



Let's practise using "could" and "were able to"!

**i** "Could" and "was/were able to" are both used to talk about ability or what was possible in the past. For example: He was able to take the bus yesterday.

Could is also used for polite requests and to ask permission. For example: Could you please close the door? OR Could I open a window?

**i** Be careful: Use "was able to" for I and he/she/it but use "were able to" for you, we and they.

Questions: Put "was" or "were" or "could" at the beginning of the sentence followed by the person. For example: Were you able to win the prize?

Negations: Form them by using "wasn't/ was not" or "weren't/were not" or "couldn't/could not". For example: I wasn't able to come.

**?**  
\_\_\_\_\_ you please ring Claudia?

- Were you able to
- Could

**?**  
**Sheila is very busy at work, but she \_\_\_\_\_ able to visit me last week.**

- could
- were
- was

**?**  
**They \_\_\_\_\_ able to understand her despite not speaking the same language.**

- is
- were
- was

**?**  
**Sorry, but we \_\_\_\_\_ able to come to your meeting yesterday.**

- wasn't
- were
- weren't

**?**  
\_\_\_\_\_ they able to climb to the top of the mountain?

- Were
- Could
- Was



?

\_\_\_\_\_ you please let June know that I will be late?

- Were
- Could
- Was

?

I \_\_\_\_\_ believe my eyes when I saw it! Really amazing!

- could
- couldn't
- coudn't

?

\_\_\_\_\_ you able to finish the essay last week?

- Was
- Have
- Were

?

**They were \_\_\_\_\_ talk about everything without being interrupted.**

- abl to
- able to
- don't able

?

\_\_\_\_\_ I join you, please?

- Were
- Have
- Could

?

**Unfortunately, I \_\_\_\_\_ able to attend class yesterday.**

- couldn't
- weren't
- wasn't

?

I \_\_\_\_\_ ask Lisa for help with this task.

- coud
- could