





Contractions



What is a contraction?

In which situation do we use them?

Which words use contractions?



A contraction is a shortened form of a word in English, typically a verb. A certain sound or letter is eliminated and replaced with an apostrophe.



I can't believe it.
I don't understand.
He hasn't done the work.



Contractions are more common in conversation and informal language but can be written too.



Contractions with auxiliary verbs are very common but there are some contractions that are slang and only used in songs (such as rap) or speech.



Be Do Have Will Would Modal verbs Other - informal



Iam You are He is She is It is We are They are



I am - I'm You are - you're He is - he's She is - she's It is - it's We are - we're They are - they're



Are not Is not Was not Were not Here is There is That is Everyone is Where is



Are not - aren't

Is not - isn't

Was not - wasn't

Were not - weren't

Here is - here's

There is - there's

That is - that's

Everyone is - everyone's

Where is - where's



Did not Does not Do not



Did not - didn't Does not - doesn't Do not - don't



I have You have He has She has It has We have They have Have not Has not



I have - I've You have - you've He has - he's She has - she's It has - it's We have - we've They have - they've Have not - haven't Has not - hasn't



I had You had He had She had It had We had They had Had not



I had - I'd You had - you'd He had - he'd She had - she'd It had - it'd (IT-UD) We had - we'd They had - they'd Had not - hadn't



I will You will He will She will It will We will They will Had will Will not



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I will - I'll
 You will - you'll
  He will - he'll
 She will - she'll
    It will - it'll
 We will - we'll
They will - they'll
Will not - won't
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This will That will These will Those will What will There will Will have



This will - this'll

That will - that'll

These will - these'll

Those will - those'll

What will - what'll

There will - there'll

Will have - will've (WILL - UV)



I would You would He would She would It would We would They would Would not Would have There would What would



I would - I'd You would - you'd He would - he'd She would - she'd It would - it'd (IT - UD) We would - we'd They would - they'd Would not - wouldn't Would have - would've (WOULD - UV) There would - there'd

What would - what'd (WHAT - UD)

Can not Could not Could have Must not Must have Should not Should have Might no Might have Need not Ought not

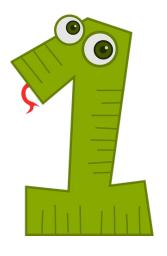


Can not - can't (CAR - NT) Could not - couldn't Could have - could've (COULD - UV) Must not - mustn't Must have - must've (MUST - UV) Should not - shouldn't Should have - should've (SHOULD - UV) Might not - mightn't (MAIT - UNT) Might have - might've (MIGHT - UV) Need not - needn't Ought not - oughtn't (ORT - UNT) 🥀

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somethin', e'er, y'all, ain't, an', 'bout, c'mere, c'mon, 'cuz, doin', g'day, o', 'scuse, 'tis, gonna, lemme, wanna, imma, gotta, hafta, ma'am, let's, howdy, daren't, dunno, innit, o'clock, shan't

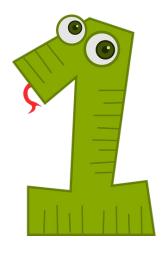




We could of had some extra time

"Coulda" pronunciation is the contraction for could have not could of. This is similar for many expressions, including should have, would have etc...





We could of had some extra time

We could have had some extra time





It is what it's.

Contractions don't end sentences in English. They must be used mid-sentence. Write the full form when it's the last word in the sentence.





It is what it's



It is what it is.







Its a lovely day

Remember to insert the apostrophe with contractions otherwise it may create a new word. *Its* is a neutral possessive adjective whilst *it's* is the contraction for it has or it is.





Its a lovely day



It's a lovely day







Practice 1

Rewrite the sentences with a contracted form.



- 1) Let us go to the shops.
- 2) We are very happy because she is doing well.
- 3) It is going to be a great party tonight.
- 4) We should have bought some fireworks. It would be more fun.
- 5) Everyone is coming to school for the play. It will be amazing.
- 6) We will have finished the course by then.
- 7) We do not really like the high street. There is a lot of traffic.
- 8) Here is what I suggest because we cannot arrive early ...
- 9) You should not eat so many sweets, they are bad for you.
- 10) If I had known you were here, we would have arrived earlier.



- 1) We did not know there would be snow!
- 2) What had you planned for tonight? Where is the event? We shall not be late.
- 3) She has not been very good recently. She has been naughty, she does not deserve any presents.
- 4) We were not at the cinema last week. That is why we have not seen the film yet.
- 5) They will be here at 4pm. We will not be late! This will be the first time we arrive early.
- 6) It was not raining yesterday. We would not have gone outside otherwise.
- 7) What will you tell my daughter about it? I am sure she will understand.
- 8) Come on! We need not stand in this terrible weather.
- 9) Please let me come with you. I want to be there.
- 10) We must not get our hopes up. We might not have won.





Practice 2

Rewrite the sentences with a longer non-contracted form.



- 1) You're a very interesting person.
- 2) It's been raining all day.
- 3) She's got three sisters.
- 4) I'd love to be an actress when I grow up.
- 5) She'll look lovely in that dress.
- 6) They'd love to stay with us.
- 7) He hasn't been feeling too well.
- 8) We've got some space in the car.
- 9) He'll definitely join us for dinner.
- 10) It's time to get some sleep now.



- 1) There's something I never thought I'd say!
- 2) Unfortunately, that wasn't correct.
- 3) I knew she wouldn't want to join us tomorrow.
- 4) We're heading into town.
- 5) You won't be very happy with your grade. .
- 6) She doesn't look very excited.
- 7) You shouldn't pull her hair.
- 8) We couldn't give you an A.
- 9) You should've studied harder.
- 10) This isn't very hard.







REVIEW



Contractions



