

SCENE 34 • GRAMMAR

Oskan, ei oska, ei tohi

Skills and rules

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

The weather and what to wear

Estonian

Read & listen online 

Skills and rules

A learned ability uses **oskan, oskad, oskab, oskame, oskate, oskavad** plus the **da** form: **oskan laulda, oskan süüa teha**.

Negative **ei oska** has the same stem for every person.

Ei tohi is a prohibition: **pärast keskööd ei tohi mängida**. A rule can use **trompetit ei mängita**, an impersonal negative chunk meaning the trumpet must not be played. Learn **mängitakse** as the corresponding impersonal affirmative; no new person or gender is implied.

Person	oskama	Meaning
mina	oskan	I — know how
sina	oskad	you, familiar singular — know how
tema	oskab	he/she — know how
meie	oskame	we — know how
teie	oskate	you, plural/polite — know how
nemad	oskavad	they — know how

Ma oskan ujuda.

I know how to swim.

Sa oskad laulda.

You know how to sing.

Ta oskab tantsida.

He/she knows how to dance.

Me oskame süüa teha.

We know how to cook.

Te oskate laulda.

You know how to sing, polite/plural.

Nad oskavad ujuda.

They know how to swim.

Mina olen Lena (Lukas). Te oskate laulda.

I am Lena. You know how to sing, polite/plural.

Mina olen Lena (Lukas). Nad oskavad ujuda.

I am Lena. They know how to swim.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

- 1 Ma oskan ujuda.

Meaning: I know how to swim.

- 2 Sa oskad laulda.

Meaning: You know how to sing.

- 3 Ta oskab tantsida.

Meaning: He/she knows how to dance.

- 4 Me oskame süüa teha.

Meaning: We know how to cook.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM 1

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Ma _____ ujuda.

- ☐ A oskad
- ☐ B oskavad
- ☐ C oskan

Meaning: I know how to swim.

2 Sa _____ laulda.

- ☐ A oskan
- ☐ B oskame
- ☐ C oskad

Meaning: You know how to sing.

3 Ta _____ tantsida.

- ☐ A oskan
- ☐ B oskavad
- ☐ C oskab

Meaning: He/she knows how to dance.

4 Me _____ süüa teha.

- ☐ A oskame
- ☐ B oskate
- ☐ C oskan

Meaning: We know how to cook.

5 Te _____ laulda.

- ☐ A oskan
- ☐ B oskate
- ☐ C oskad

Meaning: You know how to sing, polite/plural.

6 Nad _____ ujuda.

- ☐ A oskame
- ☐ B oskan
- ☐ C oskavad

Meaning: They know how to swim.

7 Mina olen Lena. Te _____ laulda.

- ☐ A oskad
- ☐ B oskan
- ☐ C oskate

Meaning: I am Lena. You know how to sing, polite/plural.

8 Mina olen Lena. Nad _____ ujuda.

- ☐ A oskame
- ☐ B oskavad
- ☐ C oskan

Meaning: I am Lena. They know how to swim.

G3) USE THE FORM 1

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

oskab oskad oskan oskame

Ma _____ ujuda.

Meaning: I know how to swim.

oskan oskab oskad oskame

Sa _____ laulda.

Meaning: You know how to sing.

oskame oskad oskan oskab

Ta _____ tantsida.

Meaning: He/she knows how to dance.

oskan oskame oskad oskab

Me _____ süüa teha.

Meaning: We know how to cook.

oskad oskate oskab oskan

Te _____ laulda.

Meaning: You know how to sing, polite/plural.

oskavad oskan oskad oskab

Nad _____ ujuda.

Meaning: They know how to swim.

oskab oskate oskan oskad

Mina olen Lena. Te _____ laulda.

Meaning: I am Lena. You know how to sing, polite/plural.

oskavad oskab oskad oskan

Mina olen Lena. Nad _____ ujuda.

Meaning: I am Lena. They know how to swim.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1 Ma oskan ujuda.

Meaning: I know how to swim.

2 laulda. oskad Sa

Meaning: You know how to sing.

3 Ta tantsida. oskab

Meaning: He/she knows how to dance.

4 Me oskame süüa teha.

Meaning: We know how to cook.

5 oskate Te laulda.

Meaning: You know how to sing, polite/plural.

6 ujuda. Nad oskavad

Meaning: They know how to swim.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 I know how to swim. You say:

- ☐ A Ma oskan ujuda.
- ☐ B Ma oskad ujuda.

2 You know how to sing. You say:

- ☐ A Sa oskad laulda.
- ☐ B Sa oskan laulda.

3 He/she knows how to dance. You say:

- ☐ A Ta oskan tantsida.
- ☐ B Ta oskab tantsida.

4 We know how to cook. You say:

- ☐ A Me oskan süüa teha.
- ☐ B Me oskame süüa teha.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ① Ma oskan ujuda. | ① A I know how to swim. |
| ② Mina olen Lena.
Nad oskavad ujuda. | ② B You know how to sing, polite/
plural. |
| ③ Sa oskad laulda. | ③ C They know how to swim. |
| ④ Te oskate laulda. | ④ D I am Lena. They know how to
swim. |
| ⑤ Ta oskab tantsida. | ⑤ E We know how to cook. |
| ⑥ Nad oskavad ujuda. | ⑥ F I am Lena. You know how to
sing, polite/plural. |
| ⑦ Mina olen Lena. Te
oskate laulda. | ⑦ G He/she knows how to dance. |
| ⑧ Me oskame süüa
teha. | ⑧ H You know how to sing. |