

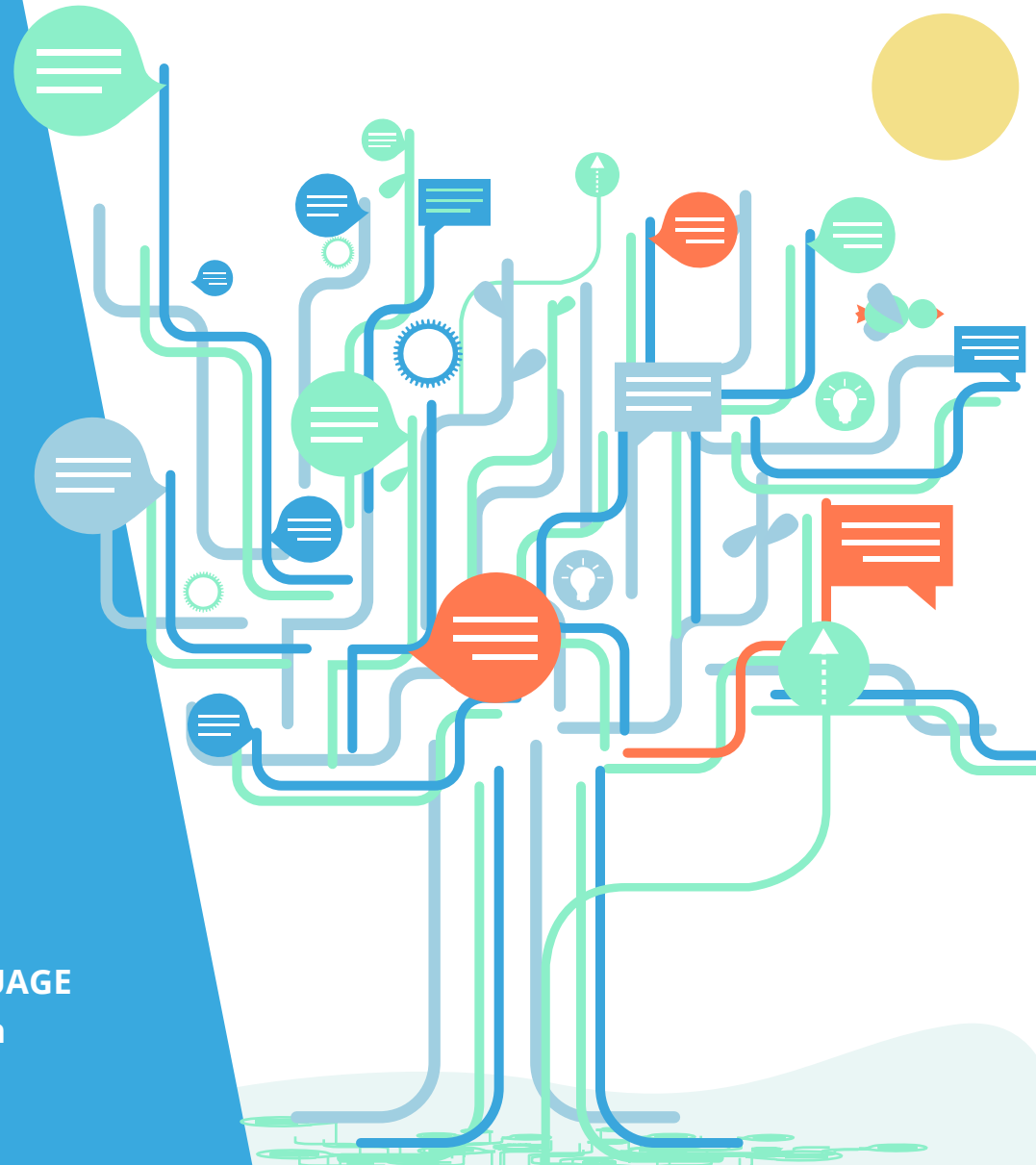
# Modal verbs of ability and advice

GRAMMAR

LEVEL  
Beginner

NUMBER  
A2\_1043G\_EN

LANGUAGE  
English

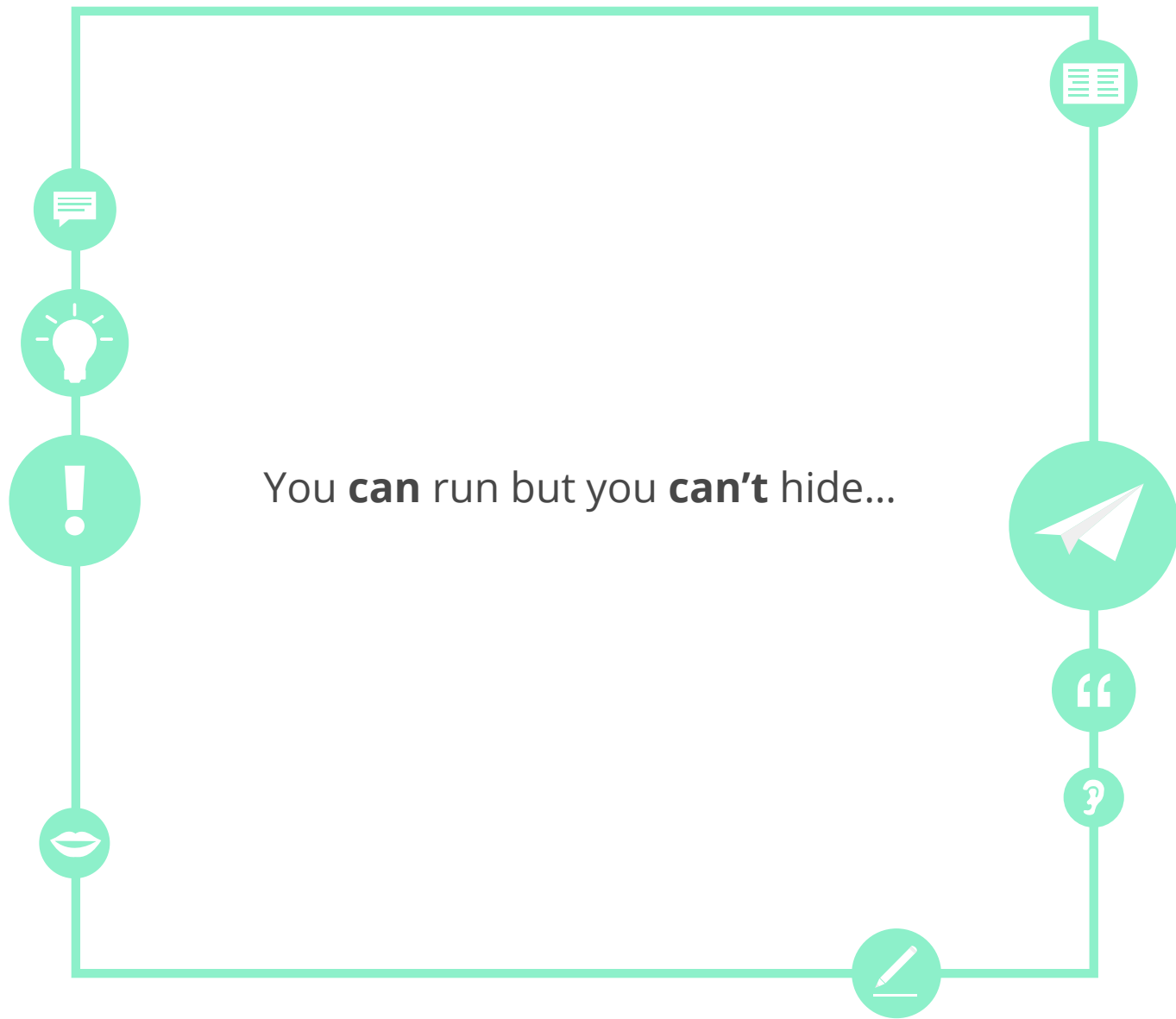




## Goals

- Can distinguish between the use of 'can' and 'could'.
- Can give simple advice using 'should'.







## Modal verbs of ability

Use **can** and **can't** to talk about someone's **skills** or **general ability** in the **present**.

Use **can** and **can't** for **all** subjects.

Use the **base form** of a verb **after** modal verbs.

Personal pronoun	Modal verb	Base form
I	can	run.
You	can	ski.
She	can't	swim.
They	can't	do yoga very well.

can



I **can** run.

can



You can ski.

can't



He **can't** concentrate.

can't



They **can't** do yoga very well.





## Find the odd one out



A



B



C



D



## Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the correct verb. Then, answer the questions with your teacher.

1. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ tennis?
2. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ 25 metres?
3. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ down a mountain?
4. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish?
5. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ a big meal?
6. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ a boat?

ski

cook

sail

play

speak

swim



## Past ability

Use **could** and **couldn't** to talk about someone's **skills** or **general ability** in the **past**.

Now	Past
I <b>can</b> play football.	I <b>could</b> play football.
He <b>can</b> run a marathon.	He <b>could</b> run a marathon.
She <b>can't</b> swim very well.	She <b>couldn't</b> swim very well.
We <b>can't</b> climb mountains.	We <b>couldn't</b> climb mountains.



## True or false?

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Cows can sleep standing up.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The dodo could fly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Kangaroos can't hop without their tails.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Most dinosaurs couldn't fly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Gorillas can't catch human colds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Ostriches can run faster than horses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## Match the sentences

1. I can play...

a. swim.

2. He could...

b. ride a bike last year.

3. We can...

c. tennis.

4. She couldn't...

d. can't ski.

5. You...

e. climb trees when he was young.



## Could and can

Say something that your grandparents could do that you can't. Then, try it the other way around.

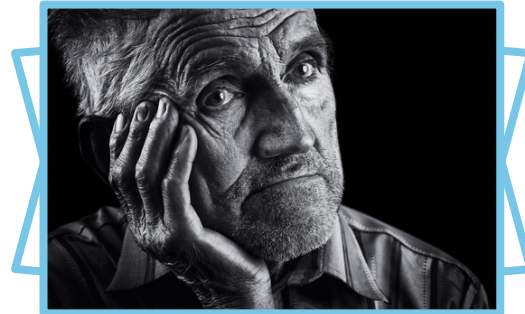


She could...

≠



...but I can't.



≠





What can you do?

Tell a classmate what you *can* do now and what you *could* do in the past.





## Modal verbs of advice

- Use **should** to **give advice** or say something is a **good idea**.
- Remember to use the **base form** after a modal verb.

Personal pronoun	Modal verb	Base form
I	<b>should</b>	<b>study</b> for the test.
You	<b>should</b>	<b>do</b> exercise regularly.
She	<b>should</b>	<b>be</b> an athlete.
We	<b>should</b>	<b>go</b> surfing this weekend.

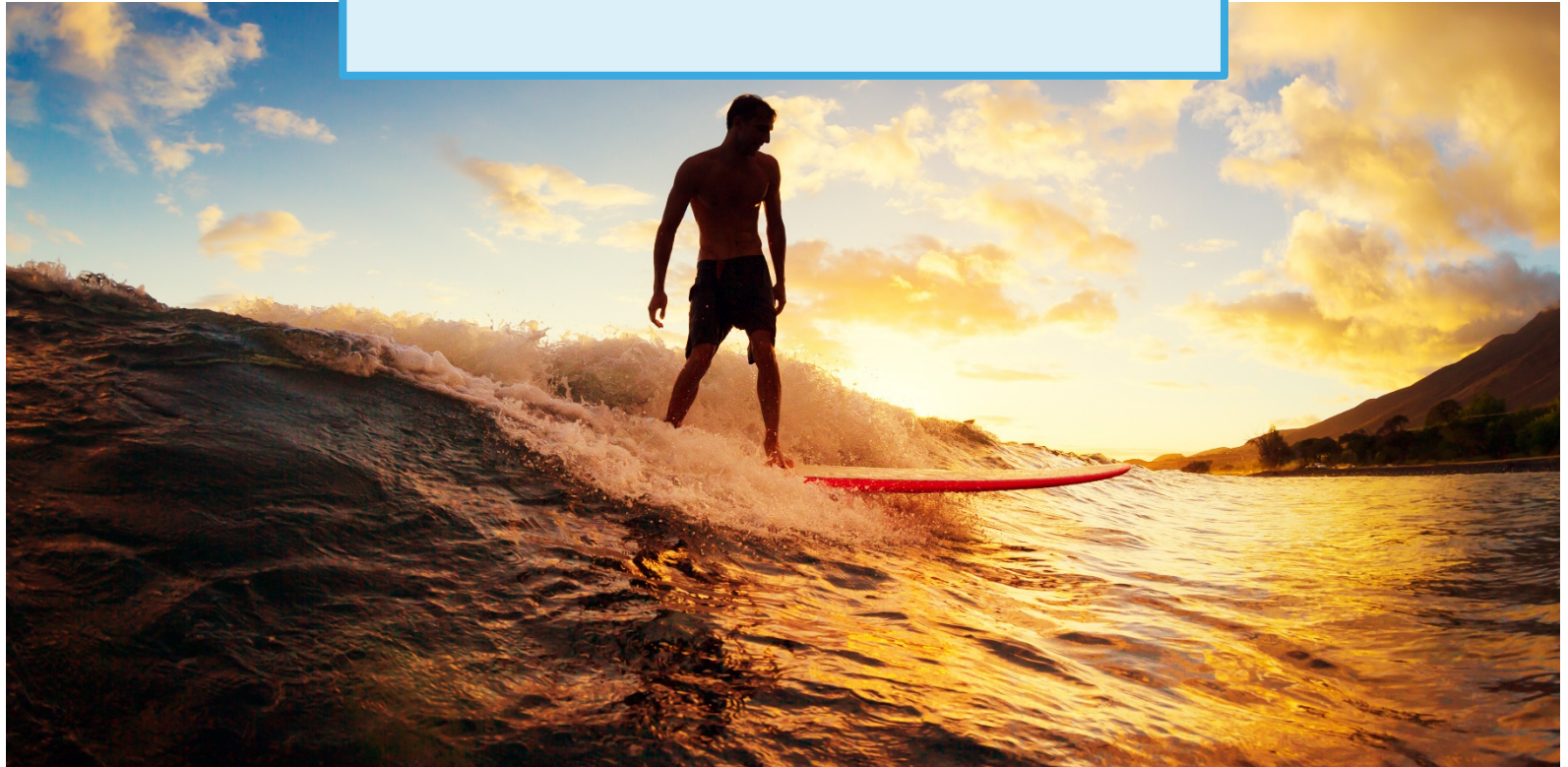


should



You should **do** exercise regularly.

should



We **should** go surfing this weekend.



## Giving advice



**Should** is often used to **give advice** when there is a **problem** or **complaint**.

Problem or complaint		Advice
I'm tired.	→	You <b>should</b> go to bed.
I'm fat.	→	You <b>should</b> do more exercise.
I feel sick.	→	You <b>should</b> go to the doctor.



**What should she do?**



**do some exercise**

**go to the doctor**



## Choose the correct answer

1. I'm tired.

**a. You should take a nap.**

**b. You should go for a walk.**

2. I'm hungry.

**a. You should do some exercise.**

**b. You should eat something.**

3. I'm going to London.

**a. You should visit the Colosseum.**

**b. You should visit Big Ben.**

4. I'm overweight.

**a. You should do more exercise.**

**b. You should eat a pizza.**



## Think of something they should do in these situations

1. You shouldn't eat so much chocolate.

→ You should eat more healthy food.

2. You shouldn't be so lazy.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. You shouldn't be friends with him.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. You shouldn't drive to work.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. You shouldn't watch so much television.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Can and should

**Your friend is travelling to London tomorrow. What should he know? What English words can you teach him?**

please

thank you

Hello!



## Think of advice you can give for these situations

sick

hungry

poor

bored

thirsty

on vacation  
in Paris





## Giving advice

Give advice to a tourist visiting your town or city.



What **can** you do?

What **can't** you do?

What **should** you do?



## Help me!

- Think of a **problem** and tell your classmate.

Your classmate must give you some advice!



## Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no




## Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.  
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



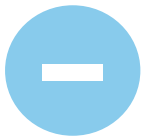
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



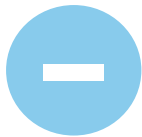
\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you have time, go over  
the most difficult slides again





## Answer key

### Exercise p.9

C (He can't ride a bike.)

### Exercise p. 10

1. Play - 2. swim - 3. ski - 4. speak - 5. cook - 6. sail

### Exercise p. 12

1. T, 2. F, 3. T, 4. T, 5. F, 6. T

### Exercise p.13

1. c - 2. e - 3. a - 4. b - 5. d

### Exercise p.20

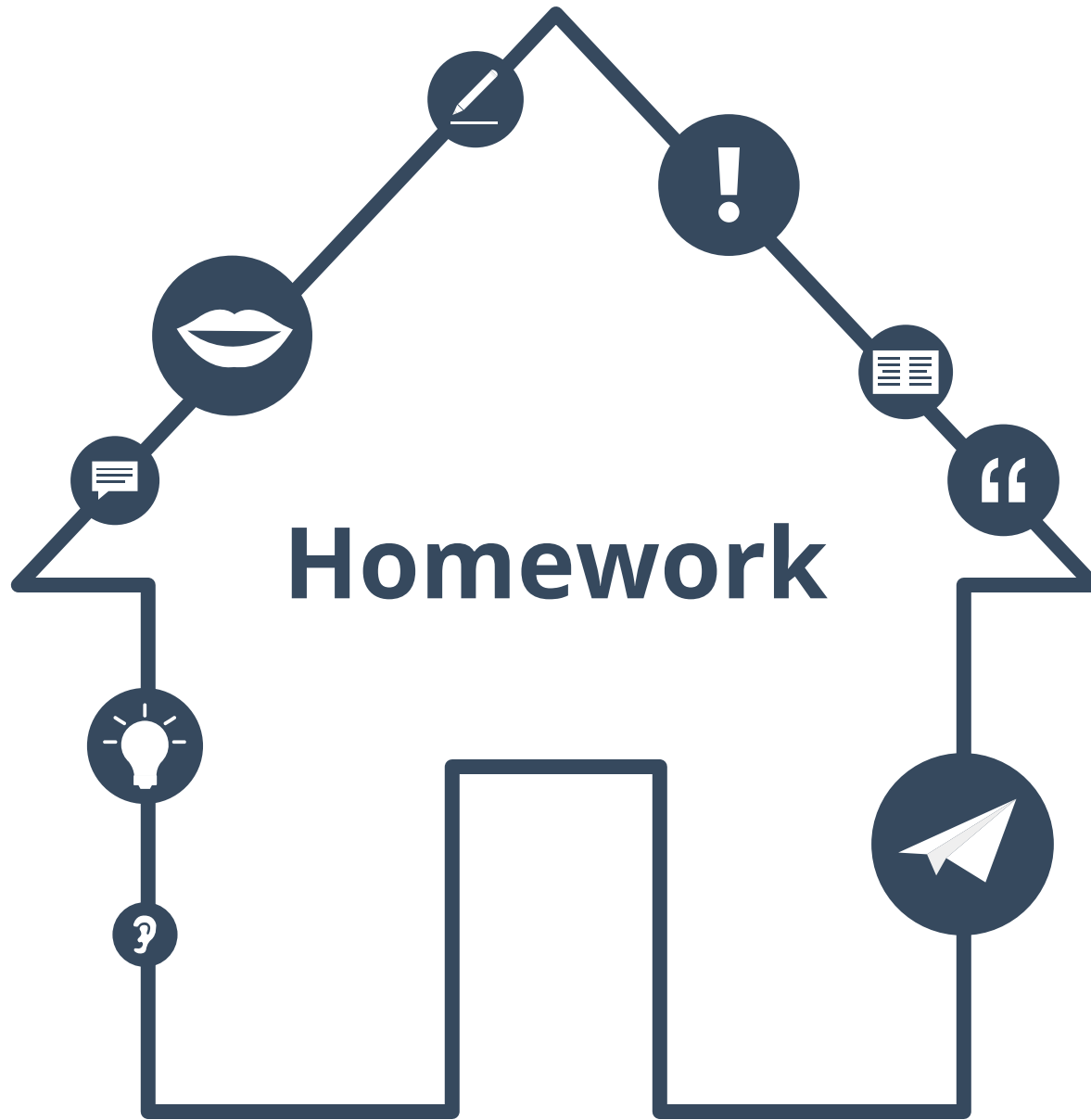
go to the doctor

### Exercise p.21

1. a - 2. b - 3. b - 4. a

### Exercise p.22

Suggested answers: 2. You should exercise more. - 3. You should make new friends.  
- 4. You should take the bus. - 5. You should read more books.





## Match the sentences

1. You should go to the doctor...

2. I can...

3. He...

4. You should take a nap...

a. when you're sick.

b. if you're tired.

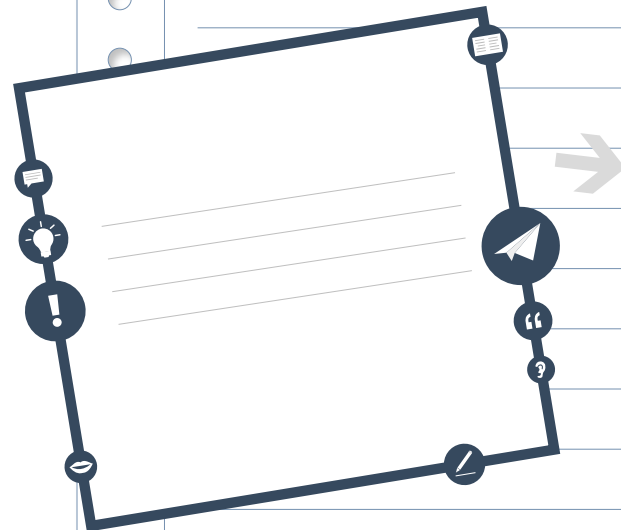
c. sing very well.

d. can't swim.



## Text at the beginning

**Go back to the text on page 3  
and find examples of  
the grammar topic of this lesson in it.  
Write them down.**



Copy parts of the text  
that are examples of  
topic of the lesson.





## Find the verbs

**Find the verbs in this lesson and write them down.  
Which are new? Do you know all of them?  
Look these words up.**

Verbs

---

---

---

---

---

---

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## Sentences in the first person plural

**Choose five sentences from this lesson.  
Copy them and write them about you and a friend.**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

\_\_\_\_\_

Examples: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I don't understand \_\_\_\_\_

→ My friend Maria and I don't understand. \_\_\_\_\_

He has a book \_\_\_\_\_

→ We have a book \_\_\_\_\_

... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

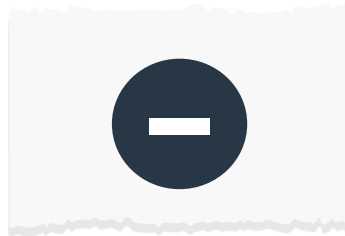
\_\_\_\_\_



## Easy or difficult?

Is the grammar topic of this lesson...  
easy or difficult?

Write down what is difficult for you and what is easy.

A vertical rectangular area with a light gray background, featuring a series of horizontal lines for writing. On the left side, there are several small circular punch holes, suggesting it is a page from a notebook or binder.



## Homework answer key

**Exercise p.18**  
1. a - 2. c - 3. d - 4. b



## About this material



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