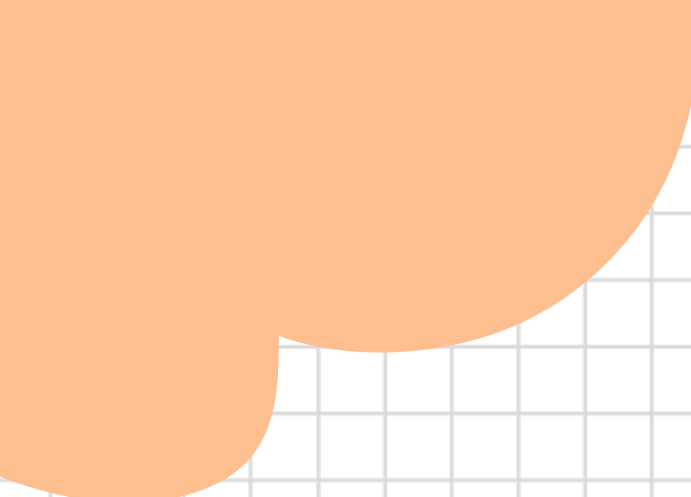


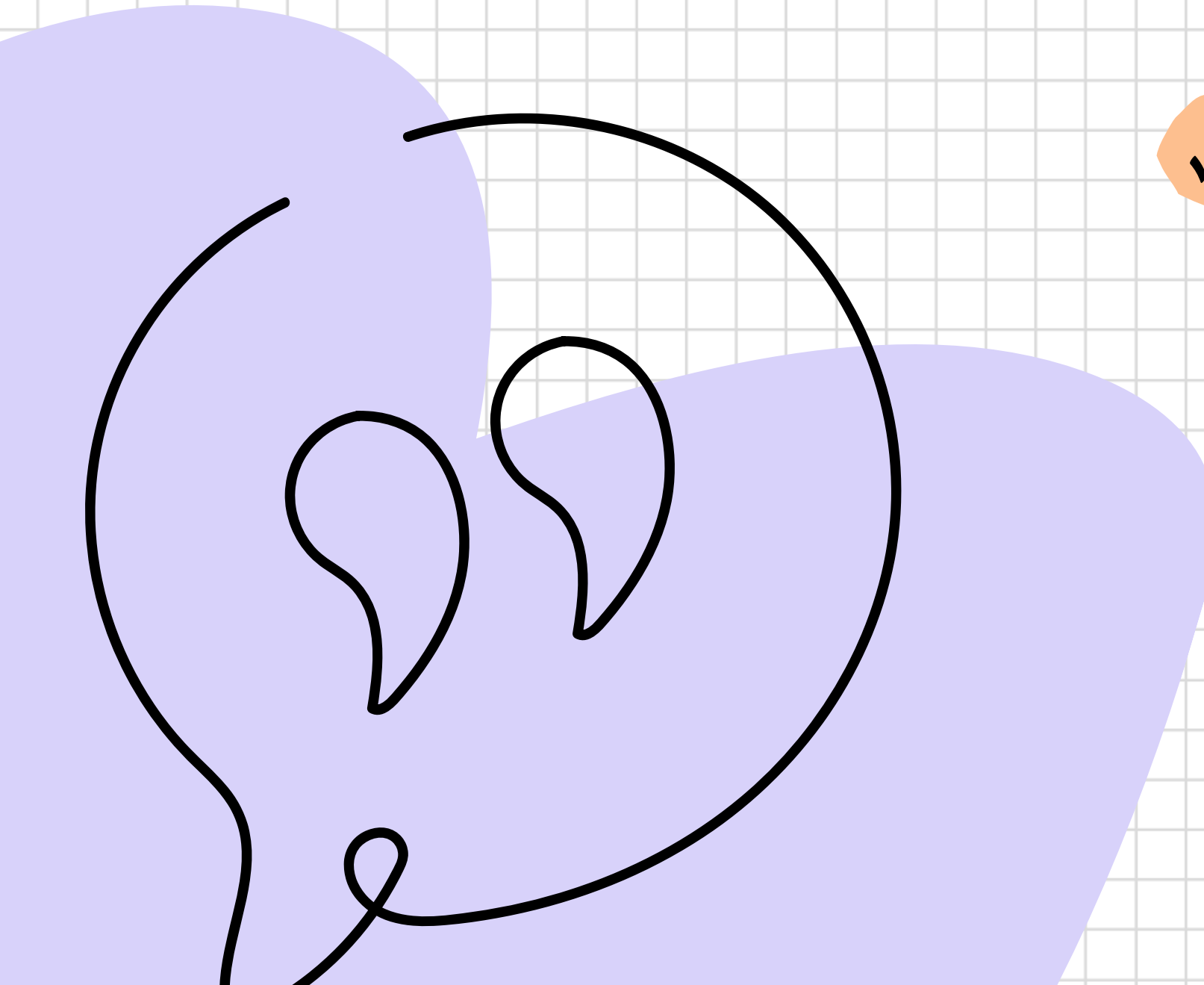


MODAL VERBS: CAN AND COULD

English Grammar
8th Grade



INTRODUCTION

- 
- ✓ CAN and COULD are modal verbs.
 - ✓ They are used to express ability, possibility, or permission.

LET'S SEE HOW TO USE THEM!

CAN

We use CAN to express:

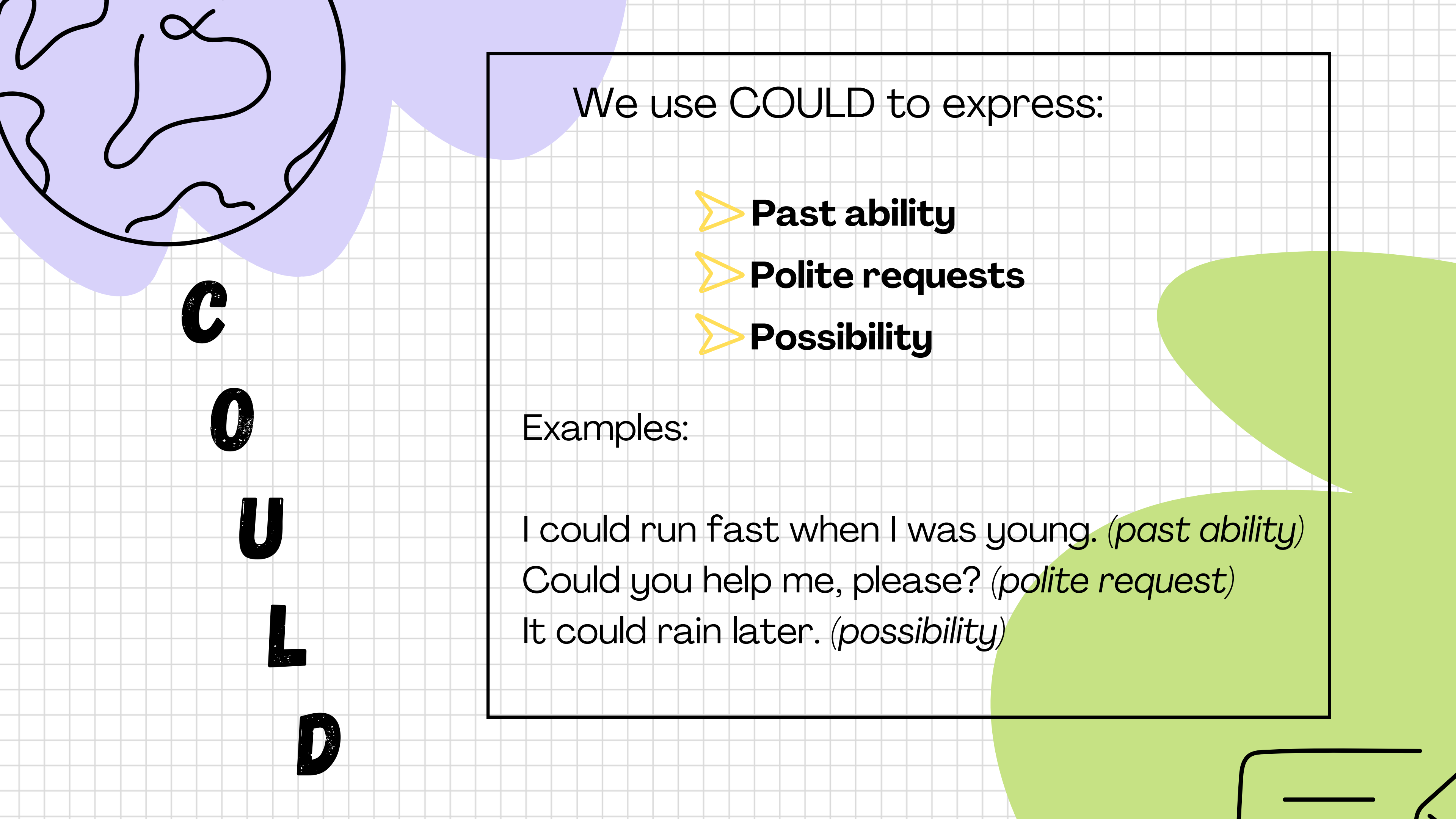
- **Ability**
- **Permission**
- **Possibility**

Examples:

I can swim. (*ability*)

You can go now. (*permission*)

It can be dangerous. (*possibility*)



**C
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L
D**

We use COULD to express:

- **Past ability**
- **Polite requests**
- **Possibility**

Examples:

I could run fast when I was young. (*past ability*)

Could you help me, please? (*polite request*)

It could rain later. (*possibility*)

CAN

VS

COULD

CAN



Present or general ability / permission

COULD



Past ability / polite request / uncertain possibility

Examples:

I can play the guitar. (*now*)

I could play when I was a child. (*past*)

Can you pass the salt? (*informal*)

Could you pass the salt? (*polite*)

STRUCTURE

FOR BOTH (AMBOS):

Subject + can/could + base verb
sujeto + can/could + verbo sin conjugar

Examples:

She can dance.
subject + can + base verb

He could dance when he was a child.
subject + could + base verb (*past*)

Don't use 'to' after
can or could.

→ Example: I can to
swim. → **WRONG!**

PRACTICE TIME!

Complete the sentences:

1. I _____ (can / could) speak English.
2. When I was five, I _____ (can / could) ride a bike.
3. _____ you open the window, please?
4. It _____ (can / could) snow tomorrow.