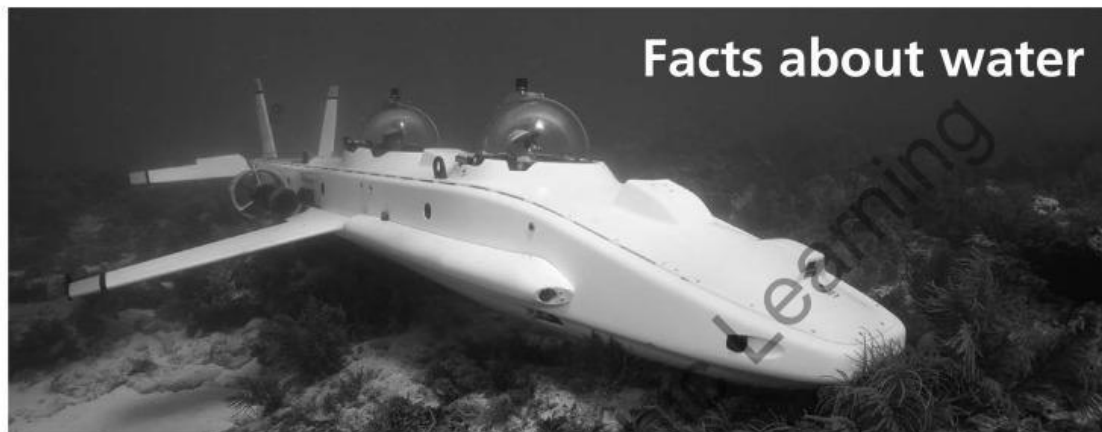


- A** Read the fact file. Then complete the facts with *can* (✓), *can't* (✗), *could* (✓), *couldn't* (✗), *will be able to* (✓), or *won't be able to* (✗).



- ✓ Using current technology, humans <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ now travel to the deepest point underwater in the world.
- ✗ Scuba divers who have only passed a beginner's course <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ dive deeper underwater than 18 meters.
- ✓ The *S.S. United States* was the fastest ocean liner ever. In the 1950s, it <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ cross the Atlantic Ocean in about three and a half days.
- ✓ Christopher Columbus was a famous explorer who sailed to the Americas in the 1490s. Unusually, he <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ swim very well. In fact, he once swam to safety from a burning ship.
- ✓ Under-sixteens <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ take part in swimming events at the next Olympics. Some sports ban under-sixteens—gymnastics, for example—but not swimming.
- ✓ Experts predict that one day, in the future, swimmers <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ swim faster than 7.7 kilometers per hour. Currently, around 7.7 kilometers per hour is the fastest recorded time—so it's likely that somebody will go faster.
- ✗ Women <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ compete in swimming events at the first Olympics in 1896. In fact, they weren't allowed to compete in swimming until 1912.
- ✗ You <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ drink even 1% of the water on Earth during your life.
- ✗ An average person <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ safely drink more than a liter of water every hour.
- ✗ Imagine that, starting now, a human being has no water to drink—he or she <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ survive until the end of the week.

- B** Which fact did you find the most surprising? Tell your partner.

UNIT  
**12** Grammar 2 Modals of prediction and possibility

- A** Complete the technology predictions for 2050 with *will*, *won't*, *could*, *might*, or *may*. Use *probably* when you can. Sometimes there is more than one possible answer.

**My technology predictions for 2050**

**The Home**

I'm sure that all the simple jobs like washing dishes and cleaning the house  
1 \_\_\_\_\_ be automated. We 2 \_\_\_\_\_ use robots that are built for a particular job, or I guess we 3 \_\_\_\_\_ have larger, functional robots that can do a lot of jobs. I think this is less likely, however.

I'm certain that the home 4 \_\_\_\_\_ become a system with different parts that communicate with each other. Humans 5 \_\_\_\_\_ have to do any jobs about the house ever again! In fact, I'm almost certain of that!

**Travel**

There 6 \_\_\_\_\_ be any gas cars. It's not certain, but it is likely that governments 7 \_\_\_\_\_ make them illegal. And I think there 8 \_\_\_\_\_ be more driverless electric cars than regular ones—but that's just my opinion. I 9 \_\_\_\_\_ be right. Who knows?

**Shopping**

In the future, stores 10 \_\_\_\_\_ exist. No stores—imagine! It is a real possibility, but not at all certain. Actually, I think there 11 \_\_\_\_\_ be fewer stores and malls, but there 12 \_\_\_\_\_ definitely be some.

- B** Discuss the predictions with a partner. Which do you agree with? What are your predictions for home, travel, and shopping?