

## ENGLISH HOMEWORK (18/11/2021)

### CAN, COULD, WOULD (ABILITY, REQUESTS, PERMISSIONS)

## Tổng hợp kiến thức

### PART 1: ABILITY

Example	Usage
1. I <b>can</b> dance, but I <b>can't</b> sing. I can do it tomorrow.	1. <b>can/can't</b> => skills/abilities (present/future)
2. I <b>will be able</b> to see you on Friday, but I <b>won't be able to</b> see you on Monday.	2. <b>Will/won't be able to</b> => something will/won't be possible in the future
3. She <b>could play</b> the piano when she was young, but she <b>couldn't play</b> the guitar.	3. <b>Could/couldn't</b> => ability in the past

Ex: There was a big fire in that building, but we **were able to/managed to** escape from it.

→ We use **Was or were able to/managed to** to talk about ability to do something **at a particular moment in the past.**

### Part 2: REQUESTS, PERMISSIONS

We use **can, could, may, and would** in questions:

**Can I help** you?

**Could I borrow** your pen, please?

**May I ask** a question?

**Could you phone** back later?

**Would you wait** for a moment, please?

## a. Requests

- **Can you** be quiet?
- **Could/Would you** wait for a moment, please?

=> **Ask somebody to do something (requests)**

## b. Permissions

- **Can I** have a go now?
- **May I** go out, please?

=> **Asking for permissions**

- You **can park** here = You **are allowed to park** here.
- I **can't use** my dad's computer = **I'm not allowed to use** my dad's computer.

=> **Giving/Refusing permissions**

## PRACTICE

### Exercise 1:

#### Language ability

Complete this description of a personal experience using *can*, *can't*, *could* or *couldn't* and the verbs in brackets.

I can remember<sup>0</sup> (remember) my first year of living in this country very clearly. When I first arrived here, I .....<sup>1</sup> (speak) the language very well. I .....<sup>2</sup> (understand) a few words and phrases and I .....<sup>3</sup> (go) shopping but I .....<sup>4</sup> (have) real conversations with people. Then I took a course and now I .....<sup>5</sup> (speak) the language quite well. I .....<sup>6</sup> (make) friends and I .....<sup>7</sup> (do) most things I want to do. Sometimes I .....<sup>8</sup> (remember) certain words but usually I .....<sup>9</sup> (think of) the right word and people .....<sup>10</sup> (understand) what I'm saying.

### Exercise 2:

## Problems on the trip

Complete this description of a trip using *were able to*, *managed to* or *couldn't* and the verbs in brackets.

We had some bad problems on our trip. First of all, we couldn't get<sup>0</sup> (get) a taxi to the airport because they were all busy. We rang lots of numbers and eventually we .....<sup>1</sup> (get) one and we .....<sup>2</sup> (arrive) at the airport just in time. When we arrived at the other end, we .....<sup>3</sup> (find) a trolley for all our bags but we .....<sup>4</sup> (carry) them to the bus. We .....<sup>5</sup> (find) our hotel without any problems so that was good. The next day, we .....<sup>6</sup> (book) a tour of the city and we .....<sup>7</sup> (see) all the famous sights. Unfortunately, we .....<sup>8</sup> (take) any photos because the camera wasn't working. The next day, I .....<sup>9</sup> (get) any money because I .....<sup>10</sup> (use) my card in any of the cash machines. After several hours, we .....<sup>11</sup> (find) a bank which accepted my card, which was lucky. At the end of the trip, we .....<sup>12</sup> (come) home without any problems, I'm pleased to say!

### Exercise 3:

#### In a restaurant

Complete the questions asked in a restaurant, using the words in brackets. There is more than one way of completing each question.

- 0 WAITER Can/Could/May I take your coat, sir? (I/take)  
0 CUSTOMER Could/Can we sit at a table by the window? (we/sit)  
1 CUSTOMER ..... me the menu please? (you/show)  
2 CUSTOMER ..... me what this dish is, please? (you/tell)  
3 WAITER ..... the chef's special, madam? (I/recommend)  
4 CUSTOMER ..... now, please? (I/order)  
5 WAITER ..... your order now? (I/take)  
6 CUSTOMER ..... to another table, please? (we/move)  
7 CUSTOMER ..... my order please? (I/change)  
8 CUSTOMER ..... me another knife, please? (you/bring)  
9 CUSTOMER ..... some more bread, please? (we/have)  
10 CUSTOMER ..... me the bill, please? (you/get)

### Exercise 4:

## Home rules

Complete this interview with a child in a children's magazine about what he is permitted to do at home. Change 'can/can't' to 'be allowed to' and 'be allowed to' to 'can/can't'.

(Can you eat) *Are you allowed to eat*<sup>0</sup> meals in front of the TV?

(We aren't allowed to do) *We can't do*<sup>0</sup> that usually but (we're allowed to do) .....<sup>1</sup> it if there's a special programme on TV.

(Are you allowed to watch) .....<sup>2</sup> films on your own?

(I can't watch) .....<sup>3</sup> violent films. One of my friends, Ben, (is allowed to watch) .....<sup>4</sup> anything he wants, but

(I can't do) .....<sup>5</sup> that. (I can watch) .....<sup>6</sup> films for my age but (I'm not allowed to watch) .....<sup>7</sup> (films for teenagers or adults.

(Can you play) .....<sup>8</sup> computer games on school days?

(I'm allowed to play) .....<sup>9</sup> computer games when I get home but (I'm not allowed to play) .....<sup>10</sup> them for more than half an hour on school days.