

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.