

UNIT 1

MODAL

A. Explanation

Modal 'can' is one of *Pure Modal*. The past form of 'can' is 'could'.

Modal + Simple Form

'Can' and 'could' used to explain ability. Example: When I was a child, I couldn't take a bath alone; but now I can. Usually 'could' used as more polite expression when asking help or requesting for something. Example: Could you do me a favor? (it is more polite than "Can you do me a favor?").

The pattern:

(+) S + can / be(is, am, are) able to + V1 + C

(-) S + can not / be(is not, am not, are not) able to + V1 + C

(?) Can / be (is, am, are) able to + S + V1 + C + ?

you can replace 'be' in 'be able to' with 'is' or 'am' or 'are'

Example:

CAN

(+) Anindita can ride bicycle

(-) Anindita can not ride bicycle

(?) Can Anindita ride bicycle?

BE ABLE TO

(+) Meivio is able to sing the high notes

(-) Meivio is not able to sing the high notes

(?) Is Meivio able to sing the high notes?