


Practice

- 1** Choose a suitable form of *can*, *could*, *be able to*, *manage to* or *succeed in* to complete the sentences. Sometimes more than one form is possible.  **3.06** Listen and check.

- 1 The manager was a bit reluctant but in the end I get a refund.
- 2 It was really annoying; I get on to any of the websites you recommended.
- 3 When does the next match start? I hardly hear the last announcement.
- 4 The new road opens next month so we get to the coast more quickly.
- 5 Most of the big hotels were full, but we find a room in a small guesthouse near the station.
- 6 The aid workers come home after the incident, but they decided to stay in the war zone.
- 7 Dr Martens finishes her surgery at 11.30, so she call you then.
- 8 After I move to the country I'm not going to visit you so often.
- 9 The government's 2004 fuel tax levy generating over a billion pounds in revenue in six months.
- 10 The shopping channel is a real boon for Liz; she adores buy clothes, day or night!
- 11 Sadly, many of the indigenous people resist the diseases brought by the European settlers.
- 12 We more relieved when we got the news that you were OK.

- 2** **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the information with the words and phrases from the box.

 **3.07** Listen and check.

are able to ~~can~~ can could hardly
couldn't have managed to be able to
were only able to won't be able to



Q Do athletes really run faster these days?

A Yes. Long-distance runners these days (0) *can* complete marathons in the time that fifty years ago their predecessors (1) run 10,000 metres.

Q Why should this be?

A Well, technology is a factor: athletes today (2) use the most aerodynamic materials in their running shoes or swimsuits. But even if earlier athletes had had these innovations, they (3) improved their results significantly, for various other reasons. For example, athletes these days are professional; in the past they were unpaid

amateurs. They had to combine their sport with paid work, so they (4) find enough time to train. Athletes' careers these days also last longer; they (5) compete until they are older. Facilities also make a difference: in the 1950s and 60s, swimmers from the US (6) to dominate their sport because few other nations had Olympic-sized pools. Now it's easy for swimmers everywhere (7) train more efficiently as they have the correct pools.

Given these conditions today, there's no reason to believe that athletes (8) continue to smash records.