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Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala

ESCUELA DE CIENCIAS LINGÜÍSTICAS

Modals: Can and could

Choose the correct meaning of can in the sentences below.

Examples:

a. Ron can't drive. He hasn't learned how.
He isn't able to.

b. Ron can't drive. His driver's license has expired.
He isn't allowed to.

1. Can I borrow your pencil?
2. Can you take me to school next week?
3. You can't go out until you finish your chores.
4. Who can sign the documents?
5. When can they meet with us?
6. The doctor can't see you until Thursday. ____



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Fill in the blanks with the correct form of be allowed to or be able to.

Example: Terry couldn't come to our meeting because she had a meeting in Frankfurt at the same time.

In other words, she wasn't able to come to our meeting.

1. Carla couldn't drive a car until she was 15. Her parents wouldn't let her.

In other words, Carla _____
date until she was 15.

2. I looked everywhere for the dress I wanted, but I couldn't find it.

In other words, I _____ find
the dress I wanted.

3. We couldn't leave early last Monday. Our teacher didn't give us permission.

In other words, we _____
leave early.

4. I'm sorry I couldn't meet with you on Thursday. My Uber was late.



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In other words, we _____
meet with you.

5. We couldn't bring the fruit we'd bought into the country. The customs officials prohibited it.

In other words, we _____
bring the fruit into the country.