

Name _____

Contractions and Negatives

A **contraction** is a shortened form of two words. An apostrophe takes the place of one or more letters. Some contractions are formed from a pronoun and a verb: *she is = she's*. Other contractions combine a verb and the word *not*: *would not = wouldn't*.

Contractions with Pronouns and Verbs				Contractions with Verbs and <i>not</i>	
I am	I'm	she will	she'll	is not	isn't
he is (has)	he's	you will	you'll	are not	aren't
she is (has)	she's	we will	we'll	was not	wasn't
it is (has)	it's	they will	they'll	were not	weren't
you are	you're	I had (would)	I'd	has not	hasn't
we are	we're	he had (would)	he'd	have not	haven't
they are	they're	she had (would)	she'd	did not	didn't
I have	I've	you had (would)	you'd	does not	doesn't
you have	you've			will not	won't
we have	we've			would not	wouldn't
they have	they've			could not	couldn't
I will	I'll			should not	shouldn't
he will	he'll			cannot	can't

Directions Choose the correct contraction in () to complete each sentence. Write the contraction.

- (She'll, She's) read all the *Encyclopedia Brown* stories later. _____
- (I'd, I'm) like to borrow a book from her. _____
- I hear that (there, they're) all interesting. _____
- (Its, It's) hard to believe that anyone could be that smart! _____
- I (don't, hasn't) think I could be a detective. _____



Home Activity Your child learned about contractions and negatives. Ask your child to show you how an apostrophe can make two words become one word. Encourage him or her to use contractions in oral sentences.

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Directions Complete the paragraph with contractions from the box.

isn't won't there's We're she'd It's he'd he's

1. ___ trying to solve a mystery. 2. Why ___ our cat behaving normally? 3. ___ been staring out the window and yowling all evening. 4. My mom said that ___ have to put the cat in the basement if it kept making that noise. 5. My dad said ___ give it away. 6. My brother told me that ___ a spaceship outside and that only the cat can see it! 7. I think ___ making that up! 8. At this rate, we ___ get much sleep.

1. _____

5. _____

2. _____

6. _____

3. _____

7. _____

4. _____

8. _____

Directions Write a paragraph about something you hope to do in the next few days. Use at least three of the contractions in the box. Underline all the contractions you use.

I'm she'll we're he's isn't can't aren't won't



Home Activity Your child learned how to use contractions in writing. Ask your child to write an e-mail to a friend or family member, using contractions. Have your child show you the contractions he or she used.

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Directions Mark the letter of the contraction that correctly completes each sentence.

1. ___ investigating a crime.
 - A We're
 - B We've
 - C We'd
 - D Were
2. It ___ be difficult to solve.
 - A wont
 - B won't
 - C willn't
 - D weren't
3. ___ got a kit for testing blood.
 - A Shes
 - B Shees
 - C Shes'
 - D She's
4. ___ fun being a policeman.
 - A Its
 - B Its'
 - C It's
 - D Itz
5. Criminals ___ have a chance against us.
 - A don't
 - B d'ont
 - C dont
 - D do'nt
6. ___ all be behind bars.
 - A There'll
 - B Theyll
 - C They'll
 - D Theyul
7. ___ going to be a detective.
 - A I'd
 - B Im
 - C I'm
 - D I'll
8. I ___ wait for my first case.
 - A cann't
 - B cant
 - C cant'
 - D can't



Home Activity Your child prepared for taking tests on contractions. Have your child look through advertisements in magazines or newspapers. Ask him or her to highlight the contractions and tell you what words they stand for.

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Directions Choose the correct contraction in () to complete each sentence. Write the contraction.

1. There (isn't, doesn't) an aquarium in our town. _____
2. (I'll, I've) been to the aquarium in Boston. _____
3. (It's, Its) right on the waterfront. _____
4. (They've, They're) got a huge tank full of sharks and rays. _____
5. I looked for a dolphin, but I (don't, didn't) see one. _____
6. Next time we visit, (we're, we'd) going on a whale watch. _____

Directions Find two words in each sentence that can be written as a contraction. Write the sentence using the contraction.

7. I am reading a book about amphibians.

8. It is very interesting.

9. Amphibians are not reptiles.

10. They do not have dry skin.

11. They should not live far from water.

12. Maybe you would like to borrow the book.



Home Activity Your child reviewed contractions and negatives. Ask your child to say “stop” every time he or she hears you use a contraction in conversation. Have your child identify the words that make up each contraction.