



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.

i
_____ you please ring Claudia?

- ☐ Were you able to
- ☐ Could

i
Sheila is very busy at work, but she _____ able to visit me last week.

- ☐ was
- ☐ were
- ☐ could

i
_____ I ring you later to talk about our homework?

- ☐ Could
- ☐ Was
- ☐ Have

i
They _____ able to understand her despite not speaking the same language.

- ☐ was
- ☐ were
- ☐ is

i
I _____ ride a bike when I was three.

- ☐ could
- ☐ can





?

Sorry, but we _____ able to come to your meeting yesterday.

- ☐ were
- ☐ weren't
- ☐ wasn't

?

_____ **you please let June know that I will be late?**

- ☐ Could
- ☐ Were
- ☐ Was

?

I _____ believe my eyes when I saw it! Really amazing!

- ☐ couldn't
- ☐ couldn't
- ☐ could

?

_____ **you able to finish the essay last week?**

- ☐ Were
- ☐ Was
- ☐ Have

?

_____ **I join you, please?**

- ☐ Were
- ☐ Have
- ☐ Could

?

Unfortunately, I _____ able to attend class yesterday.

- ☐ wasn't
- ☐ weren't
- ☐ couldn't

?

I _____ ask Lisa for help with this task.

- ☐ could
- ☐ could