Workshop 9: Talents in Action!

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Nota: 4.8

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Level: Elemetary

In this workshop you will learn to talk about your abilities and talents with ***can*** and ***can't***, describe what is happening right now with the **present continuous**, and see the difference between the **present simple** and the **present continuous**. You will also learn many new verb phrases, make a short video about your talent, and add Chapter 2 to your Verb Dictionary.

Your plan for today

Part 1 — New verb phrases (vocabulary)
Part 2 — can and can't (your talents and abilities)
Part 3 — Present continuous (what is happening now) and noise words
Part 4 — Listening
Part 5 — Grammar practice: can, present continuous, present simple vs present continuous
Part 6 — Project: Verb Dictionary, Chapter 2

Part 1 — Vocabulary: More Verb Phrases

a. Match the verb (1–14) with the correct words (a–n). Write the letter.

1	take	b	a	a song
2	sing	a	b	a photo
3	call	d	c	a noise
4	hear	c	d	a taxi
5	wait for	f	e	somebody flowers
6	send	g	f	a bus
7	give	e	g	a text message
8	run	i	h	somebody a secret
9	paint	j	i	a race
10	tell	h	j	a picture
11	look for	l	k	the internet
12	use	k	l	your keys
13	meet	m	m	a friend
14	buy	n	n	a newspaper

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b. **Complete the sentences. Use a verb phrase from the box.**

Word box: **draw a picture** • **swim in the sea** • **forget names** • **talk to my friends** • **remember** • **help you**

1. In summer I love to go to the beach and swim in the sea.
2. I am bad with people. I often forget names.
3. My bag is heavy. Can you help you, please?
4. I always remember my password, so I write it down.
5. My little sister loves art. She likes to draw a picture.
6. After class, I talk to my friends online for one hour.

📖 **For your Verb Dictionary:** add all these new verbs to **Chapter 2** (see Part 6).
Careful! You already have ***leave*** in Chapter 1 (Daily Routines), so you do not need to add it again.

Part 2 — Grammar: can and can't

HOW DO I USE can?

We use ***can*** and ***can't*** to talk about ability, permission, requests, and what is possible.

☑ **FORM** (it is the same for **all** persons — no -s!)

+ I / you / he / she / we / they **can** swim.
– She **can't** (cannot) swim.
? **Can** you swim? → Yes, I **can**. / No, I **can't**.

◆ **USES**

ability: I *can* cook. permission: You *can* sit here.
requests: *Can* you help me? possibility: We *can* meet on Friday.

Careful! After ***can***, use the verb with **no "to"** and **no -s**.
She can swim. **NOT:** *She can ~~to~~ swim. / She can swim~~s~~.*

a. **Complete with *can* or *can't* and the verb in brackets.**

1. I can swim very well — I go to the pool every week. *(swim)*
2. My grandmother can't use a computer. She never learned. *(use)*
3. Can you help me with my homework, please? *(help)*
4. Penguins can't fly, but they can swim very fast in water. *(fly / swim)*
5. Sorry, I can't come to the party tonight. I am busy. *(come)*
6. Can your sister drive a car? *(drive)*
7. We can meet on Monday. I am free all day. *(meet)*
8. He can cook — his food is always delicious! *(cook)*

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b. **Write questions with *Can you...?* Then answer for you** (*Yes, I can. / No, I can't.*)

1. *(play the guitar)* Can I play the guitar ?
   Answer: No, I can't
2. *(cook a typical Colombian dish)* Can cook a typical colombian dish?
   Answer: yes, I can
3. *(drive a car)* can drive a car ?
   Answer: yes, I can
4. *(speak three languages)* can speak three languages ?
   Answer: No, I can't
5. *(sing well)* can sing well ?
   Answer: yes, I can

Listening: can or can't?

Audio 5.8. Listen and **circle** a or b — the sentence you hear.

1. (a.) I can sing.
   b. I can't sing.
2. a. She can dance very well.
   (b.) She can't dance very well.
3. a. He can cook.
   (b.) He can't cook.
4. a. I can come to the meeting.
   (b.) I can't come to the meeting.
5. a. You can park here.
   (b) You can't park here.
6. (a.) I can drive.
   b. I can't drive.

Part 3 — Grammar: Happening Now!

a. **Noise words. Complete the sentences with a verb from the box.**

Word box: cries • barks • practises • argue • plays • have • make

1. The baby in the flat upstairs cries all night. I can't sleep!
2. My neighbour's dog barks every time a person walks past.
3. My brother practises the piano for two hours every day.
4. The couple next door argue a lot. They are always angry.
5. My son plays loud music in his room.
6. The students next door often have noisy parties at the weekend.

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7. The builders make a lot of noise in the morning.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS — what is happening NOW

We use the present continuous for actions happening **now**, at this moment.

FORM: subject + **am / is / are** + verb + **-ing**

+ I **am** work**ing**. / She **is** read**ing**. / They **are** play**ing**.

– I **'m not** working. / She **isn't** reading. / They **aren't** playing.

? **Are** you working? → Yes, I am. / No, I'm not. What **are** you **doing**?

SPELLING of -ing:

most verbs: + ing *(play → playing)* verb + e: drop the e *(make → making)*

short verbs (one vowel + one consonant): double it *(run → running, sit → sitting)*

Careful! Present continuous = NOW. We often use it with: ***now, at the moment, today, Listen!, Look!***

b. Write the *-ing* form.

play → playing	make → making	run → running
study → studying	cook → cooking	sit → sitting
write → writing	dance → dancing	swim → swimming

c. Complete with the *present continuous* (the verb in brackets).

1. Listen! The baby is crying. *(cry)*
2. Look! It is raining. *(rain)*
3. Be quiet, please. I am studying. *(study)*
4. My sister is practising the piano right now. *(practise)*
5. We are not watching TV at the moment. *(not / watch)*
6. Are you listening to me? *(listen)*
7. The dog is barking again. *(bark)*
8. What are your friends doing now? *(do)*

Speaking (breakout rooms): tell your partner what you are doing now. Then ask: *What are you doing? What is your family doing at home right now?*

Pronunciation — the /ŋ/ sound. The ***-ing*** ending has a special sound: /ŋ/. Practise it: ***singing, playing, running, thinking, morning.***

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Part 4 — Listening: What Are They Doing?

Listening not graded (good work)

You will hear a short audio. Listen carefully and answer.

a. **Audio 5.15.** Listen to a short conversation. What is the woman doing? (*Example: She's checking in…*)

the woman is claiming her reservation

b. **Listen to 5.15 again. Which words help you to understand the situation? Write them.**

Good afternoon, reservation, room, cart, two night

c. **Audio 5.16. Now listen to five more conversations. What are the people doing?**

1. she orders a coffee.
2. she looks for the keys but can't find thed
3. he's running late and the train is very slow
4. she tells them to get under the tree for the photo
5. He is in a job interview

d. **Listen again Audio 5.16. For each conversation, write *two* words or phrases that help you understand what is happening.**

1. yes large, it costs 3, 4.
2. the keys, the jacket
3. she is late, train
4. tree, photo
5. schedule, interview

e. **Listen to Audio 5.5 and write down the sentences with *Can* or *Can't***

1. I can sing but, I can't dance
2. I can come on tuesday, but I can't come on wednesd
3. you can park here you can't park there
4. can you help me? can I open the window?

f. **Listen to Audio 5.12 and write down the sentences with *Present Continuous***

1. the're having a party next door,
2. The baby's crying

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3. what are you doing?
4. It's raining
5. I'm waiting for my brother.

g. Listen to Audio 5.20 and write down the sentences with *Present Simple* or *Present Continuous* (listening — not graded)

Present Simple	Present Continuous
1. it always here in winter	1. Look it's snowing
2. what do you usually do at work	2. what are you doing now?
3. my sister works in a bank today	3. she's working at home

Part 5 — Grammar Practice

present simple OR present continuous?

◆ **Present simple** = things that are always true, or that we do **every day / usually / often**. *I work in a shop. I go to the gym every week.*

☑ **Present continuous** = things happening **now**, at this moment. *I'm working at home today. Look! He is running.*

Easy trick: *every day* → present simple. ***right now*** → present continuous.

5A can / can't

a. **Complete the sentences with *can* or *can't* and the verb in brackets.**

1. I am sorry, I can't remember your name. *(remember)*
2. My brother can speak English, but he can't speak French. *(speak)*
3. Can you open the window, please? It is hot. *(open)* play
4. We can't play football today because it is raining. *(play)*
5. Can I use your pen, please? *(use)*
6. She can drive, but she does not have a car. *(drive)*
7. My parents can swim very well. *(swim)*
8. Can your friend come to the class tomorrow? *(come)*

b. **Rewrite the sentences using *can* or *can't*.**

1. *It is possible for me to help you.*

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→ I can help you

2. He does not know how to cook.
→ He can't cook

3. Is it OK if I sit here?
→ Can I sit here ?

4. It is not permitted to eat in the library.
→ You can't eat in the library.

5. She knows how to play the guitar.
→ She can play the guitar.

5B present continuous

a. **Write a sentence in the *present continuous* for each person.**

1. *Ana / cook dinner*
Ana is cooking dinner

2. *the children / play in the garden*
The children are playing in the garden

3. *my dad / sleep on the sofa*
My dad is sleeping on the sofa

4. *you / read a book*
you are reading a book

5. *the dog / run after a cat*
The dog is running after a cat.

b. **Complete the conversation. Put the verbs in the *present continuous*.**

A: Hi Sofia! Where are you?
B: I (1) am sitting (sit) in a café in the centre.
A: Nice! What (2) are you doing (do) there?
B: I (3) am waiting (wait) for my sister. She (4) is buying (buy) a phone.
A: And your brother? (5) is he studying (study) at home?
B: No, he (6) is not studying (not / study). He (7) is watching (watch) a film.

5C present simple or present continuous

a. **Circle the correct form.**

1. I usually **drink** / **am drinking** coffee in the morning, but today I **drink** / **am drinking** tea.

2. Listen! The neighbours **have** / **are having** a party again.

3. My sister **works** / **is working** in a hospital. She is a nurse.

4. Be quiet! The baby **sleeps** / **is sleeping**.

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b. **Complete with the *present simple* or the *present continuous*.**

1. Look! It IS snowing ! *(snow)*
2. I go to the gym every Monday. *(go)*
3. Right now, my mum IS cooking lunch. *(cook)*
4. My brother always plays video games after school. *(play)*
5. Are you working now, or are you free? *(work)*

Part 6 — Project: My Verb Dictionary, Chapter 2

Big idea: it is time to add **Chapter 2** to your Verb Dictionary. Keep the same book from Workshop 8 and add a new chapter with your new verbs.

a. **Follow these steps.**

1. Open your dictionary and write **Chapter 2: More Verb Phrases** on a new page.
2. Give **one page (or half a page)** to each new verb below.
3. For each verb, include:
   - the verb in **big letters** (e.g. *take a photo*)
   - a **drawing** of the action
   - the meaning in **Spanish**
   - one true sentence about **YOU** (use *can* or the present continuous if you can!): *I can take good photos. / I'm using my phone now.*
4. Bring your dictionary to the next class to show the group.

b. **These are your new *Chapter 2* verbs. Add them all!**

buy	comprar	call	llamar	dance	bailar	draw	dibujar
find	encontrar	forget	olvidar	give	dar	hear	oír
help	ayudar	look for	buscar	meet	conocer	paint	pintar
remember	recordar	run	correr	see	ver	send	enviar
sing	cantar	swim	nadar	take	tomar	talk	hablar
tell	decir	try	intentar	use	usar	wait for	esperar

Verb dictionary — all correct!

Careful! You already have ***leave*** in Chapter 1, so do not add it again.

Remember! Use **hand-drawn pictures only** (no cut-outs or printed pictures), the same as Chapter 1. The most creative chapter wins a surprise!

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