



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 able to find your dog?**

- ☐ Could
- ☐ Was
- ☐ Were

?

Sorry, but I _____ able to finish. I will continue to work on it tomorrow.

- ☐ couldn't
- ☐ weren't
- ☐ wasn't

?

_____ **he able to learn the poem by heart?**

- ☐ Were
- ☐ Was
- ☐ Could

?

I _____ ask my friend if he can help with your computer problem.

- ☐ could
- ☐ was
- ☐ could

?

They _____ able to complete the renovation of the house.

- ☐ weren't
- ☐ wasn't
- ☐ couldn't



?

Isabel was _____ **swim 5km last year.**

- ☐ good in
- ☐ don't able
- ☐ able to

?

_____ **she able to phone her mum yet?**

- ☐ Could
- ☐ Were
- ☐ Was

?

_____ **we stay at Lisa's tonight, please?**

- ☐ Coud
- ☐ Were
- ☐ Could

?

_____ **you able to look over the document?**

- ☐ Have
- ☐ Was
- ☐ Were

?

_____ **I please have an apple?**

- ☐ Could
- ☐ Have
- ☐ Would

?

We were finally _____ **talk to him yesterday.**

- ☐ able to
- ☐ able
- ☐ abl to

?

When she was a child, Lydia _____ **do many magic tricks.**

- ☐ can
- ☐ culd
- ☐ could