

1 Circle the correct word.

- 1 **Can** / Can't I use your pencil, please?
- 2 You **can** / can't borrow my book. I need it.
- 3 Maria **can't** / can sing well. She's got a beautiful voice.
- 4 **Could** / Couldn't I have a glass of water?
- 5 Dan **couldn't** / could write at the age of one.
- 6 She **could** / can speak Spanish when she was fifteen.
- 7 John and Phil **could** / can play the piano. They're quite good at it, too.
- 8 **Could** / Couldn't I go to the cinema with Aya?

98

33

Modal Verbs

14

2 Label the speech situations.

ability in the present
ability in the past

asking for permission
polite request (x 2)

~~asking for permission politely~~

1 *asking for permission politely*

2

3



Could I use your phone?



They can swim so well.



Could you close the door, please?

4

5

6



I could walk before the accident.



Can I sit here?



Could you help me, please?