

Can't – vs – Don't (2 Answers)

Can't is something that is not your choice or is impossible.

You **can't** swim across the ocean! (*It is impossible*)

Don't is something that is your choice, but you choose not to do.

Bob **doesn't** eat spicy food. (*His choice. Maybe he hates it.*)

1. We **can't** have pets here. The building manager said no pets allowed.
2. Wendy really hates fish, so she **doesn't** eat sushi.
3. The trains **were** stopped, so I **couldn't** get home. (***were** is a past tense hint)
4. Kevin is allergic to shellfish and **can't** eat oysters. He also **can't** even eat shrimp.
5. Barb and Kim **don't** like horror movies at all. They love comedies.
6. The hotel TV was broken, so we **couldn't** watch anything at night.
7. Terry is afraid of sharks, so she **doesn't** swim in the ocean.
8. Nathan **doesn't** ever clean his house because he is too lazy.
9. I forgot my keys at home and **couldn't** unlock the door to my office.
10. Hank **can't** swim. He never learned.
11. The test was so difficult that most of the students **couldn't/didn't** pass it.
12. Larry broke his leg, so he **couldn't** play soccer for 2 months.
13. I **don't** have enough money to buy the new iPhone 25. It's so expensive!
14. Pam spent all day watching the Olympics and **didn't** do the laundry. Now she **can't** wear her favorite shirt tomorrow.
15. It was really cold and rainy, so we **couldn't** play outside today.
16. I was lazy and **didn't** go to the gym this weekend and I **couldn't** go last weekend because I was very sick. I'll be so sad if I **can't/don't** go next weekend!
17. Mom is mad because I played video games and **didn't** do my homework.
18. Steve's wife is too busy and **can't** cook dinner every night. Steve **doesn't** know how to cook, so they just order delivery food every night.
19. I wanted to go to the music festival, but I **couldn't** get tickets. Too bad.
20. Ed forgot his wife's birthday and **didn't** buy her a birthday present. Oops.