

can-could-be able to

A. Choose the correct word that fills in each blank.

- I'm right-handed. I ____ write with my left hand.
a. can b. can't c. could
- When I met Alice and Tom, they ____ dance well so they decided to take classes. Now they are good dancers.
a. can't b. couldn't c. wasn't able to
- When my daughter was 7, she ____ to climb trees. Now that she's 13 she does it easily.
a. wasn't able b. could c. can
- My computer is broken. I ____ to send messages.
a. couldn't b. can't c. 'm not able
- I have a sore throat. I ____ talk much.
a. can't b. 'm not able c. could
- When I was young, I ____ eat whatever I liked. I never got fat.
a. was able to b. can't c. couldn't
- Sure, I ____ to start work tomorrow.
a. can b. could c. 'm able
- ____ rabbits fly?
a. Could b. Can c. Are able to



B. Choose between could, was/were able to, or both.

Remember the differences in use.

1. It was the first time Alison ____ break a record in a National championship.
a. could b. was able to c. both
2. At the age of 12, Gina ____ run very fast. She won many competitions.
a. could b. was able to c. both
3. The students ____ pass the TOEFL taken in November.
a. could b. were able to c. both
4. Unfortunately, not all people ____ escape from the fire.
a. could b. were able to c. both
5. When Hans and Tony were teenagers, they ____ play the drums so well that many famous singers wanted them to be part of their bands.
a. could b. were able to c. both
6. My little son ____ read by age four.
a. could b. was able to c. both
7. Fortunately, Danna ____ skip that difficult question in the debate.
a. could b. was able to c. both
8. My grandparents were really good pianists. They ____ play the piano amazingly.
a. could b. were able to c. both

