

# 4B

## Yes, I can!

Failure is not falling down. Failure is falling down and not getting up again.  
Richard Nixon, former US President

**G** ability and possibility: *can, could, be able to, reflexive pronouns* **V** -ed / -ing adjectives **P** sentence stress

### 1 GRAMMAR ability and possibility, reflexive pronouns

a Read the sentences. If both forms are correct, tick (✓) the sentence. If only one form is correct, circle the correct form.

- 1 She can / is able to swim really well because she used to live by the sea.
- 2 You need to can / be able to drive to live in the country.
- 3 Luke could / was able to read when he was only three years old.
- 4 If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we can / we'll be able to go for a long walk.
- 5 Sorry, I've been so busy that I haven't could / haven't been able to call until now.
- 6 If Millie had a less demanding job, she could / would be able to enjoy life more.
- 7 I've never could / been able to dance well, but I'd love to learn.
- 8 We're really sorry we couldn't / weren't able to come to your wedding.
- 9 I used to can / used to be able to speak a bit of Polish, but I've forgotten most of it now.
- 10 Can you / Will you be able to pick me up at the station when I arrive?
- 11 To work for this company, you must can / must be able to speak at least three languages.
- 12 I hate not can / not being able to communicate with the local people when I'm travelling.

b Read Karen Cooke's CV. Then complete the sentences with the correct form of *can, could, or be able to*.

- 1 Karen can play the violin.
- 2 She                    speak a little Portuguese when she started working in Lisbon.
- 3 She                    speak French.
- 4 She                    design websites since 2004.
- 5 She                    finish her PhD before she left the USA.
- 6 She'd like                    speak Spanish.
- 7 She                    speak a little Spanish soon.



Name: Karen Cooke

Date of Birth: 11/03/1985

#### Qualifications

- Degree in German with Marketing (2008)
- Master's in Business Administration (2011)
- Started PhD in Business (2014) – incomplete

#### Work Experience

- 2003–2005: Trainer and Operator with Telefunken, London
- 2008–2014: Assistant then Marketing Manager, Telefunken, New York, USA
- 2014–present: Managing Director, JJAM Marketing Services Ltd, Lisbon, Portugal

#### Other Skills

- IT skills – advanced. Course in web design 2004.
- Full driving licence

#### Languages

- German (fluent)
- Portuguese (basic) certificate 2013
- I hope to start Spanish classes next January.

#### Hobbies and Interests

- Music – I play the flute and the violin.

c Match the sentence halves.

- 1 Thanks for inviting me yesterday. I really enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_. *c*
- 2 She got the job because she'd prepared \_\_\_\_\_. *c*
- 3 Have a great time, you two! I'm sure you'll enjoy \_\_\_\_\_. *c*
- 4 My new printer is much better than my old one. It even switches \_\_\_\_\_. *c*
- 5 We really wanted to watch the sunrise, so we kept \_\_\_\_\_. *c*
- 6 He fell down the stairs, but luckily he didn't hurt \_\_\_\_\_. *c*
- 7 They've been saving to buy \_\_\_\_\_. *c*

- a himself badly.
- b ourselves awake by listening to music.
- c myself at the concert.
- d itself off when it isn't being used.
- e yourselves at the party.
- f themselves a house since they got married.
- g herself well for the interview.

2 PRONUNCIATION sentence stress

a 4.2 Listen and complete the sentences.



- 1 She can sing \_\_\_\_\_ very well \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 I've \_\_\_\_\_ been \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Can you \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_?
- 4 You \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_  
to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 He \_\_\_\_\_ been \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 We \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.

b 4.2 Listen again and repeat the sentences. Copy the rhythm.

3 VOCABULARY **-ed / -ing** adjectives

a Complete the sentences with the correct adjective in **bold**.



1 **amazed / amazing**

Venice is an amazing \_\_\_\_\_ city. You really must go there one day.

2 **embarrassed / embarrassing**

I felt very \_\_\_\_\_ when I realized my mistake.

3 **frightened / frightening**

He's \_\_\_\_\_ of dogs. He can't go anywhere near them.

4 **excited / exciting**

The final half of the match was really \_\_\_\_\_.

5 **bored / boring**

I enjoyed the book, but the film was a bit \_\_\_\_\_.

6 **annoyed / annoying**

I can't stand this quiz show. The presenter is really \_\_\_\_\_.

7 **depressed / depressing**

I'm fed up with this terrible weather – it's so \_\_\_\_\_.

8 **disappointed / disappointing**

Max was very \_\_\_\_\_ when he wasn't chosen for the job.

9 **tired / tiring**

Everyone was \_\_\_\_\_ after the walk, so nobody felt like going out in the evening.

10 **frustrated / frustrating**

I got very \_\_\_\_\_ when I couldn't log onto my bank's website.

**b** Complete the sentences with the **-ed** or **-ing** form of the verbs from the list.

amaze annoy bore depress disappoint  
embarrass excite frighten frustrate tire

- 1 I'm really annoyed with my brother – it makes me so angry when he forgets my birthday!
- 2 My sister can't swim. She's afraid of the water.
- 3 Looking after small children can be very tiring. They have a lot of energy.
- 4 I was very embarrassed when my phone rang in the meeting. I could feel my face going red.
- 5 His exam results were very disappointing. He failed every subject.
- 6 I'm really excited about going to Italy. It's the first time I've been abroad!
- 7 This programme is really interesting. Can we watch something more interesting?
- 8 I always feel tired at the end of a holiday. Sometimes I'm unhappy for days!
- 9 She tried for ages to get back onto the surfboard, but in the end she got tired and gave up.
- 10 We took lots of photos because the view was so amazing.



**c** Write true sentences about you using the words in **bold**.

1 **annoying**

*My little brother is sometimes very annoying.*

2 **bored**

3 **amazing**

4 **exciting**

5 **frightened**

6 **disappointed**

7 **frustrating**

8 **embarrassed**

 Go online for more practice

 Go online to check your progress