

SCENE 29 • GRAMMAR

lahko grem, znam plavati

Ability, permission and skills

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

Around town

Slovenian

Read & listen online



Ability, permission and skills

Lahko combines with a finite verb: **lahko grem, lahko pomagate?, lahko plavam**. It expresses ability or permission according to context. To say cannot use **ne morem** plus infinitive: **ne morem priti**.

For a learned skill use **znam** plus infinitive: **znam plavati, znam peti**. Negate with **ne znam**. Contrast **lahko plavam** (I can / am allowed to swim now) with **znam plavati** (I know how to swim).

Form	Example	Meaning
grem	Lahko grem v park.	I can go to the park.
pomagate	Lahko pomagate?	Can you help, politely?
plavati	Znam plavati.	I know how to swim.
priti	Ne morem priti.	I cannot come.
teči	Utrujen sem. Ne morem teči.	I am tired. I cannot run.
peti	Vesel sem. Znam peti.	I am happy. I can sing.

Lahko grem v park.

I can go to the park.

Lahko pomagate?

Can you help, politely?

Znam plavati.

I know how to swim.

Ne morem priti.

I cannot come.

Utrujena (Utrujen) sem. Ne morem teči.

I am tired. I cannot run.

Vesela (Vesel) sem. Znam peti.

I am happy. I can sing.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

- 1 Lahko grem v park.

Meaning: I can go to the park.

- 2 Lahko pomagate?

Meaning: Can you help, politely?

3 Znam plavati.

Meaning: I know how to swim.

4 Ne morem priti.

Meaning: I cannot come.

5 Utrujena sem. Ne morem teči.

Meaning: I am tired. I cannot run.

6 Vesela sem. Znam peti.

Meaning: I am happy. I can sing.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Lahko _____ v park.

- ☐ A iti
- ☐ B gre
- ☐ C grem

Meaning: I can go to the park.

2 Lahko _____?

- ☐ A pomagati
- ☐ B pomagam
- ☐ C pomagate

Meaning: Can you help, politely?

3 Znam _____.

- ☐ A plavati
- ☐ B plava
- ☐ C plavam

Meaning: I know how to swim.

4 Ne morem _____.

- ☐ A pride
- ☐ B priti
- ☐ C pridem

Meaning: I cannot come.

5 Utrujena sem. Ne morem _____.

- ☐ A teče
- ☐ B teči
- ☐ C tečem

Meaning: I am tired. I cannot run.

6 Vesela sem. Znam _____.

- ☐ A poje
- ☐ B pojem
- ☐ C peti

Meaning: I am happy. I can sing.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

iti grem

Lahko _____ v park.

Meaning: I can go to the park.

pomagati pomagati

Lahko _____?

Meaning: Can you help, politely?

plavam plavati

Znam _____.

Meaning: I know how to swim.

pridem priti

Ne morem _____.

Meaning: I cannot come.

tečem teči

Utrujena sem. Ne morem _____.

Meaning: I am tired. I cannot run.

pojem peti

Vesela sem. Znam _____.

Meaning: I am happy. I can sing.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

1 grem Lahko v park.

Meaning: I can go to the park.

- 2 morem priti. Ne

Meaning: I cannot come.

- 3 teči. morem sem. Utrujena Ne

Meaning: I am tired. I cannot run.

- 4 Vesela sem. peti. Znam

Meaning: I am happy. I can sing.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 I can go to the park. You say:

- (A) Lahko grem v park.
(B) Lahko iti v park.

2 Can you help, politely? You say:

- ☐ A Lahko pomagate?
- ☐ B Lahko pomagati?

3 I know how to swim. You say:

- ☐ A Znam plavam.
- ☐ B Znam plavati.

4 I cannot come. You say:

- ☐ A Ne morem priti.
- ☐ B Ne morem pridem.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ① Lahko pomagate? | Ⓐ I am tired. I cannot run. |
| ② Utrujena sem. Ne morem teči. | Ⓑ I know how to swim. |
| ③ Vesela sem. Znam peti. | Ⓒ I can go to the park. |
| ④ Lahko grem v park. | Ⓓ I am happy. I can sing. |
| ⑤ Ne morem priti. | Ⓔ Can you help, politely? |
| ⑥ Znam plavati. | Ⓕ I cannot come. |