






# GRAMMAR: MODAL VERBS 2 (AUXILIARY MODALS)



# ABILITY

SUBJECT	MODAL	PREDICATE	DEGREE	EXPLANATION
I	can	cook nsima.	Always 	I know how to cook nsima.
You	can	come.	Now/Today 	You are able to come by car.
He	can	be generous.	Sometimes 	When he has the money.
It	could	jump high.	In the past 	When the dog was young.
We	couldn't (could not)	come.	At that time 	We were busy.
You	can't (cannot)	swim.	Always 	You do not know how to swim.
They	can't	bring it.	Now/Today 	They are at a football match.
I	couldn't	speak Swahili	In the past 	I did not know how to.
You	couldn't	tell him.	At that time 	He was on the phone.