

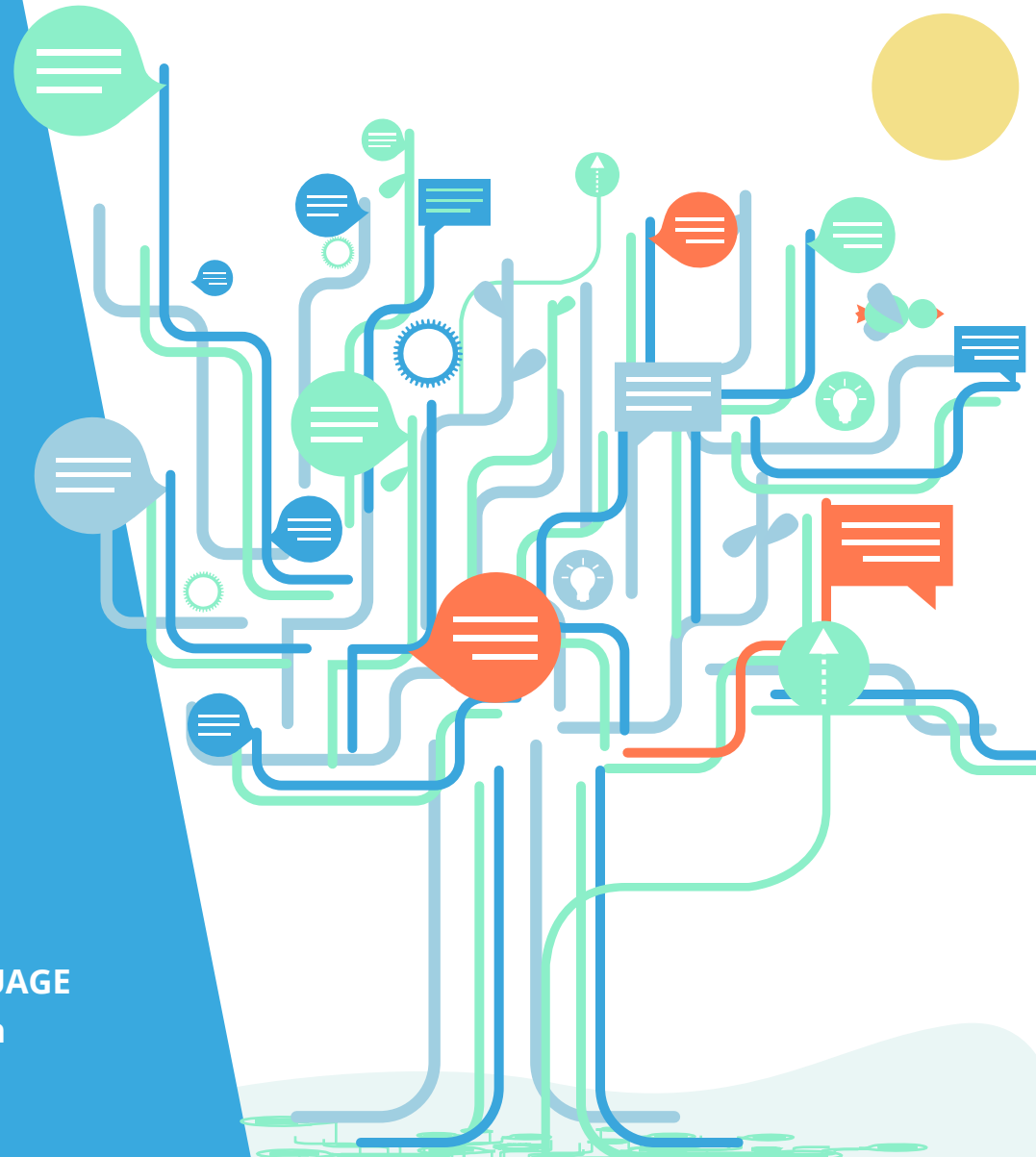
Should and could

GRAMMAR

LEVEL
Beginner

NUMBER
A1_2037G_EN

LANGUAGE
English

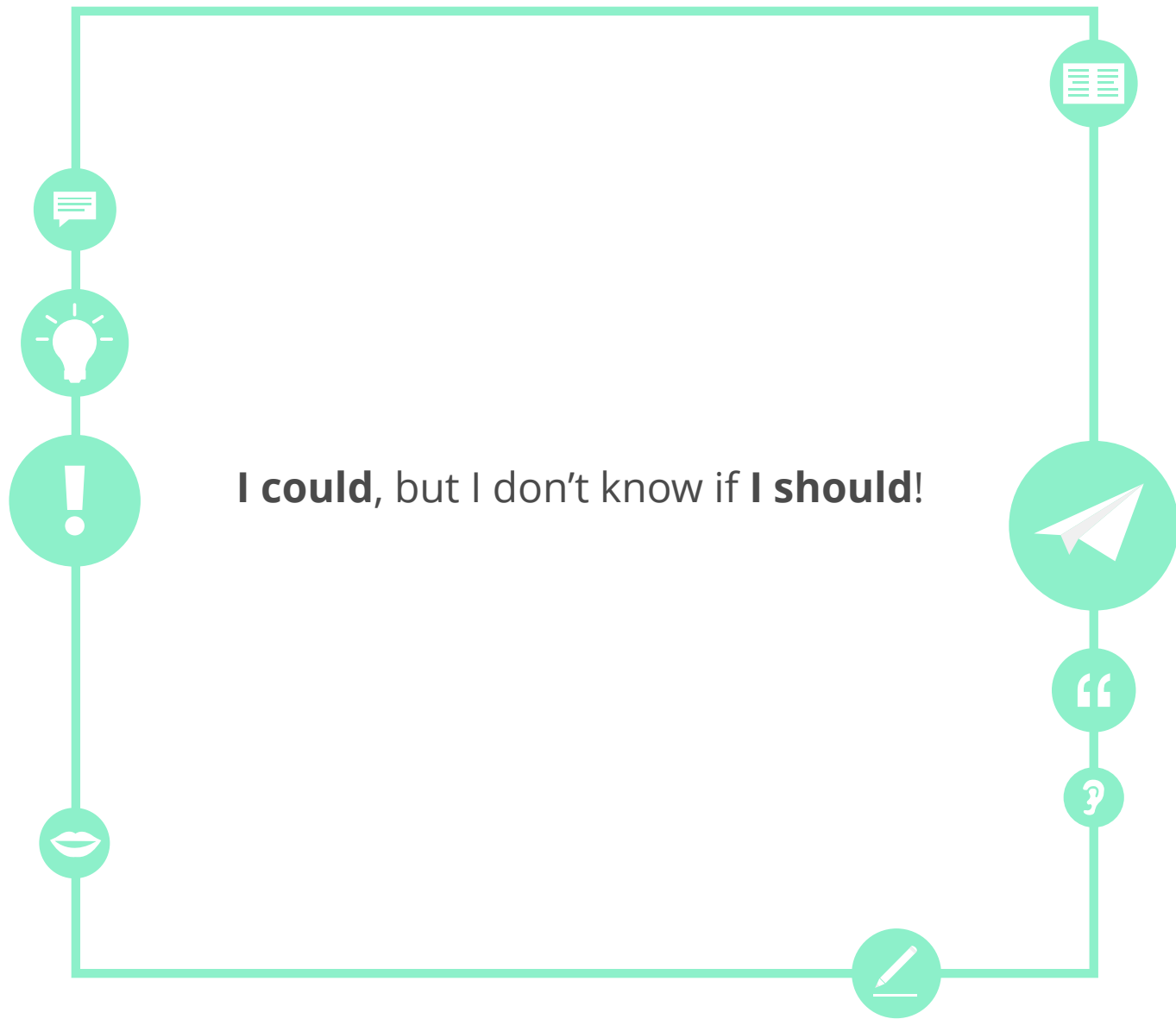




Goals

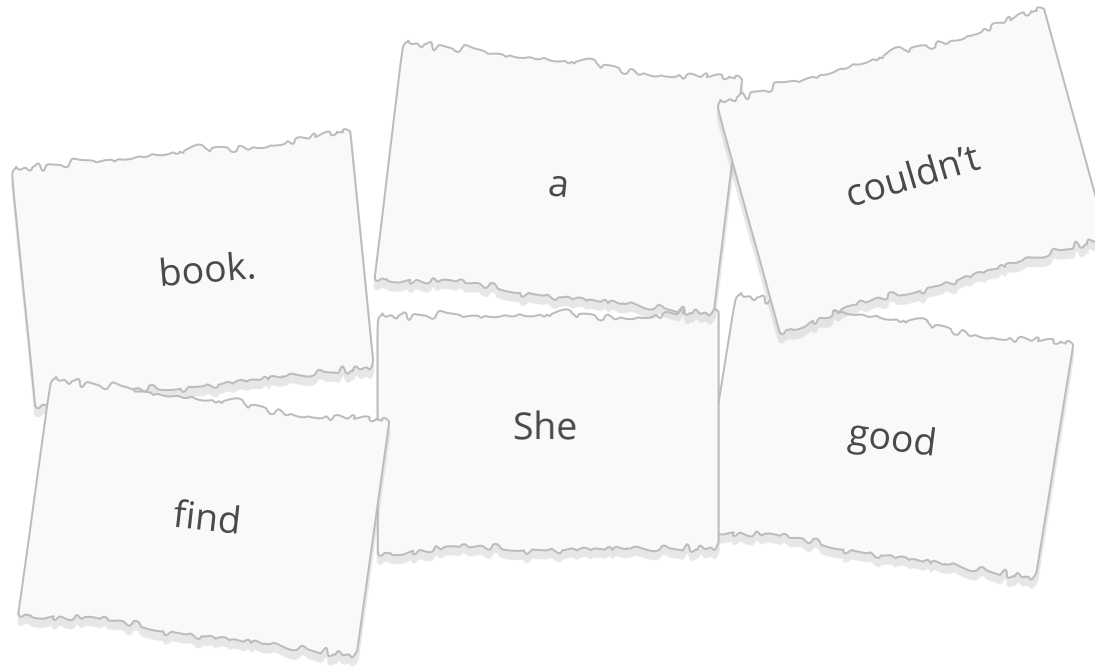
- Learn the forms *should* and *could* and when to use them
- Practise reading short texts with modal verbs







Unscramble to make a sentence





Using *should*

- **Should** is used to talk about opinions or advice.
 - You can make **should** negative by adding **not**, to become **shouldn't**

Positive	Negative
I should do my homework.	I shouldn't do my homework.
You should eat your vegetables.	You shouldn't eat your vegetables.
They should write a letter.	They shouldn't write a letter.



Asking questions with *could* and *should*

- In questions, **could** and **should** come first, followed by the pronoun.
- Asking questions with **could** is a way to be polite. Often, we add **please** after the pronoun.

Could	we	meet this evening?
Should	I	come with you?
Could	you	please help me?
Should	he	answer the question?



Could as a possibility in the future



Could is also used to express a possibility or uncertainty **about the future**. It is used when we are talking about something that **may** or **may not** happen.

Possibility	Possibility with could
Maybe it will rain tomorrow.	It could rain tomorrow.
I might get the job.	I could get the job.
We may win the match.	We could win the match.



Find the correct word for each picture

A



It's getting really cold. It _____ snow!

B



_____ I wear suncream today?

C



We _____ go to the beach if you want.

D



You _____ go outside today. It's really stormy!

1. can

2. shouldn't

3. should

4. could



Complete the dialogue



couldn't
could

I have a small injury. _____ I please make a doctor's appointment?

Yes, I _____ help you with that. Is Tuesday alright?

should
can

can't
can

No, I _____ come on Tuesday.

No problem. _____ you come on Thursday instead?

can
are

should
will

Yes, that is perfect. _____ I bring anything with me?

_____, that isn't necessary.

yes
no

Thank you
Can't you

Great. _____ very much!



Using *could*

- **Could** is the past form of **can**. We use **could** + **verb** to talk about abilities in the past.
- Make **could** negative by adding **not** to make **couldn't**

Present	Past
I can play the guitar.	I could play the guitar when I was younger.
You can't speak English.	You couldn't speak English last year.
She can't ride a bike.	She couldn't ride a bike two days ago.



When I was...



When I was a child I **couldn't** write.



Now I **can** write and I do it nearly every day!



When I was...



When I was young I **couldn't** read.



Now I **can** read anything I want!



When I was...



As a child I **couldn't** play the guitar. I spent all my time playing video games.



I still **can't** play the guitar. My friends say I **should** really take some lessons!



Match the sentences to their past form

1. I can't hear you.

a. We couldn't eat meat.

2. She can play football.

b. They could hear him.

3. We can't eat meat.

c. She could play football.

4. They can hear him.

d. I couldn't hear you.



Complete the sentence

1. When I was a baby, I _____ speak.

a. can't

b. couldn't

2. My doctor says I _____ work today.

a. can't

b. am

3. I have an injury, so I _____ play football.

a. can't

b. can

4. I can play basketball, but I _____ play the guitar.

a. can

b. can't



You should/could...

**Your friend Lisa always needs advice.
Help her out and use *could* or *should* to respond to each statement.**

1. I am so late for work!
2. I have a really bad cold.
3. I would love to learn Italian.
4. My exams are soon.
5. I am always so tired in the morning.



Complete the sentence

1. Could you...

a. I come with you?

2. Should...

b. eat too much ice cream.

3. I shouldn't...

c. drive a car when I was a child.

4. I couldn't...

d. please help me?



Answer the questions using *can't* or *shouldn't*

1. Should I stay at home today?

→ No, you shouldn't stay at home today.

2. Can you play football?

→ _____

3. Can you help me?

→ _____

4. Should you be here?

→ _____

5. Can I see you?

→ _____



Complete the text

Last year, I had an injury and
_____ walk. My doctor told me
I _____ stay in bed and that I
_____ run for three months.
Now that I am better, I _____
run even faster!



can

should

couldn't

shouldn't



Two truths and a lie

*When I was young I
could run really
fast!*

- Think of two things that you could do when you were a child, and make up another that is not true.
- Your partner has to guess which is the lie!



Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no



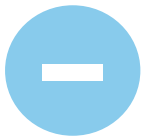


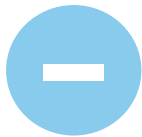
Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?









If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again





Answer key

Exercise p. 4

She couldn't find a good book.

Exercise p. 8

1c, 2d, 3b, 4a

Exercise p. 9

could, can, can't, can, should, no,
thank you

Exercise p. 14

1d, 2c, 3a, 4b

Exercise p. 15

1b, 2a, 3a, 4b

Exercise p. 17

1d, 2a, 3b, 4c

Exercise p. 18

2. No, I can't play football.

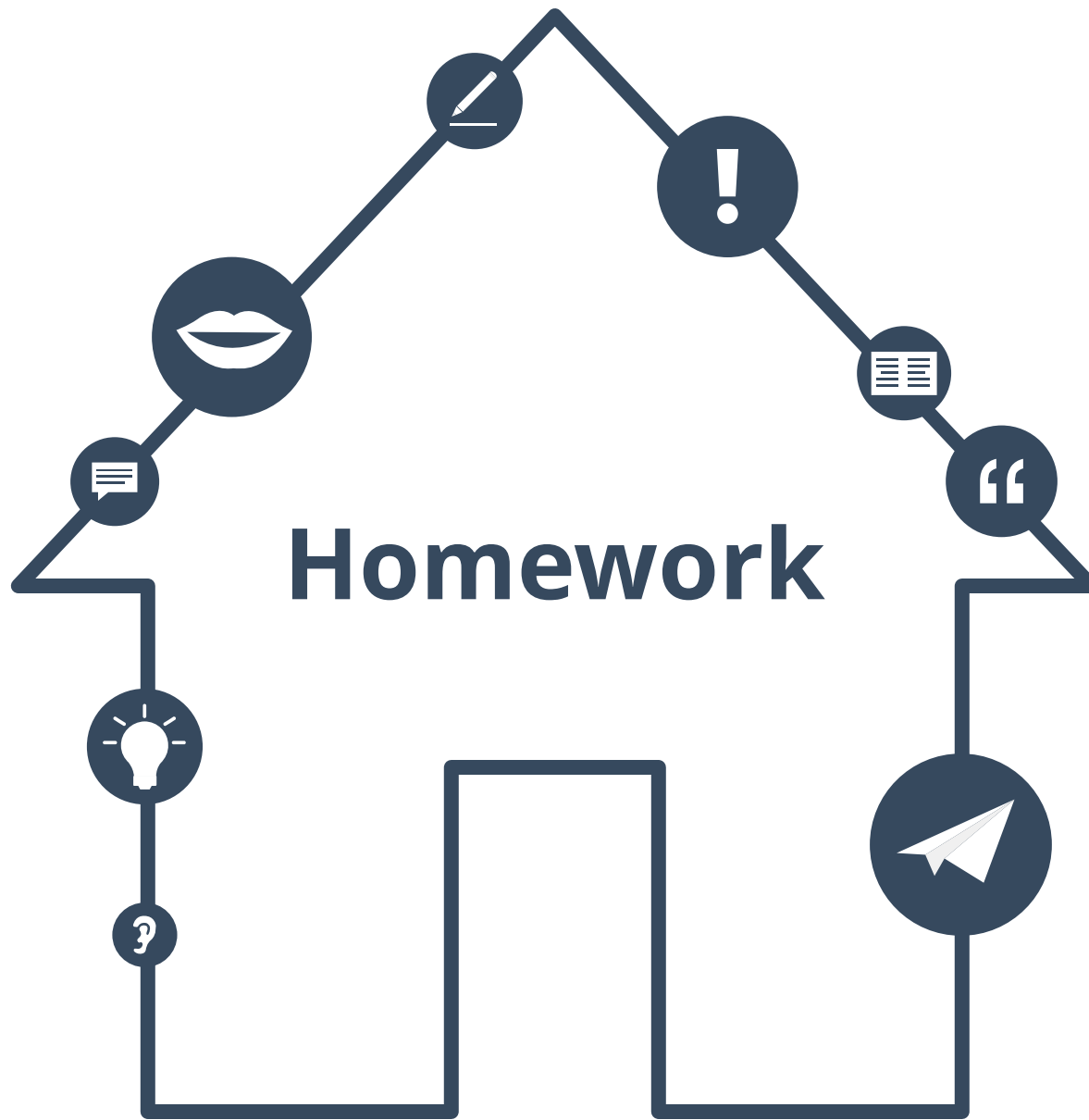
3. No, I can't help you.

4. No, you shouldn't be here.

5. No, you can't see me.

Exercise p. 19

couldn't, should, shouldn't, can





Match the sentences

1. When I was one year old, I couldn't talk.

2. I really want to buy this expensive dress for myself.

3. She can only speak German and English.

4. You have the flu today.

a. But I really should save my money.

b. She can't speak Italian.

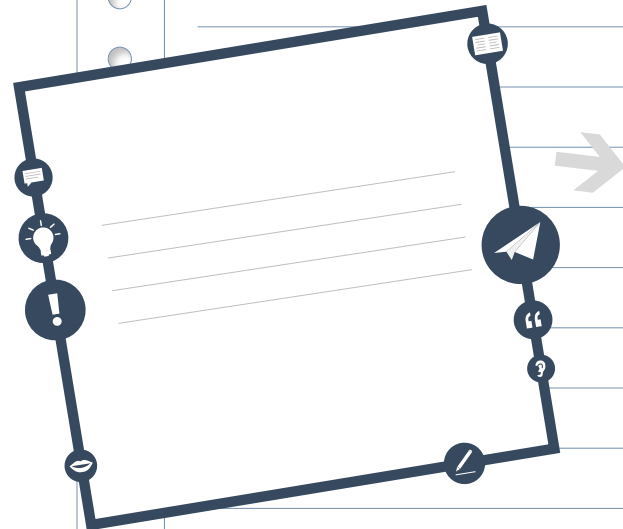
c. Now, I can speak five languages!

d. You should stay home.



Text at the beginning

**Go back to the text on page 3
and find examples of
the grammar topic of this lesson in it.
Write them down.**



Copy parts of the text
that are examples of
topic of the lesson.



Find the verbs

**Find the verbs in this lesson and write them down.
Which are new? Do you know all of them?
Look these words up.**

Verbs



Sentences in the first person plural

**Choose five sentences from this lesson.
Copy them and write them about you and a friend.**





Examples:





I don't understand



→ My friend Maria and I don't understand.



He has a book



→ We have a book



...













Easy or difficult?

Is the grammar topic of this lesson...
easy or difficult?

Write down what is difficult for you and what is easy.

A vertical rectangular area with a light gray background, a vertical line on the left side, and a series of horizontal lines for writing. The left side has a series of small circles, suggesting it's a page from a spiral notebook.



Homework answer key

Exercise p. 25
1c, 2a, 3b, 4d



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