GRAMMAR Modals: Ability, possibility and *managed to*

1 Choose the correct answers. Sometimes two answers are correct.

1 I ..... swim until I was fifteen years old.
a couldn't b managed to
c wasn't able to

2 How ..... fix Mark's computer?
a could you b did you manage to
c managed you to

3 Stella could read before she ..... walk.
a was able to b could
c might be able to

4 Tom has hurt his leg, so we ..... play tennis next weekend.
a won't be able to b couldn't
c didn't manage to

5 In the end, I ..... persuade my dad to buy me a scooter.
a was able to b managed to
c will be able to

6 Tickets are going to be very difficult to get, but with luck we ..... buy some on the internet.
a could b might be able to
c will be able to

7 ..... finish your project in time last week?
a Did you manage to b Could you
c Will you be able to

8 It was hard work, but eventually I ..... climb over the garden wall.
a managed to b could
c was able to

2 Complete the sentences with *(not) be able to* and a verb from the box. Use *might* if possible.

beat	come	go	help
mend	play	see	visit

1 I'm not sure yet, but I ..... (not) to your party tomorrow.
2 When we climbed to the top of this mountain, we ..... the whole city.
3 I think I ..... this bicycle – it could be easy, or it could be impossible.
4 When I get a car, we ..... anywhere we like at the weekend!
5 I asked Susan for advice, but she ..... (not) me.
6 Even if you train every day for a year, you ..... (not) me in a 100 metre race!
7 She hopes she ..... her grandmother soon.
8 We ..... (not) football tomorrow – it depends on the weather.

3 Correct the mistakes in these sentences or put a tick (✓) by any you think are correct.

1 He thought he can swim. .....
2 He is so sly that he managed to avoid detection for a long period by pretending to be a good man. .....
3 It was the first time a song could make me cry. .....
4 As I ordered him not to move, I could call the police. .....
5 Even though he was born into a poor family he managed it to go to school. .....
6 We decided to find a job in order to can get the money for Carla's present. .....

VOCABULARY Adjective + preposition

1 Match the prepositions in the box to the adjectives.

about	at	by	for	in	on	to	with

1 addicted .....
2 annoyed .....
3 disappointed .....
4 furious .....
5 keen .....
6 nervous .....
7 surprised .....
8 suitable .....

2 Complete the sentences with an adjective + preposition from exercise 1.

1 I always get ..... exams, and never sleep well the night before.
2 Our teacher gets very ..... students talking in class, and sometimes shouts at them.
3 I thought her first novel was great, but I was ..... her second one, which wasn't nearly as good.
4 Dan is ..... computer games – he just can't stop playing them.
5 My dad was absolutely ..... me when I crashed my bicycle into his car.
6 The organisers were ..... the number of people who turned up – they weren't expecting so many.
7 This book is quite frightening, so it isn't ..... young children.
8 I'm not really ..... novels, but I read a lot of comics.

LIVEWORKSHEETS