

'Can' & Polite Requests/Questions

Can – Usage #1 Review

1. Can you find eggs at the grocery store?
 - a. Yes, they are on aisle 7.
2. Can you buy a dress at this store?
 - a. Yes, the dresses are in the back of the store.
3. Can you buy a screwdriver at the grocery store?
 - a. No, you have to go to the hardware store to buy a screwdriver.

Can – Usage #2

- Polite request to someone
- Asking someone for a favor, ESPECIALLY someone you do not know or someone you have to show respect towards
- Often used when talking to teachers, professors, doctors, bosses, and store employees

Can you (please) help me + VERB

***please** is optional but adds additional politeness

Common Sentence Structures

1. Can you please help me find (noun(s))?
2. Can you please help me look for (noun(s))?
3. Can you please point me towards (noun(s))?
 - a. Which means the same thing as: Can you please show me where (noun) is?

How do I make my question even more polite?

1. **Could you** please help me?
2. **Would you** please help me?