62 could, will be able to

1 Past form and use

SUBJECT	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
I/He/She/It/We/You/They	could run.	could not (couldn't) run.

QUESTIONS	SHORT ANSWERS
Could I/he/she/it/we/you/they run?	Yes, I/he/she/it/we/you/they could. No, I/he/she/it/we/you/they couldn't.

We usually use *could/couldn't*

- to talk about ability in the past:
  Mozart ***could write*** *beautiful music when he was a child.*
  Could *my great-grandmother* ***run*** *really fast?*
- to say if something was possible in the past:
  Children ***could play*** *in the streets years ago.*
  Women ***couldn't enter*** *competitions like the Olympics then.*

2 Future form and use

SUBJECT	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
I/He/She/It/We/You/They	will be able to run.	will not (won't) be able to run.

QUESTIONS	SHORT ANSWERS
Will I/he/she/it/we/you/they be able to run?	Yes, I/he/she/it/we/you/they will. No, I/he/she/it/we/you/they won't.

We use *will/won't be able to*

- to talk about ability in the future:
  Karen ***will be able to speak*** *Russian after two years in Moscow.*
  I've broken my leg – I ***won't be able to drive*** *for weeks.*
- to say if something will be possible in the future:
  We'll be able to swim *every day at the hotel.*
  Will *you* ***be able to get*** *a good job after your technology course?*