

**James**

Welcome back to English In A Minute. I'm James and today we're going to talk about a word with lots of different uses: **can**.

**I can play the guitar.** This is the first way that we can use **can** – to talk about ability. For example: **I can speak Spanish, but I can't fly.**

Let's look at another use of **can**. **Can I open the window, Elly?**

**Elly**

**No, you can't!** It's too cold!

**James**

Oh, OK! In this example, **can** is used to ask for or give permission to do something. **Can I go for lunch, Elly?**

**Elly**

**Yes, of course you can, James!**

**James**

Oh, thank you!

**Learning a language can be difficult.** In this final example, **can** is used to talk about possibility. Elly take a jacket. **It can get cold at night!**

**Elly**

OK! Thanks, James!

**James**

This means that sometimes it is cold, but sometimes it isn't. So there we have it. **Can** can be used for ability, permission and possibility. Now you, can use **can** too. See you next time!