**Modal verbs in the past and future**

1. Read the things Sandy could and couldn’t do when he was ten. Write sentences about Sandy.

   When Sandy was ten …
   
   1. **swim** ✓
      - He could swim. / He was able to swim.
   
   2. **ride a bike** ✓
      - He
   
   3. **play the guitar** ✗
      - He
   
   4. **speak French** ✗
      - He
   
   5. **play tennis** ✓
      - He
   
   6. **solve difficult maths problems** ✓
      - He

2. Choose the correct word.

   1. When I was young I **couldn’t** / **didn’t manage to** swim.
   
   2. I **could** / **managed to** play the piano when I was five.
   
   3. I **could** / **managed to** pass my exams last year.
   
   4. I **could** / **was able to** pass my driving test first time.
   
   5. I **didn’t have to study** / **needn’t have studied** English at school.
   
   6. You really **couldn’t** / **needn’t have done that**, but thanks anyway.
   
   7. In the future everyone **will have to** / **won’t be able to** learn Chinese.

3. Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

   When I was at school we (1) _________ (have to) wear a uniform, but in the future most children (2) _________ (not need to) wear one. We (3) _________ (able to) stay at home until we were six or seven, but in the future children (4) _________ (need to) start school when they are about four. When we were young we (5) _________ (not able to) use the Internet to help us study, but in the future all children (6) _________ (able to) study at home using their computers. In the past we (7) _________ (not need to) worry if we (8) _________ (not able to) use a computer very well, but nowadays people (9) _________ (not able to) get a good job unless they can use a computer well.