



## **Contractions**

**Contractions** are usually words that are formed when two words are *squashed together* to make a new word. Unlike **compound words**, like butterfly and fingernail, contractions have some omitted letters due to the omission of some of the sounds.

To read contractions, we'll still make the sounds we see, moving from left to right across the words.

It is helpful to know which two words are used in making contractions in order to more fully understand what we're reading.

Note that contractions are used in less formal speech and less formal writing. Often, contractions are used to represent everyday speech.

## **Common Contractions**

Cross out the letters not used in the contraction. (What did we get rid of?) Write the contraction on the line. Write or highlight the base word in one color, and the added word parts in another color to show that you recognize the two words from which the contraction was made.

are not	=	aren't	_____
could not	=	couldn't	_____
did not	=	didn't	_____
do not	=	don't	_____
does not	=	doesn't	_____
had not	=	hadn't	_____
have not	=	haven't	_____
he is	=	he's	_____
he will	=	he'll	_____
he would	=	he'd	_____

he had	=	he'd	<hr/>
here is	=	here's	<hr/>
I am	=	I'm	<hr/>
I have	=	I've	<hr/>
I will	=	I'll	<hr/>
I would	=	I'd	<hr/>
I had	=	I'd	<hr/>
she had	=	she'd	<hr/>
should not	=	shouldn't	<hr/>
that is	=	that's	<hr/>
there is	=	there's	<hr/>
they are	=	they're	<hr/>
they have	=	they've	<hr/>
they will	=	they'll	<hr/>
they would	=	they'd	<hr/>
they had	=	they'd	<hr/>
was not	=	wasn't	<hr/>
who will	=	who'll	<hr/>
you are	=	you're	<hr/>
you will	=	you'll	<hr/>
you would	=	you'd	<hr/>
you had	=	you'd	<hr/>

## **This is one crazy contraction...**

will not        =        won't

---

**There are times when single words are made smaller and an apostrophe is used to note the omitted sounds.**

cannot                =        can't

---

madam                =        ma'am

---

loving                =        lovin'

---

old                    =        ol'

---

of the clock        =        o'clock

---

**Contractions, using the 've in place of the word *have*, sound a lot like they include the word *of*.**

Kids often say . . .

I **would of** gone down the slide.  
(This is incorrect.)

What kids mean to say is . . .

I **would have** gone down the slide.  
or

I **would've** gone down the slide.

Write your own sentence using the contraction **would've** correctly.

---

---