

**PROPÓSITO:**

Students will learn about amazing young people who changed their communities. They will also learn how to talk about things they can and can't do, as well as things they could or couldn't do in the past.

**MOTIVACIÓN:**

Dear students the present guide has the pedagogical intention, to know about people who have interesting life stories, and during their life they have tried to change the community or their lives. Do you know some amazing people in your life?

**EXPLICACIÓN:****'CAN' AND 'COULD'**

**Level: beginner**

**Possibility and impossibility**

We use **could** to show that something is **possible**, but not certain:

*They **could come** by car. (= Maybe they will come by car.)*

*They **could be** at home. (= Maybe they are at home.)*

We use **can** to make **general statements** about what is possible:

*It **can be** very cold here in winter. (= It is sometimes very cold here in winter.)*

*You **can** easily **get** lost in this town. (= People often get lost in this town.)*

We use **can't** or **cannot** to say that something is **impossible**:

*That **can't** be true.*

*You **cannot be** serious.*

**Level: intermediate**

We use **could have** to **make guesses about the past**:

*It's ten o'clock. They **could have arrived** by now.*

*Where are they? They **could have got** lost.*

We use **could** to make **general statements about the past**:

*It **could be** very cold there in winter. (= It was sometimes very cold there in winter.)*

*You **could** easily **get** lost in that town. (= People often got lost in that town.)*

We use **can't have** or **couldn't have** to say that a **past event** was **impossible**:

*They know the way here. They **can't have got** lost!*

*If Jones was at work until six, he **couldn't have done** the murder.*

### Ability

#### Level: beginner

We use **can** and **can't** to talk about someone's **skill or general abilities**:

*She **can speak** several languages.*

*He **can swim** like a fish.*

*They **can't dance** very well.*

We use **can** and **can't** to talk about the ability to do something at **a specific time in the present** or **future**:

*I **can see** you.*

*Help! I **can't breathe**.*

We use **could** and **couldn't** to talk about **the past**:

*She **could speak** several languages.*

*They **couldn't dance** very well.*

#### Level: intermediate

We use **could have** to say that someone **had the ability or opportunity** to do something, but **did not do it**:

*She **could have learned** Swahili, but she didn't want to.*

*I **could have danced** all night. [but I didn't]*

### Permission

#### Level: beginner

We use **can** to **ask for permission** to do something:

***Can I ask** a question, please?*

***Can we go** home now?*

**could** is **more formal and polite** than **can**:

***Could I ask** a question please?*

***Could we go** home now?*

We use **can** to **give permission**:

*You **can go** home now.*

*You **can borrow** my pen if you like.*

We use **can** to say that **someone has permission** to do something:

*We **can go out** whenever we want.*

*Students **can travel** for free.*

We use **can't** to **refuse permission** or say that **someone does not have permission**:

***You can't go** home yet.*

*Students **can't travel** for free.*

## Requests

We use **could you ...** as a polite way of **telling or asking someone to do something**:

**Could you take** a message, please?

**Could I have** my bill, please?

**can** is **less polite**:

**Can you take** a message, please?

## Offers

We use **can I ...** to **make offers**:

**Can I help** you?

**Can I do** that for you?

We sometimes say **I can ...** or **I could ...** to **make an offer**:

**I can do** that for you if you like.

**I could give** you a lift to the station.

## Suggestions

We use **could** to **make suggestions**:

We **could meet** at the weekend.

You **could eat out** tonight.

## Questions and negatives

We make **questions** by putting the subject after **can/could**:

Can I ...?  
Could I ...? Can you ...?  
Could you ...?  
etc.

The **negative** form is **can't** in spoken English and **cannot** in written English.

We sometimes say **cannot**, but it is very **emphatic**.

The negative form of **could** is **couldn't** in spoken English and **could not** in written English.

Retrieved from: <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/english-grammar-reference/can-and-could>

## EJERCICIOS:

Please check this file, read carefully and solve it.

## EXERCISES

## EVALUACIÓN:

Please check this file, read carefully and solve it.

## EVALUATION

## BIBLIOGRAFÍA:

Check this information to know more about the theme

<https://idiomas.gcfglobal.org/es/curso/ingles/b1/u...>