

## Talking about ability

1. Choose the correct answers. If both answers are acceptable you should choose both of them.

- 1 Could you / Were you able to book tickets for the festival?
- 2 I answered the phone, but couldn't / didn't manage to hear anyone's voice on the other end.
- 3 I'll take my phone to the USA, but I can't / won't be able to make any calls from there.
- 4 We're having a party next weekend. Can you / Will you be able to come?
- 5 When the flood came, we managed / were able to climb onto the roof
- 6 Although she lives in Spain, she can't / isn't able to speak Spanish.
- 7 I could smell / succeeded in smelling gas as soon as I walked through the door.
- 8 The hill was very steep but we could / managed to cycle to the top.

2 Complete the dialogue with the correct forms of *can*, *could*, *be able to* and *manage to*. There may be more than one correct answer.

**Leo** 1..... finish your science project last night?

**Mia** No. My brother had some friends round. They were so noisy.  
I 2..... concentrate!

**Leo** 3..... work on it tonight? I 4..... help you, if you like. I'm interested in climate change.

**Mia** Thanks. I 5..... find some statistics online, but I need to show them as diagrams.

**Leo** 6..... you draw? I'm not very good.

**Mia** Yes. I 7..... draw pretty well. Although I 8..... probably do it better when I was ten. It was my favourite hobby. But I don't have time now ...

**Leo** Don't worry. After your exams, you 9..... spend more time on your hobbies.

**Mia** I 10..... wait!