

Exercises

26.1 Complete the sentences using **can** or **(be) able to**. If **can** is not possible, use **(be) able to**.

- 1 Gary has travelled a lot. He can speak five languages.
- 2 I haven't been able to sleep very well recently.
- 3 Nicole drive, but she doesn't have a car.
- 4 I used to stand on my head, but I can't do it any more.
- 5 I can't understand Mark. I've never understand him.
- 6 I can't see you on Friday, but I meet you on Saturday morning.
- 7 Ask Katherine about your problem. She might help you.
- 8 You have to be careful in this part of the city. It be dangerous.
- 9 Michael has lived in Italy a long time, so he should speak Italian.

26.2 Write sentences about yourself using the ideas in brackets.

- 1 (something you used to be able to do)
I used to be able to sing well.
- 2 (something you used to be able to do)
I used
- 3 (something you would like to be able to do)
I'd
- 4 (something you have never been able to do)
I've

26.3 Complete the sentences with **can/can't/could/couldn't** + the following:

believe **come** **hear** **run** **sleep** **wait**

- 1 I'm afraid I ... can't come ... to your party next week.
- 2 When Dan was 16, he 100 metres in 11 seconds.
- 3 'Are you in a hurry?' 'No, I've got plenty of time. I'
- 4 I don't feel good this morning. I last night.
- 5 Can you speak a little louder? I you very well.
- 6 I was amazed when I heard the news. I it.

26.4 Complete the answers to the questions with **was/were able to** ...

- 1 A: Did everybody escape from the fire?
B: Yes. The fire spread quickly, but everybody was able to escape
- 2 A: Did you finish your work this afternoon?
B: Yes, there was nobody to disturb me, so I
- 3 A: Did you solve the problem?
B: Yes, we did. It wasn't easy, but we
- 4 A: Did the thief get away?
B: Yes. No-one realised what was happening and the thief

26.5 Complete the sentences using **could**, **couldn't** or **managed to**.

- 1 My grandfather travelled a lot. He could speak five languages.
- 2 I looked everywhere for the book, but I couldn't find it.
- 3 They didn't want to come with us at first, but we managed to persuade them.
- 4 Jessica had hurt her foot and walk very well.
- 5 There was a small fire in the kitchen, but fortunately I put it out.
- 6 The walls were thin and I hear people talking in the next room.
- 7 I ran my first marathon recently. It was very hard, but I finish.
- 8 My grandmother loved music. She play the piano very well.
- 9 We wanted to go to the concert, but we get tickets.
- 10 A girl fell into the river, but some people pull her out. She's all right now.