MODAL VERBS OF ABILITY WORKSHEET

Choose the correct modal verb of ability to fill the gaps in the sentences below.

_____ 1. Jay is a 35-year-old man who _____ swim. He is eager to learn, though.

A. can't **B. is able to** **C. might**

_____ 2. My little sister was such a prodigy. She _____ read and write by the time she turned 5.

A. may **B. wasn't able to** **C. could**

_____ 3. When I'm done with this course, I _____ make my own apps.

A. might **B. will be able to** **C. could**

_____ 4. Ben was so tired, he _____ finish his essay last night.

A. could **B. couldn't** **C. was able to**

_____ 5. Please turn the volume up. I _____ hear anything.

A. can't **B. will be able to** **C. will**

_____ 6. I was so fit in high school that I _____ run a marathon.

A. wasn't able to **B. could** **C. might**

_____ 7. You have to speak up! I _____ understand what you're saying!

A. may **B. will be able to** **C. can't**

_____ 8. I _____ speak Portuguese very well five years ago, but I haven't practiced since I returned from Brazil.

A. could **B. wasn't able to** **C. might**

ANSWER KEY:

1.a
2.c
3.b
4.b
5.a
6.b
7.c
8.a

GRAMMARIST