donate to your cause today.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Can you please pass the salt?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Cats can learn to use a toilet.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. I can walk ten miles if I am rested.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. A positive thought can lift your mood.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. I can make dinner tonight.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. A catnap can refresh you.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Can I go to Mary's house?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. I can clean up my room later today.

\_\_\_\_\_

10. I can play the piano.

