POLITE REQUESTS

MAY I COME IN?

can / could → yetenek • can / could / may / might → izin ve kibar rica

ABILITY



I can play the piano.
(Piyano çalabilirim.)

vs

PERMISSION

May I come in, please?
(İçeri girebilir miyim, lütfen?)



can / could ***may / might*** + ***V1*** • ***no -s*** • ***no to***



YETENEK (ability)
şimdi → **can / can't** + V1
geçmişte → **could / couldn't** + V1
When I was four, I could ...

İZİN / RİCA (permission)
arkadaşa → **Can I ...?**
öğretmene → **Could I / May I ...?**
başkasından rica → **Could you ...?**

✦ KİBARLIK MERDİVENİ

Can I ...?	Could I ...?	May I ...?	Might I ...?
samimi	kibar	**çok kibar**	en resmî (nadir)
arkadaşına, ailene	öğretmenine	**müdüre, kütüphaneciye**	çok resmî durumlar

ABILITY NOW şimdiki yetenek
I / he / they can + V1
she can't + V1
Can you + V1 ...? – Yes, I can.
Emir can play the violin.

ABILITY IN THE PAST geçmiş yetenek
I / he / they could + V1
she couldn't + V1
Could you + V1 ... when ...?
My grandma couldn't use a computer.

POLITE REQUEST kibar rica
Can / Could / May I + V1 ...?
Could you + V1 ..., please?
May I borrow your dictionary, please?

CEVAPLAR
Yes, of course. • Sure, go ahead. • Yes, you can / may. • I'm sorry, but you can't.
May I ...? sorusuna "Yes, you might." denmez.

SORUDA do / does YOK!
Doğru: **Can she swim?**
Yanlış: Does she can swim?
Modal soruyu kendisi kurar.

REMEMBER THIS

can → could → may → might

Modal + V1 → -s yok, to yok: Ali can draw. (cans ✗ / can draws ✗ / can to draw ✗)
could = can'in geçmişi; Could you ...? ise bugünkü kibar rica.

A WHICH ONE IS RIGHT?

Read and circle the correct answer. Look at the example.

1 Your friend has a nice pen. EXAMPLE

a) Can I try your pen?
b) Can I to try your pen?

2 Ms Aksoy is in her office. You want to talk to her.

a) May I speaking to you?
b) May I speak to you, please?

3 At four, my brother _____ read.

a) can't
b) couldn't

4 The librarian asks: "May I see your library card?" You answer:

a) Yes, of course. Here you are.
b) Yes, you might.

A WHICH ONE IS RIGHT? (continued)

5 Which question is the MOST polite?

a) Can I ask a question?
b) Might I ask a question?

6 My dad _____ cook very well.

a) cans
b) can

7 "Can I borrow your bike?" – "No, _____. I need it today."

a) you can't
b) I can't

8 You want your friend to close the door.

a) Can you closing the door?
b) Can you close the door, please?

9 Last year Mert _____ ride a bike, but now he can.

a) couldn't
b) can't

10 Which question is correct?

a) Did you could swim when you were six?
b) Could you swim when you were six?

B POLITE, PLEASE!

Match the situations with the requests. Write the letters. There is one extra request.

1	You want to go to the toilet in the lesson. EXAMPLE d	**a**	Can I borrow your rubber?
2	You want to borrow a book from the library. ☐	**b**	Could I join the art club, please?
3	You need a rubber. You ask your friend. ☐	**c**	May I use the printer, please?
4	You can't hear the teacher very well. ☐	**d**	May I go to the toilet, please?
5	It is very hot in the classroom. ☐	**e**	Could you tidy your desk, please?
6	You want to join the art club. ☐	**f**	Could you speak louder, please?
7	You want to ask the headmaster something. ☐	**g**	Could I borrow this book, please?
8	You want to print your homework at school. ☐	**h**	Might I ask you a question, sir?
9	Your friend has a new comic. You want to see it. ☐	**i**	May I open the window, please?
10	You want the teacher to play the video again. ☐	**j**	Can I look at your new comic?
		k	Could you play the video again, please?

C THEN AND NOW

Look at the chart. Tick T or F. Look at the example.

Who?	AT FIVE: could ...	AT FIVE: couldn't ...	NOW: can ...
Defne	ride a bike	swim	swim
Arda	swim	read	play chess
Mia	sing songs	ride a bike	ride a bike
Kenji	read	write	write stories

1 Defne could ride a bike at five. EXAMPLE T F

2 Defne could swim at five. T F

3 Defne can swim now. T F

4 Arda couldn't swim at five. T F

5 Arda can play chess now. T F

6 Mia couldn't ride a bike at five. T F

7 Mia can't ride a bike now. T F

8 Kenji could read at five. T F

9 Kenji could write at five. T F

10 Kenji can't write stories now. T F

11 Arda could read at five. T F

12 Mia could sing songs at five. T F

D BE POLITE!

These are not polite. Rewrite them with the words given. Look at the example.

1. Give me the scissors! (to your teacher) EXAMPLE

Could you *give me the scissors, please?*

2. I want to use your ruler. (to a friend)

Can I _____

3. I want to leave early today. (to your teacher)

May I _____

4. Carry this box for me! (to your brother)

Could you _____

5. I'm taking a photo of your project. (to the headmaster)

May I _____

D BE POLITE! (continued)

6. Help me with my homework! (to your sister)

Could you _____

7. I want to sit next to Nil. (to your teacher)

May I _____

8. Lend me your rubber! (to a friend)

Can you _____

9. I'm using your phone. (to the counsellor)

Could I _____

10. Close the window! (to your classmate)

Could you _____

11. Turn off the music! (to your brother)

Could you _____

12. I'm taking your pencil. (to a friend)

Can I _____

E AT THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Complete the dialogue with the words in the box. Look at line 1.

WORD BANK

can (x3) | can't | couldn't (x2) | May | Could

E — Efe: Good morning, Mrs Brown. **Could** I ask you something?

M — Mrs Brown: Of course, Efe. How **(1)** _____ I help you?

E — Efe: I **(2)** _____ find the book for my project yesterday. It wasn't on the shelf.

M — Mrs Brown: Let me look... Here it is! You **(3)** _____ keep it for two weeks.

E — Efe: Thank you! **(4)** _____ I use the computer, please? I need to print my poster.

M — Mrs Brown: Sorry, the printer isn't working today, so you **(5)** _____ print anything.

E — Efe: That's OK. My sister **(6)** _____ print it at home. She has a printer.

M — Mrs Brown: Great! **(7)** _____ you speak a bit more quietly, please? People are reading.

E — Efe: Sorry! When I was little, I **(8)** _____ whisper at all!

F THE MODAL RACE

Start at START. Write one or two words in each square. Look at the example.

▶ START

1 EXAMPLE
I **couldn't** swim at three, but I can now. (can)

2
Correct the word: She cans dance.
_____

3
Cross out the extra word: May I to borrow it?
_____

4 ★
GO BACK 2

5
_____ your dad cook at ten? – No, he couldn't. (can)

6
Ece was ill, so she _____ come to school. (can)

7
Correct the words: Do I may sit here?
_____

8
Now I _____ play the guitar very well! (can)

9 ★
MISS A TURN

10
Correct the word: He can speaks Italian.
_____

11
Kerem has a broken arm, so he _____ play. (can)

12
At six, Ada _____ read, but she couldn't write. (can)

★ FINISH

G THEN AND NOW: MY SKILLS

Write about your skills. What could you do at five? What can you do now? Write 6 sentences.

Me at five and me now

When I was five, I could _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

CHECKLIST

- ☐ 2 things you could do at five
- ☐ 1 thing you couldn't do at five
- ☐ 2 things you can do now
- ☐ 1 thing you can't do now

ANSWER KEY • CHECK & LEARN

Kısaltılmış ve açık biçimler doğrudur: can't = cannot, couldn't = could not.
D: please her cümlede şart değildir ama kibarlığı artırır. Anlamı koruyan başka fiiller de kabul edilir.
E: (1) may, (4) Can / Could, (6) could, (7) Can de doğrudur; kelime kutusuna göre beklenen cevaplar anahtardaki gibidir.
F 3: Fazla sözcük to'dur (May I borrow it?).
G: Öğrencinin kendi cevabıdır; could / couldn't ve can / can't + V1 doğru kullanıldıysa kabul edin.



A • Which one is right?

1. a) Can I try your pen?
2. b) May I speak to you, please?
3. b) couldn't
4. a) Yes, of course. Here you are.
5. b) Might I ask a question?
6. b) can
7. a) you can't
8. b) Can you close the door, please?
9. a) couldn't
10. b) Could you swim when you were six?

B • Polite, please!

1 → d	2 → g	3 → a	4 → f
5 → i	6 → b	7 → h	8 → c
9 → j	10 → k		

C • Then and now

1. T
2. F – She couldn't swim at five.
3. T
4. F – He could swim at five.
5. T
6. T
7. F – She can ride a bike now.
8. T
9. F – He couldn't write at five.
10. F – He can write stories now.
11. F – He couldn't read at five.
12. T

D • Be polite!

1. Could you give me the scissors, please?
2. Can I use your ruler?
3. May I leave early today, please?
4. Could you carry this box for me, please?
5. May I take a photo of your project, please?
6. Could you help me with my homework, please?
7. May I sit next to Nil, please?
8. Can you lend me your rubber?
9. Could I use your phone, please?
10. Could you close the window, please?
11. Could you turn off the music, please?
12. Can I take your pencil?

E • At the school library

1. can	**2.** couldn't	**3.** can	**4.** May
5. can't	**6.** can	**7.** Could	**8.** couldn't

F • The modal race

1. I **couldn't** swim at three, but I can now. (can)
2. can
3. to
5. Could your dad cook at ten? – No, he couldn't. (can)
6. Ece was ill, so she **couldn't** come to school. (can)
7. May I
8. Now I **can** play the guitar very well! (can)
10. speak
11. Kerem has a broken arm, so he **can't** play. (can)
12. At six, Ada **could** read, but she couldn't write. (can)

G • Then and now: my skills

When I was five, I could ride a bike. I could also sing some English songs. I couldn't swim. Now I can swim very well. I can play the guitar. I can't speak Japanese.

Örnek cevap; öğrencinin cevabı farklı olabilir.