

Modals of ability | Exercise with answers

Answers are at the bottom of the page.

Choose the right answer to express ability:

1 - My grandmother _____ seven languages.

- might be able to speak*
- could speak*
- could have spoken*
- might have been able to speak*

2 - Even though I was tired, I _____ enjoy the party.

- might*
- could*
- was able to*
- had to*

3 - Japan _____ preserve its culture, despite its contact with foreign influences

- could*
- managed to*
- might*
- had to*

4 - I was so excited that I _____ sleep.

- wouldn't*
- didn't*
- might not*
- couldn't*

5 - He _____ read and write Chinese.

- can*
- may*
- could*
- is able to*

6 - When _____ I see you next time?

- can*
- may*
- could*
- has to*

7 - I _____ afford one, but not both.

- can*
- may*
- could*
- has to*

8 - Tom _____ drive a car soon.

- can*
- will be able to*
- could*
- will have to*

9 - Tina _____ join us to the party tomorrow night.

- can*
- should*
- could*
- would*

10 - I _____ work as a chef sometime in the future, as long as I take cooking lessons.

- will be able to*
- can*
- could*
- will have to*

ANSWERS

1. My grandmother **could speak** seven languages.
2. Even though I was tired, I **was able to** enjoy the party.
3. Japan **managed to** preserve its culture, despite its contact with foreign influences.
4. I was so excited that I **couldn't** sleep
5. He **can** read and write Chinese.
6. When **can** I see you next time?
7. I **can** afford one, but not both.
8. Tom **will be able to** drive a car soon.
9. Tina **can** join us to the party tomorrow night.
10. I **will be able to** work as a chef sometime in the future, as long as I take cooking lessons.