

# Can-could-be able to

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

1. I'm right-handed. I \_\_\_\_ write with my left hand.  
a. can                      b. Can't                      c. could
2. 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
3. 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
4. My computer is broken. I \_\_\_\_ to send messages.  
a. couldn't                      b. Can't                      c. 'm not able
5. I have a sore throat. I \_\_\_\_ talk much.  
a. Can't                      b. 'm not able                      c. could
6. When I was young, I \_\_\_\_ eat whatever I liked. I never got fat.  
a. was able to                      b. Can't                      c. couldn't
7. Sure, I \_\_\_\_ to start work tomorrow.  
a. Can                      b. could                      c. 'm able
8. \_\_\_\_ 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

