

# Can & Could

## Grammar Drill Pack

**Focus:** Distinguish present ability (can) from past ability and polite requests (could) — five short drills to lock in **Can & Could**.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

### 1 · Rules

- ◆ Use can to talk about present ability.
- ◆ Use could for past ability or polite requests.
- ◆ Use could to suggest a possible future situation.
- ◆ Use can for informal permission, could for more polite permission.
- ◆ Both can and could can express possibility, but could is more tentative.

### 2 · Signal words

ability possibility request permission past ability polite request could you can I

**Tip:** These words often flag **Can & Could** — spot them, then choose the form.

### 3 · Gap-fill drill

Write the correct form of **Can & Could** in each gap.

- I \_\_\_\_\_ speak three languages.
- She \_\_\_\_\_ travel to Japan last year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ you help me with this problem?
- We \_\_\_\_\_ see the mountains from the window.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ lift heavy boxes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ they finish the work by Friday?

### 4 · Error correction

Each sentence has one mistake in Can & Could. Rewrite it correctly.

- 1 ~~I could read this book.~~
- 2 ~~She can swim when she was five.~~
- 3 ~~He could drive a car now.~~
- 4 ~~He could speak French.~~
- 5 ~~You could call me tonight.~~
- 6 ~~I can not find my keys.~~

## 5 · Mini-quiz

Choose the correct option (A-D).

- 1 Which word expresses present ability?  
☐ (A) could   ☐ (B) can   ☐ (C) may   ☐ (D) must
- 2 Which form is used for polite requests?  
☐ (A) Can   ☐ (B) Could   ☐ (C) Will   ☐ (D) Shall
- 3 Choose the sentence that talks about past ability.  
☐ (A) She can sing well.   ☐ (B) She could sing well when she was young.   ☐ (C) She may sing well.  
☐ (D) She must sing well.
- 4 Which sentence asks for permission in a polite way?  
☐ (A) Can I leave?   ☐ (B) Could I leave?   ☐ (C) Will I leave?   ☐ (D) May I leave?
- 5 Select the sentence that shows possibility in the future.  
☐ (A) It can rain tomorrow.   ☐ (B) It could rain tomorrow.   ☐ (C) It may rain tomorrow.  
☐ (D) It must rain tomorrow.
- 6 Which word is used to talk about ability in the present?  
☐ (A) could   ☐ (B) might   ☐ (C) can   ☐ (D) should