

LANGUAGE REFERENCE

UNIT 4

could

Affirmative	Negative
I / You / He / She / It / We / They could swim.	I / You / He / She / It / We / They could not (couldn't) swim.

- We use **could/couldn't** to talk about ability and possibility and to ask for permission in the past.
When I was four I could swim ten metres.
He couldn't call earlier because he was at work.
- Could** is the same for all persons. The third person (he / she / it) form doesn't end in **-s**.
She could sing Happy Birthday in three languages.
- To form the negative, we put **n't (not)** after **could**.
He couldn't pay for his university books.

Question	Short answer
Could I / you / he / she / it / we / they swim?	Yes, I / you / he / she / it / we / they could. No, I / you / he / she / it / we / they couldn't.

- To form questions, we change the order of **could** and the subject.
Could you speak English in primary school?

Comparative and superlative adjectives

Comparatives	
Short adjectives: <i>smart</i>	add -er : <i>smarter</i>
Short adjectives ending in vowel + consonant: <i>big</i>	double the final consonant and add -er : <i>bigger</i>
Adjectives ending in -e : <i>safe</i>	add -r : <i>safer</i>
Adjectives ending in -y : <i>easy</i>	remove the -y and add -ier : <i>easier</i>
Long adjectives: <i>interesting</i>	put more before the adjective: <i>more interesting</i>
Irregular adjectives: <i>good bad</i>	<i>better worse</i>

- We use comparative adjectives to compare one thing or person with another.
- We use the verb **be** + **comparative adjective** + **than**.
Riley is taller than Amelia.

Superlatives

Short adjectives: <i>smart</i>	add -est : <i>the smartest</i>
Short adjectives ending in vowel + consonant: <i>big</i>	double the final consonant and add -est : <i>the biggest</i>
Adjectives ending in -e : <i>safe</i>	add -st : <i>the safest</i>
Adjectives ending in -y : <i>easy</i>	remove the -y and add -iest : <i>the easiest</i>
Long adjectives: <i>interesting</i>	put the most before the adjective: <i>the most interesting</i>
Irregular adjectives: <i>good bad</i>	<i>the best the worst</i>

- We use superlative adjectives to say a thing or person has got the most of a particular quality.
- We use **the** with a **superlative adjective**.
Riley is the tallest person in her family.

too, too much, too many

- We use **too, too much** and **too many** to say that there is an excess of something.
- We use **too** with **adjectives**.
I'm too excited to sleep – it's my birthday tomorrow!
- We use **too much** with **uncountable nouns**.
I've got too much homework so I can't go out tonight.
- We use **too many** with **plural countable nouns**.
Daniel's got too many plans for the weekend – he doesn't know which one to choose.

(not) enough + noun

- We use **enough** when we have the right amount of something or something is sufficient.
My brother has got enough experience to work there.
- We use **not enough** when we need more of something or something is insufficient.
I haven't got enough time to do charity work at the weekend.

could

- 1 I could speak French when I was five. (speak)
- 2 She a shower because there wasn't any water. (not have)
- 3 My grandparents a house when they were young because they were poor. (not buy)
- 4 Jack all the questions in his English exam because they were easy. (answer)
- 5 We him because he spoke very quietly. (not hear)
- 6 Lynn a bike when she was six, but I couldn't. (ride)

- 1 five / read / Could / were / you / when / you / ?
Could you read when you were five?
- 2 his / brother / Could / Spanish / speak / ?
- 3 his / understand / Maria and David / accent /
Could / ?
- 4 six / Mason / skate / was / he / when / Could / ?
- 5 yesterday / you / understand / Could / science
the / class / ?

3 Complete the sentences with the comparative form of the adjectives in brackets.

- 1 Maths is more boring (boring) than history.
- 2 Ava's homework is _____ (good) than Tim's homework.
- 3 Our new house is _____ (big) than the old one.
- 4 The weather in December is _____ (bad) than the weather in August.
- 5 I think my brother is _____ (intelligent) than me.

- 1 A I think being a firefighter is *more dangerous / the most dangerous* job in the world!
B I don't agree. I think a police officer's job is *more dangerous / the most dangerous* than a firefighter's job.
- 2 A What is the *best / better* way to travel?
B People think it's travelling by plane, but I think going by train is *better / the best* than travelling by plane.
- 3 A I think history is *easier / the easiest* subject.
B I don't agree. I think science is *easier / the easiest* than history.

5 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- 1 to / go / to / I'm / too / park / busy / the
I'm too busy to go to the park.
- 2 work / My / too / dad / has / much
- 3 clothes / got / I've / too / in / many / wardrobe / my
- 4 enough / haven't got / money / I / buy / to / a /
myself / new laptop
- 5 hasn't got / enough / to / study / She / time

- 6** Complete the text with the words in the box.

enough not enough too (x2)
too many too much

I went to my first concert last week. I didn't like it. It was ¹ too noisy and there were ² many people there. I wanted to have something to eat, but there was ³ no food for everybody. After two hours I was ⁴ so hungry to stay and I asked my mum to take me home. When we arrived home, Dad had ⁵ no work and didn't have ⁶ any time to cook dinner, so we had a pizza and then I went to bed!