

LESSON 14 - *I can recommend someone.*

S.B. 72

14.1 Conversation

Books closed. Explain the situation: Ken, from Japan, is speaking with a colleague, Stuart, at work, in Chicago. **Raise your hand if Ken said it.** Read out the Conversation, pausing slightly between lines.

Repeat each sentence. For longer sentences, first elicit shorter versions, as underlined here:

Stuart Is all of your family in Japan, Ken?

Ken I have one sister in Quebec.

Stuart Oh, really? What's she doing there?

Ken Well, really she just wants to learn two languages. In Quebec you can practice English and French. Here people only speak English.

Stuart I see. That's changing though. We have Spanish TV and radio here. You can practice Spanish, if you want.

Ken Spanish? Here in Chicago?

Stuart Oh yes. For instance almost half of my soccer team is Latin American.

Ken Do you speak Spanish?

Stuart Some. I can teach you, if you want.

Ken Can you?

Stuart Sure. Or you can just come to our soccer practice on weekends.

Recitation: look up when speaking. The students recite the Conversation in pairs with books open.

14.2 "Can you drive?"

Books closed. Can you see the board? Ask a few students this question, and then ask other questions with CAN, for example:

Can you ski?

Can you use a computer?

Can you drive?

Look at Section 2 and repeat the examples. Put on the board:

Yes! Yes. No. No!

to explain what the replies mean, and to elicit them, with students' books closed.

Memorization of the model replies. Then the students do the exercise in pairs or small groups.

Then they can be asked to close their books, regroup, and try to do similar exchanges.

14.3 "I can recommend someone."

Books closed. I've got a lot of problems today. Suddenly say a lot of problems, for example the following, some of which the students will not yet understand:

There's something wrong with my sink.

I think I need glasses. I don't see well.

This light switch doesn't work.
My bike broke down.
I've got a headache.
I don't like this room.
I need a new suit.
I didn't bring any money for lunch!

Also read out some of the sentences from the list of occupations shown:

I can recommend a good banker, if you want.
I can recommend a good barber, if you like.
etc.

Now a quick dictation. Read out each of the following sentences a few times at natural speed (it will be difficult, but the students will soon see the correct sentences):

There's something wrong with my sink.
I can recommend a good plumber, if you want.
You know a good plumber?
Thanks, I'd appreciate that.

Look at Section 3 to correct what you wrote. Then repetition and memorization of the first exchange.

The students continue in pairs, checking Appendix 3 for word meaning when necessary.

Books closed. Have the students answer the following:

We need a new ceiling in this room. (a carpenter)
How about some new lights? (electrician)
I don't like this teacher's desk. (furniture store)
It would be nice to have flowers, wouldn't it? (florist)
Everyone here needs new glasses. (optician)
I think we all need some money. (banker)
Let's design a new classroom. (interior designer)
How about some music with the class? (pianist; musician)
Mr. [Sato] would like a new suit. (tailor)

14.4 "Can I see your notes?"

Books still closed. Start asking different students, without waiting too long for replies:

Can I see your book?
Can I see your notes?
Can I have a match?
Can I take this pencil?
Can I use your phone?

Then demonstrate the expression HERE: hand the board eraser or something to a student and say HERE! (correct reply: "Thank you"). Have the student pass it on and say HERE, and so on for a few students.

Look at Section 4 and repeat the example exchanges. Also point out the explanation of two ways of replying. Ask the class a couple of the items:

Can I have a match? (Sure, here you are.)
Can I make some coffee? (Sure, go ahead.)

The students continue in pairs. "Here you are" is used with items 1, 8, 9, and, depending on the situation, 5 and 6.

Phrases for fluency

Books closed. Say the new words in each sentence.

	Can you pay with a check at a supermarket?
credit card	Can you pay with a credit card at a supermarket?
gas station	Can you pay with a credit card at a gas station?
smoke	Can you smoke at a gas station?
in a cab	Can you smoke in a cab?
talk	Can you talk in a cab?
public library	Can you talk in a public library?
elevator	Can you talk in an elevator?

Now say the whole sentence. Elicit the same sentences by saying the words on the left.

14.5 "Can you wear grey at a funeral?"

Look at Section 5 and repeat the example exchange. The five replies should be memorized. Point out the use of impersonal YOU, which in Japanese could sometimes be expressed by not using a sentence subject.

Try to answer about the U.S. or Britain. The students continue in pairs or small groups. At the end point out likely answers, for example the following:

1. Can you pay with a check at a supermarket? Most people wouldn't; credit cards are often used, though.
2. Can you pay for gasoline with a credit card? Sure you can.
3. Can you serve coke with a steak? No, you really shouldn't.
4. Can you serve ketchup with a steak? No, you really shouldn't. Ketchup is sometimes served with beef, but not high-quality steak.
5. Can you eat sandwiches with a knife and fork? You can if you want to, but for ordinary sandwiches most people wouldn't.
6. Can you eat on a city bus? You can if you want to (it's not considered rude), but it's not common, of course.
7. Can you park in front of a fire station? Definitely not.
8. Can you park in front of a driveway? Definitely not. (Of course, if the owner says OK, you may).
9. Can you smoke in a cab? You can if you want to (although you should ask the driver first).
10. Can you smoke at a gas station? Definitely not.
11. Can you say "Good morning" at 12:00? Sure you can. Some people say "Good morning" until lunch time.
12. Can you say "Good evening" at 5:00 p.m.? Most people wouldn't until a little later, except perhaps in the winter, when it gets dark earlier.
13. Can you say "Hi" to your boss? You can in some offices, but "Hello" is safer.
14. Can you talk in a public library? No, you really shouldn't (except in the lobby, etc.).
15. Can you talk at a concert? No, you really shouldn't.
16. Can you talk in an elevator? Sure you can.
17. Can you give children wine at home? You can if you want to (a little bit at a time—although Americans do not have wine as often as Europeans).

18. Can you give children money? Most people wouldn't. If you want to, you should check with their parents first.
19. Can you give children coffee? Most people wouldn't—it's considered an adult drink.

Books closed. Tell me about customs in Japan. Ask similar questions about Japan, for example:

- Can you pay with a check at a supermarket?
Can you pay with credit cards at a supermarket?
Can you serve green tea with steak?
Can you serve coffee with a Japanese breakfast?
Can you serve wine with sushi?
Can you talk in an elevator?
Can you ask questions in a university lecture?
Can you disagree with the teacher in a university lecture?
Can you eat on a subway?
Can you eat in the street?
Can you slurp when drinking coffee?
Can you slurp when having soup with a spoon?
Can you eat during a movie?

14.6 "It can walk on two legs."

Look at Section 6. Repeat the example conversation. Also point out the instruction that follows.

Try to guess the animal I'm thinking of. Think of some animal, e.g. a skunk or a unicorn, and have one of the best students try to ask 10 questions in one minute. Also give some hints. Once the procedure is clear, give the answer without spending much time on this.

Look at the list of phrases for hints and questions, and repeat. Then the students continue in pairs or small groups. If time allows, they can regroup and begin again, books closed for better classes.