Modals and phrases of ability



CAN

We use to talk about general abilities, in the Present Tense.

1

COULD

We use to talk about general abilities, in the Past Simple.

2

BE ABLE TO

In present perfect, past perfect and after modal verbs. To define specific past achievements

3

Read the grammar guide carefully .Match the information about the modal verbs on the left, with the pitures on the right .Write the correct number.



Complete the sentences with can, could and be able to

1. I went to Tulcán last year but I **can't/ couldn't** visit the well known graveyard.
2. Rodolfo'**s been able to swim / He can swim** since he was a child.
3. When Amparo was a kid, she **could/ was able to** dance very well.
4. Rafaela tried to see Breaking Bad, but she **wasn't able to/ can't** finish it.
5. Juan **managed/ could** summit peaks when he was a teenager, but he **can't/ couldn't** climb a mountain now.
6. Francisca needs to **can/ be able to** speak Quechua in her new job.

Look the pictures and complete with the correct modal or phrase of ability



Pedro_____sing well.He sings awfully.



My mom_____ cook when she got married because she didn't have enough time.



Everyone should____ to speak English.

LIVEWORKSHEETS