

Polite Transformations Answer Key

Sample Responses

1. Could you move your car out of the way? - Sounds more polite and less demanding.
2. Could you tell me where the principal's office is? - Shows respect and softer tone.
3. Could I have an extra day to finish my essay? - More formal and courteous.
4. Could you turn down the volume? - Sounds like a polite request instead of a command.
5. Could I borrow your notes from yesterday's class? - Feels more respectful and tentative.
6. Could you send me that report before lunch? - Softer tone, appropriate for formal settings.
7. Could you please help me carry these boxes? - Sounds more considerate and formal.
8. Could you tell your friend to meet me after school? - More tactful and polite.
9. Could I ask you a personal question? - Softer introduction, shows caution and respect.
10. Could you explain this math problem one more time? - More polite and deferential.

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Helps students shift tone from **direct/informal (can)** to **polite/formal (could)**, understanding how modals affect social communication.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - For struggling learners, model a few examples aloud, emphasizing tone changes.
 - For advanced students, ask them to identify scenarios where *can* would still be acceptable (e.g., casual conversations).
- **Engagement Idea:** Have students perform mini roleplays showing both *can* and *could* versions of each sentence to highlight tone differences.
- **Extension Activity:** Ask students to write their own five pairs of sentences—each showing a shift from informal *can* to polite *could*—in contexts like school, work, or public interactions.