



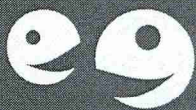
Lesson 73

could	[kʊd]
baby	['beɪbi]
paint	[peɪnt]

The past of **can** is **could**.
The contraction of **could not** is **couldn't**.

I could speak English well when I was 9 years old.

What's the past of 'can'?	The past of 'can' is 'could'.
What's the contraction of 'could not'?	The contraction of 'could not' is 'couldn't'.
Can you paint well?	Yes, I can paint well. or: No, I can't paint well.
Could you paint well when you were a baby?	No, I couldn't paint well when I was a baby .
What does 'could' mean in that sentence?	'Could' means '...' in that sentence.
Could you speak your language when you were <i>four</i> years old?	Yes, I could speak my language when I was <i>four</i> years old.
Could you speak <i>German</i> well after a course that lasts only <i>two months</i> ?	No, I couldn't speak <i>German</i> well after a course that lasts only <i>two months</i> .
What does 'could' mean in that sentence?	'Could' means '...' in that sentence.
Could you write a long article about your nation for a newspaper?	Yes, I could write a long article about my nation for a newspaper. or: No, I couldn't write a long article ...



Could you *paint well* when you were a baby?
~ No, I **couldn't paint well** when I was a baby.