Modals – could and couldn't

1. True or False.
Read and circle True or False.

When I was a baby I couldn't speak, but now I can speak my language and English! When I was smaller I could sleep all day, but now I can’t: I have to go to school! Now I can watch television and understand what it’s saying, but when I was younger that was impossible – I couldn't understand very much!

a. When he was a baby he couldn’t speak. True False
b. Now he can speak 5 languages. True False
c. Now he can sleep all day. True False
d. When he was younger he couldn’t understand very much on TV. True False
e. Now he can’t understand what the television is saying. True False

We can use could and couldn’t to talk about abilities in the past.

2. Where does it go?
Write these words in the correct group so that it is true for you.

play football  read  play chess  swim  speak English  run quickly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When I was five I could…</th>
<th>When I was five I couldn't…</th>
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3. What’s the order?
Put the words in the correct order.

a. swim was I I five when could

*When I was five I could swim.* or *I could swim when I was five.*

b. was play I when chess six could I

c. I six when couldn’t I was read

d. when speak were you five could you English

*Could you speak English when you were five?*

e. two when sister could was my she walk

f. could my was ten when brother he judo do

4. Draw a picture.
What could you do when you were 5? Draw a picture and write sentences!

*When I was 5* ........................................

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