

Grammar in Use



A Study the grammar.



Learn Grammar

Modals of Ability

Past	Present	Future
- Last Tuesday, my gums were fine, and I could eat everything. - My teeth hurt and I couldn't eat anything.	- Today, my gums feel better, so now I can chew. - I can't chew hard foods today because my gums hurt.	- Tomorrow, my gums will be fine, and I will be able to eat almost everything. - I won't be able to eat nuts until my mouth feels better.

B Fill in the chart. Use *could*, *couldn't*, *will be able to*, and *won't be able to*.

	Past	Present	Future
1	I could run.	I can run.	I will be able to run.
2		I can't play.	
3		I can work.	
4		I can't talk.	
5		I can cook.	
6		I can't go out.	

C Answer the questions. Use *could* or *couldn't*.

1



Could he talk when he was two years old?
Yes, he could talk when he was two years old.

2



Could she walk when she was one?

3



Could he stand up when he was one?

4



Could she write her name when she was four?

D Complete the sentences.

won't be able to could can couldn't will be able to can't

- 1 I read when I was three. My mother had to read to me.
- 2 I was always good at drawing. I draw a person when I was four.
- 3 I like to ride my bike. I ride it very well.
- 4 I don't feel well today. I go to the park.
- 5 Tomorrow, I eat solid food because I will have a tooth pulled. I will only be able to drink liquids.
- 6 When my little sister gets bigger, she ride a bike.

E Write sentences to describe what they will be able to do when they are older.

1



She will

2



3

