

## Can, could, and able to

**We can use can to say that something is possible or allowed, or that somebody has the ability to do something.**

Lo usamos para decir que algo es probable o permitido o que alguien tiene la capacidad de hacer algo.

Robert's team member dropped out of class. They were doing a project together, but Robert managed to hand in the project on his own.

Philip could speak Italian and he could sing in a choir.

Zach can't attend the spiritual retreat on Friday.

*We could use could for general ability. But if you want to say that somebody did something in a specific situation, use was/were able to or managed to (not could).*

### Exercises

When Bob was 18 years old, he \_\_\_\_\_ pick up any girl at the bar.

Laura strained her elbow and she \_\_\_\_\_ swim butterfly.

A man climbed the electricity post, but the rescue workers \_\_\_\_\_ rescue him.