5

Date: _____

Modals can • could

Grandpa **could** play football when was young.
played



He **can't** play football now.
plays

Sandy **couldn't** play the flute last year.
played



She **can** play the flute now.
plays

can't	= cannot
couldn't	= could not

Practice **A** ***Fill in the blanks with 'can', 'can't', 'could' or 'couldn't' and the verbs given.***

brush paint finish speak swim get finish tie

1 Look! Uncle Jim _____ _____ beautiful pictures.

2 My little sister _____ _____ her teeth by herself.

3 Danny _____ _____ very fast. He always wins races.

4 When I was four years old, I _____ _____ dressed by myself.

5 Jacky _____ _____ his shoelaces by himself last year.

6 Amy _____ _____ English when she was three.

7 I _____ _____ the test yesterday. It was very difficult.

8 There is too much food. The boys _____ _____ it.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Date: _____

Practice **B** ***Write sentences with 'when'. Put in 'could' or 'couldn't'. Use the correct form of the verb 'be'. Follow the example.***

1 the stairs | climb | four | they | be

Bob and Joyce could climb the stairs when they were four.

2 he | ten | cook | be

Ken _____

3 four | her name | she | spell | be

Paula _____

4 he | ride | six | a bicycle | be

Ricky _____

5 seven | the guitar | he | play | be

Sam _____



Grammar in Context ***Aunt Kate and Helen are in the park. Complete what they say with 'when' and the correct form of the words given. Follow the example.***

'Be careful, Helen,' says Aunt Kate. 'You ❶ can't swim (can / swim).

You ❷ _____ (be) only five.'

'❸ _____ (can) you swim ❹ _____ you ❺ _____ (be) five, Aunt Kate?' asks Helen. 'I ❻ _____ (can) swim when I was five. But I ❼ _____ (can / play) tennis and badminton,' says Aunt Kate. 'I ❽ _____ (learn) to swim ❾ _____ I ❿ _____ (be) ten. I even ⓫ _____ (enter) some competitions!'

'I ⓬ _____ (can / play) tennis but I ⓭ _____ (can / play) badminton. Let's play badmintion together,' says Helen happily.



LIVEWORKSHEETS