

"Could" is a modal verb used to express possibility or past ability as well as to make suggestions and requests. "Could" is also commonly used in <u>conditional</u> sentences as the conditional form of "can."

Examples:

- Extreme rain could cause the river to flood the city. possibility
- Nancy could ski like a pro by the age of 11. past ability
- You could see a movie or go out to dinner. suggestion
- Could I use your computer to email my boss? request
- We could go on the trip if I didn't have to work this weekend. conditional