**Solutions Grammar 4.1: Ability – tenses of can / be able to**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Present Simple*** He can / can’t (= ability, future arrangements)
* He is able to (= ability)

*Ned: Hij kan, hij is in staat* | **Past Simple*** He could (= general ability)
* He couldn’t (= general ability, one occasion)
* He could / couldn’t + see/hear/feel/smell/taste (= one occasion)
* He was able to (= general, one occasion)
* He managed to (= one occasion)
* He succeeded in …ing (= one occasion)

*Ned: Hij kon, hij was in staat* |
| **Present Perfect**He has been able to*Ned: hij heeft gekund* | **Past Perfect**He had been able to *Ned: hij had gekund* |
| **Future**He will be able to*Ned: hij zal kunnen* | **Past Future**He would be able to *Ned: hij zou kunnen* |
| **Conditional**He will have been able to*Ned: hij zal hebben gekund* | **Conditional**He would have been able to *Ned: hij zou hebben gekund* |