GRAMMAR IN USE · PEDIR Y OFRECER CON EDUCACIÓN

Can — Offers and Requests

La guía de la clase de hoy: una canción clásica y el arte de ofrecer y pedir con educación.

01 La canción
02 Offers & Requests
03 Can I have…?
04 Respuestas y práctica

01 LISTENING · LA CANCIÓN DE HOY
We started with a song!

"Can't Take My Eyes Off You" — Frankie Valli (1967). One of the most famous love songs in English: he is so in love that he **can't** stop looking at her. *(No puedo dejar de mirarte.)*

Complete the song — the listening from class

*You're just too good to be **(1)** _____*
I can't take my eyes off you
*You'd be like heaven to **(2)** _____*
*I wanna **(3)** _____ you so much*
*At long last love has **(4)** _____*
*And I thank God I'm **(5)** _____*
You're just too good to be true
Pardon the way that I stare
*There's nothing else to **(6)** _____*
The sight of you leaves me weak
*There are no words left to **(7)** _____*
*But if you feel like I **(8)** _____*

Words from the song

- **stare** — mirar fijamente · **heaven** — el cielo · **weak** — débil · **sight** — la vista, la imagen
- **You're too good to be true.** — *Eres demasiado bueno/a para ser verdad.*

Sing the chorus!

I love you, baby, and if it's quite all right
I need you, baby, to warm the lonely night
I love you, baby — trust in me when I say
Oh, pretty baby, don't bring me down, I pray
Oh, pretty baby, now that I found you, stay
And let me love you, baby, let me love you

- **pretty** — linda, bonita · **lonely** — solitaria · **trust in me** — confía en mí · **pray** — rezar

The song uses **can't** for something impossible: he can't stop looking. But today **can** learned two new tricks — **offers** and **requests**. Let's see them!

02 GRAMMAR · LOS DOS NUEVOS USOS DE CAN

Offers and Requests

You already know **can** for abilities (*I can swim*). Today we used **can** to **offer** (ofrecer ayuda o algo) and to **request** (pedir algo con educación) — perfect for shops, cafés and everyday life.

OFFERS — CAN I … ? (yo ofrezco)

- **Can I help you?** — in a shop: *¿Puedo ayudarle?*
- **Can I get you some water?** — *¿Le traigo un poco de agua?*
- **Can I open the window?**
- **Can I carry your bag?**

REQUESTS — CAN YOU … ? / CAN I HAVE … ? (yo pido)

- **Can you help me, please?** — *¿Puedes ayudarme, por favor?*
- **Can you open the door, please?**
- **Can you repeat, please?** — the most useful sentence in class!
- **Can I have some water?** — *¿Me das un poco de agua?*

Look at the difference!

Can I help you? = I offer my help. (the shop assistant says this)

Can you help me? = I ask for your help. (the customer says this)

The magic word is **please**: a request with *please* always sounds polite and friendly.

Say it like a native

In fast, natural English, **Can you…?** sounds like *"ken-yu…?"* and **Can I…?** like *"ken-ai…?"* The strong word is the verb: *Can you **HELP** me? — Can I **HAVE** some water?*

Can in your day

- At home: *"Can you pass me the salt, please?"*
- At work: *"Can I help you with that?"*
- In class: *"Can you speak slowly, please?"* · *"Can I go to the bathroom, please?"*

03 IN THE CAFÉ · PEDIR COMIDA Y BEBIDA
Can I have...?

In a shop or café, we ask for things with **Can I have … ?** The word after it changes: use **a** for one thing, and **some** for things we don't count.

Can I have A … ? (one thing)	Can I have SOME … ? (we don't count it)
a sandwich	some water
a cup of coffee	some coffee
a cup of tea	some chicken soup
a glass of water	some bread
a glass of juice	some rice
a bottle of water	some fries
an apple	some salad

Containers — *recipientes*

- a **cup** of coffee / tea — *una taza de...*
- a **glass** of water / juice — *un vaso de...*
- a **bottle** of water — *una botella de...*
- a **can** of soda — *una lata de...*

Examples from today's class

- **Can I have a cup of coffee, please?**
- **Can I have a glass of water, please?**
- **Can I have some chicken soup, please?**

Remember: drinks in a cup or a glass use **a** (*a cup of...*), but the drink alone uses **some** (*some coffee*).

At the café — the menu

Drinks	Price	Food	Price
a cup of coffee	$3	a sandwich	$5
a cup of tea	$2	some chicken soup	$6
a glass of juice	$3	a salad	$4

Your order — write it!

"Can I have _____ and _____, please?"

When the assistant asks **"Anything else?"** (*¿Algo más?*), you can answer **"No, thanks. That's all."**

04 SPEAK & PRACTICE · A USARLO

Answer, speak, practice

How to answer

- **To an offer: Yes, please.** Thank you! · **That would be great, thanks.** · **No, thanks. I'm fine.**
- **To a request: Sure!** / **Of course!** / **No problem.** · **Sorry, I can't.** (if it is not possible)

And remember: *"Give me some water!"* is an **order** — it sounds rude. Always use **Can I have…?** + **please**.

Dialogue — In a shop (from today's class)

A	Hello. **How can I help you?**
B	Hi. **Can I have** a sandwich, **please**?
A	**Of course.** Here you are.
B	**How much is it?**
A	It is $5.
B	OK, thanks.
A	Thanks, see you soon!

Practice

A. Complete with CAN I or CAN YOU.

1. _____ help you? (the assistant in a shop)
2. _____ open the window, please?
3. _____ have a glass of water?
4. _____ repeat that, please?

B. Complete with A or SOME.

1. Can I have _____ cup of coffee?
2. Can I have _____ chicken soup?
3. Can I have _____ sandwich?
4. Can I have _____ water?

Speak! — your turn

- Sing it: *"I can't take my eyes off you…"*
- In a café: *"Can I have a …, please?"* · To a friend: *"Can you help me, please?"*

Si faltaste a clase

1. Escucha la canción **"Can't Take My Eyes Off You"** y completa la letra (sección 01).
2. Estudia la diferencia: **offers** con *Can I…?* y **requests** con *Can you…? / Can I have…?* (sección 02).
3. Aprende la tabla de **a / some** (sección 03), lee el diálogo en voz alta y haz la práctica de esta página.

Answer key — Song: 1. true 2. touch 3. hold 4. arrived 5. alive 6. compare 7. speak 8. feel. **A:** 1. Can I 2. Can you 3. Can I 4. Can you. **B:** 1. a 2. some 3. a 4. some.

Saber inglés es saber usarlo.