

Can, could y be able to

- **Can** expresa la capacidad para hacer algo, una posibilidad, y también se usa para pedir permiso. Pero no se utiliza para expresar probabilidad. (Ver *May* y *might*)

Afirmativa

I can cook
You can cook
He/she/it can cook

We can cook
You can cook
They can cook

Negación

forma completa

I cannot cook
you cannot cook
he/she/it cannot cook

we cannot cook
you cannot cook
they cannot cook

forma contraída

I can't cook
you can't cook
he/she/it can't cook

we can't cook
you can't cook
they can't cook

Interrogación

respuesta breve +

respuesta breve -

Can I cook?
Can you cook?
Can he / she / it cook?

Yes, I can
Yes, you can
Yes, he / she / it can

No, I can't
No, you can't
No, he / she / it can't

Can we cook?
Can you cook?
Can they cook?

Yes, we can
Yes, you can
Yes, they can

No, we can't
No, you can't
No, they can't

- **Could** es la forma de pasado de can.

Afirmativa

I could cook
You could cook
He/she/it could cook

We could cook
You could cook
They could cook

Negación

forma completa

I could not cook
you could not cook
he/she/it could not cook

we could not cook
you could not cook
they could not cook

forma contraída

I couldn't cook
you couldn't cook
he/she/it couldn't cook

we couldn't cook
you couldn't cook
they couldn't cook

Interrogación

respuesta breve +

respuesta breve -

Could I cook?
Could you cook?
Could he / she / it cook?

Yes, I could
Yes, you could
Yes, he / she / it could

No, I couldn't
No, you couldn't
No, he / she / it couldn't

Could we cook?
Could you cook?
Could they cook?

Yes, we could
Yes, you could
Yes, they could

No, we couldn't
No, you couldn't
No, they couldn't

Should y ought to

• **Should y ought to** se utilizan para dar consejos, hablar de responsabilidades o probabilidad. Recuerda que *should* jamás va seguido ni precedido de *to*.

Afirmativa

I should / ought to work
 You should / ought to work
 He/she/it should / ought to work

We should / ought to work
 You should / ought to work
 They should / ought to work

Negativa

	forma completa	forma contraída
I	should not / <u>ought not to</u> work	I shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
You	should not / <u>ought not to</u> work	you shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
He/she/it	should not / <u>ought not to</u> work	he/she/it shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
We	should not / <u>ought not to</u> work	we shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
You	should not / <u>ought not to</u> work	you shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
They	should not / <u>ought not to</u> work	they shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>

Interrogación

	respuesta breve +	respuesta breve -
Should / ought I to work?	Yes, I should / <u>ought to</u> .	No, I shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
Should / ought you to work?	Yes, you should / <u>ought to</u>	No, you shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
Should / ought he/she/it to work?	Yes, he/she/it should / <u>ought to</u>	No, he/she/it shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
Should / ought we to work?	Yes, we should / <u>ought to</u>	No, we shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
Should / ought you to work?	Yes, you should / <u>ought to</u>	No, you shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>
Should / ought they to work?	Yes, they should / <u>ought to</u>	No, they shouldn't / <u>oughtn't to</u>

• **Should y ought to en pasado:** estos verbos no tienen una forma propia de pasado. Su forma no cambia, pero sí se pone el infinitivo que les acompaña en tiempo perfecto : have + participio.

Ejemplos:

- You **should have eaten** more for breakfast.
- They **ought to have arrived** earlier.
- I **should have told** them the truth.

- **Consejos:** *should* y *ought to* equivalen en español a *debería* + *infinitivo*.

Ejemplos:

- You **should / ought to** eat less fat.
- They **should / ought to** be more careful about what they say.
- You **should / ought to** come with me to the party. It will be fun.
- She **shouldn't / oughtn't to** be so rude.

- **Responsabilidades:** *should* y *ought to* también expresan algo que se *debería* hacer o haber hecho.

Ejemplos:

- I **should / ought to** be early tomorrow because I've got lots to do at work.
- We **should / ought to** save some money.
- I **should / ought to** have known all the answers to the test. It was so easy!

- **Probabilidad:** estos verbos pueden expresar algo que debería ser cierto.

Ejemplos:

A: I can't find the keys.

B: Well, they **should / ought to** be in the first drawer.

- They said on TV that it would be sunny for a couple of days, so it **shouldn't / oughtn't to** rain yet.
- This film **should / ought to** be good. All the actors in it are very popular.

Mustn't

Mustn't se utiliza para expresar **prohibición**. Al igual que *must*, va seguido de un infinitivo sin *to*:

- *I **mustn't** be late for dinner.*
- *You **mustn't** walk on the grass.*
- *He **mustn't** go out without telling his parents.*
- *We **mustn't** talk during the exam.*
- *You **mustn't** tell anyone.*
- *They **mustn't** eat chocolate.*

La forma no contraída es **must not**

Must, have to y don't have to

- **Must** es un verbo modal que expresa la **obligación** de hacer algo. Como todos los modales, va seguido de otro infinitivo sin "to".

Afirmativa

I must work
 You must work
 He/she/it must work

We must work
 You must work
 They must work

Interrogación

	respuesta breve +	respuesta breve -
Must I work?	Yes, I must	No, I mustn't
Must you work?	Yes, you must	No, you mustn't
Must he / she / it work?	Yes, he / she / it must	No, he / she / it mustn't
Must we work?	Yes, we must	No, we mustn't
Must you work?	Yes, you must	No, you mustn't
Must they work?	Yes, they must	No, they mustn't

Negación: *Mustn't* está explicado en otro apartado de los Verbos Modales, por la diferencia de significado con *must*.

- **Must** también se utiliza para expresar una **conclusión**:

- *The light is on. He **must** be at home.*
- *It's very windy and cloudy. It **must** be cold.*
- *He's got a lot of white hair. He **must** be over 40.*
- *There're pieces of glass on the road. There **must** have been an accident.*

- **Must** sólo tiene forma de presente. Por ello, para cualquier otro tiempo se utiliza *have to*:

- *I **ll have to** work next Sunday.*
- *She **had to** clean all the house.*

- **Have to** indica obligación, al igual que **must**.

Afirmativa

I	have to work	we	have to work
You	have to work	you	have to work
He/she/it	has to work	they	have to work

Interrogación

	respuesta breve +	respuesta breve -
Do I have to work?	Yes, I do	No, I don't
Do you have to work?	Yes, you do	No, you don't
Does he / she / it have to work?	Yes, he / she / it does	No, he / she / it doesn't
Do we have to work?	Yes, we do	No, we don't
Do you have to work?	Yes, you do	No, you don't
Do they have to work?	Yes, they do	No, they don't

- También puede utilizarse **have got to**, que es algo más informal.

- Existe una pequeña **diferencia de significado entre *must* y *have to***:

Must indica una obligación que se impone uno mismo, más que las circunstancias:

- *I **must** study for the exam.*
- *He **must** work more to have enough money.*

Have to, en cambio, expresa una necesidad impuesta por las circunstancias externas:

- *She **has to** get up at 7 every morning.*
- *We **have to** work till 6 on Mondays.*

- **Don't have to** expresa que no es necesario u obligatorio hacer algo.

forma completa

forma contraída

I do not have to work

I don't have to work

You do not have to work

you don't have to work

He/she/it **does not** have to work

he/she/it **doesn't** have to work

We do not have to work

we don't have to work

You do not have to work

you don't have to work

They do not have to work

they don't have to work

Ejemplos:

- *You **don't have to** do the shopping. I'll do it tomorrow.*
- *I **don't have to** go to school at weekends.*
- *They **don't have to** wash by hand because they've got a washing machine.*

Ejemplos:

- *When I was young I could run very fast, but now I can't*
- *I could walk when I was ten months old.*
- *Paul can't cook. His meals are terrible.*
- *I can drive, but Sarah can't.*

- **Be able to** tiene un significado similar a *can/could*, pero suele utilizarse para expresar la habilidad de hacer algo de cierta dificultad (en español equivale a "ser capaz de"):

*I **can** walk very fast*

*They **were able to** escape from the fire.*

*She **could** draw very well at 10.*

*When she was five, she **was able to** draw wonderful pictures.*

- También se utiliza en lugar de *can* en el futuro, ya que *can* no tiene una forma para ese tiempo:

*I **can/could** find that street ® I'll **be able to** find that street.*

- Otros casos en los que se utiliza *be able to*, y no *can*, es cuando tiene que ir seguido de un infinitivo con *to* o una forma en *-ing*, ya que *can/could* sólo puede ir seguido de un infinitivo sin *to*.

*We were very happy **to be able to** be there (no *We were very happy to can to be there**)*

*I **have to be able to** run the marathon (no *I have to can....**)*

Sujeto + verbo *to be* (en cualquier tiempo) + *to* + infinitivo