



What is a verb?

Je peux... (I can...) will always be followed by a **verb**. To remind you, a verb is a *doing* or *action* word.

For example, 'Je peux danser' is 'I can dance'. Dance is the verb because it is what *action* you are doing!



Key Vocabulary – I can...

Je peux	I am able to
chanter	to sing
cuisiner	to cook
sauter	to jump
parler	to talk
écouter	to listen
manger	to eat
boire	to drink
regarder	to watch TV
écrire	to write
danser	to dance



Modal Verb Plus Infinitive

Did you know that **je peux** (that comes from the modal verb **pouvoir** and translates ‘to be able / can’) is ALWAYS followed by a verb in its infinitive form in French.

For example:

‘**Je vais pouvoir...**’ is ‘I am going to be able to...’ but in the present tense we could say ‘**Je peux** is I can’

Expanding our learning with other phrases...

The phrases below show you how the language changes depending on **who** you are talking about. We are not going to be looking at this in the unit of learning, but it’s always a way to expand your knowledge! Can you use them?

Je peux...

I can 

Tu peux...

You can 

Il peut...

He can 

Elle peut...

She can 

Nous pouvons...

We can 

Vous pouvez...

You are able

Ils peuvent...

They are able (m)

Elles peuvent...

They are able (f)

French Phonic Sounds

OI sound in boire

OI sounds like ‘WA’ like croissant

OU sound in écouter

OU sounds like ‘OO’ like zoo or soon

CH sound in chanter

CH sounds like ‘SH’ like ship or mesh



Silent Letters and Nasal Sounds

‘X’ is one of the 6 most commonly silent consonants in French. The ‘x’ in **peux** is therefore not pronounced.

Exploring the four French nasal sounds (**on**, **un**, **in** and **an**). This sound does not exist in English and is made through the nose not the mouth! Words like **danser**, **chanter** and **manger**.

Say it through the



and not the

