Lesson Twenty-five
Can

Strong form: kæn; weak forms: kən, kn̩, kŋ

The strong form / kæn / is used for emphasis (e.g. 'You **can** do it'), and for contrast (e.g. 'I don't know if he **can** or he **can't**'). It is also used finally in a sentence (e.g. 'I don't know if I **can**').

Weak form: / kən / (e.g. 'They **can** wait' / ˈðeɪ kən ˈweɪt /).

The form / kŋ / occurs only before words beginning with / k / or / g /, (e.g. 'We can go' / wi kŋ ˈgəʊ/).