PRACTICE

1 Complete the sentences with *can*, *can't*, *could*, *couldn't*, *may* or *might*. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

1 I've looked for my phone, but I ..... find it.

2 My brother ..... swim when he was four.

3 I'm not sure what to do tomorrow. I ..... go to Jo's party.

4 She isn't looking well. I think she ..... have flu.

5 I ..... play the piano but I don't play very often.

6 Kieran ..... ride a bike until he was nearly 12.

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Read the message. Then complete the rules with the underlined words.

Hi Kylie, I'm sorry I couldn't meet you yesterday and I don't think I can go out on Thursday, either. I may be busy all evening on Friday, too, so Saturday might be better. There's a new film on at the cinema. I don't know much about it but it's got our favourite actor in it, so it could be really good! Let me know what you think. Lauren

1 We use ..... to talk about ability in the present and ..... to talk about ability in the past.

2 We use ....., ... or ..... for possibility in the present or future, with no real difference in meaning.

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Choose the correct option in *italics*.

Hi Lauren, thanks for your message. I **(1)** *might not* / *couldn't* reply to you earlier because I was in class. I **(2)** *may* / *can* see you're very busy at the moment, so perhaps it **(3)** *can* / *might* be better to meet another weekend. It's a shame we **(4)** *can't* / *may not* see each other more often. You're my best friend and I know I **(5)** *might* / *can* always tell you anything. I **(6)** *could* / *couldn't* phone you in the next few days if you like. Love, Kylie

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