

MINI-LESSON 38: CAN / COULD / WILL BE ABLE TO

Objective:

Learn how to use **can**, **could**, and **will be able to** to talk about ability in the present, past, and future.

Grammar Explanation:

Tense Form Use Example

Present can + base verb I can swim.

Past **could + base verb** She **could** read when she was 4.

Future will be able to + base verb They will be able to drive next year.

Negative forms:

- can → can't / cannot
- could → couldn't / could not
- will be able to → won't be able to





Practice 1: Fill in the blanks with can, could, or will be able to.

1.	1	_ play the piano when I was five.
2.	He	speak three languages.
3.	She	run a marathon after training.
4.	We	go out tonight.
5.	They	read without glasses in the past.
6.	My brother _	solve that math problem tomorrow.

Practice 2: Rewrite each sentence using the correct form of can / could / will be able to.

2. (Past – negative) She ride a bike. 3. (Present) We speak English well. 4. (Future – negative) They come to the party. 5. (Past) He play the violin. 6. (Present – negative) I swim very far.	1./	(Future) I learn how to surf.		
 →		→		
 4. (Future – negative) They come to the party. →	2.	. (Past – negative) She ride a bike.		
 4. (Future – negative) They come to the party. →		÷		
→	3.	(Present) We speak English well.		
→		→		
·	4. (Future – negative) They come to the party.			
·		→		
→ 6. (Present – negative) I swim very far.	5.	(Past) He play the violin.		
6. (Present – negative) I swim very far.		→ <u> </u>		
	6.	(Present – negative) I swim very far.		

Practice 3: Choose the correct option.

- 1. When I was young, I (can / could / will be able to) climb trees easily.
- 2. Don't worry. You (can / could / will be able to) finish the project on time.
- 3. I (can / could / will be able to) help you now if you want.
- 4. She (can / could / will be able to) drive after she gets her license.
- 5. We (can't / couldn't / won't be able to) go because we're too busy.
- 6. My baby sister (can / could / will be able to) walk soon.





Practice 1: Fill in the blanks

- 1. could
- 2. can
- 3. will be able to
- 4. can
- 5. could
- 6. will be able to

Practice 2: Rewrite the sentences

- 1. I will be able to learn how to surf.
- 2. She **couldn't** ride a bike.
- 3. We can speak English well.
- 4. They won't be able to come to the party.
- 5. He **could** play the violin.
- 6. I can't swim very far.

Practice 3: Choose the correct option

- 1. could
- 2. will be able to
- 3. can
- 4. will be able to
- 5. won't be able to
- 6. will be able to