

Complete the sentences with the correct positive or negative form of the verb be or can.

0 My brother **IS** only three years old but he **CAN** swim quite well.

1 It _____ three o'clock in the morning. I _____ in bed but I _____ sleep.

2 Hey, Jackie? _____ you swim? _____ you interested in a job? The swimming pool wants summer workers.

3 Louis _____ very good at Spanish. He _____ say 'Hello', he _____ count to ten and he doesn't know what 'Gracias' means! He _____ the worst student in the class!

4 My mum and dad _____ angry with me because of my Maths test result. I work hard but I _____ understand _____ the Maths we are doing at the moment.

2 ★ Complete the text with the past forms of the verbs in brackets.

AMAZING CHILDREN

William Sidis ⁰ was (be) born in New York in 1898. He ¹ _____ (can) speak more than ten languages and when he ² _____ (be) eleven, he ³ _____ (be) already a student at Harvard University. He ⁴ _____ (be) a professor when he ⁵ _____ (be) twenty. He ⁶ _____ (be) amazing but, unfortunately, he ⁷ _____ (not/be) a happy child.

3 ★★ Complete the conversation between Elaine and her grandma with the correct past forms of the verb *be* or *can*.

E: Hi, Grandma. What are those photos?

G: They're my old photos from when I ⁶was a teenager like you.

E: Wow. Is that your motorbike?

G: No, it ¹_____ my brother's.

E: ²_____ you drive?

G: Not then. Driving lessons ³_____ expensive and my parents ⁴_____ pay for them.

E: Oh, I like this one. Where ⁵_____ you?

G: We ⁶_____ in Wales on a school trip. The weather ⁷_____ very good – there ⁸_____ lots of rain – but we ⁹_____ very happy in the mountains. Every day ¹⁰_____ the same – breakfast at 8 a.m., a 20-km walk and back to the hostel in the evening. We ¹¹_____ so tired, we ¹²_____ move in the evenings. There ¹³_____ any discos or parties – we ¹⁴_____ in bed before 9 p.m.!

E: ¹⁵_____ you with grandfather then?

G: No, I ¹⁶_____. He ¹⁷_____ at the same school as me. Just a minute, ah, here's one of your grandfather and me. We ¹⁸_____ twenty-one or twenty-two then ...

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SHOW WHAT YOU'VE LEARNT

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

0 were / yesterday? / why / sad / you

Why were you sad yesterday?

1 ten / swim? / when / could / were / you / you

2 night? / angry / why / was / Carole / last

3 homework. / Simon / with / couldn't / my / help / me

4 the guitar / when / Nikki / play / primary / could / she / in / school. / was

5 home / friends / the weekend. / my / at / weren't / at

6 couldn't / wallet / I / anywhere. / find / my