# unable

#### [ʌn'eıb(ə)l] *а* 1. неспособный

unable to pay - неплатёжеспособный (*о должнике*) we are unable to help you - мы не в состоянии помочь вам I am sorry to be unable to come - к сожалению, я не имею возможности приехать people unable to read or write - люди, не умеющие читать и писать; неграмотные

2. поэт. слабый, бессильный, немощный

### unable

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

Apresyan (En-Ru)

# **un**·**able** [**unable**] *BrE* [ $\Lambda$ n'eɪbl] *NAmE* [ $\Lambda$ n'eɪbl] *adjective* not before noun ~ to do sth (rather formal)

#### not having the skill, strength, time, knowledge, etc. to do sth

- He lay there, unable to move.
- I tried to contact him but was unable to.
- She was unable to hide her excitement.
- Let us know if you're unable to come.
- They have been unable or unwilling to resolve the conflict.

#### **Opp:** <sup>†</sup>able

#### Example Bank:

- · He remained silent, unwilling or unable to say what was in his mind.
- · He seemed constitutionally unable not to give his opinion on anything and everything.
- He seemed constitutionally unable to keep quiet.
- He was considered unable to cope with the pressure of the job.
- He went on, apparently unable to stop.
- She found herself unable to meet his gaze.
- The accident left him unable to walk.
- The road was deemed unable to cope with increased traffic.
- The staff were simply unable to cope.
- They are somehow unable to make the choices necessary.

#### unable

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**Freakuency Pack** 

un a ble W2 /<sub>An</sub>'eɪbəl/ BrE <sup>\*</sup> AmE <sup>\*</sup> adjective [not before noun] [Word Family: noun: ↑ability ≠ ↑inability, ↑disability; adjective: ↑able ≠ ↑unable, ↑disabled; verb: ↑enable ≠ ↑disable; adverb: ↑ably] not able to do something ⇒ inability

## unable to do something

- Lucy was unable to find out what had happened.
- Unable to sleep, I got up and made myself a drink.

#### REGISTER

In everyday English, people usually say that they can't/couldn't do something rather than are/were unable to do something: - She <u>couldn't</u> find out what had happened.

#### unable 12500<sup>1494</sup>McW 15000<sup>242</sup>COCA RANGE: 1k ABLE 183923 able 107986 ability 47175 abler 22 ablest 57 ably 292 abilities 6923 unable 16478 inability 4990

#### COCA 500k Unlemmatized

<sub>12312</sub>**2692**<sup>15833</sup> jk

<sub>619</sub>**27506**<sup>645</sup> jj