



ADULT GUIDE · WORD READING AND ALPHABET

Read and build contractions

What this pack helps with

Connect common full forms with standard written contractions, locate omitted letters and read the forms in sentences.

Before you begin

An adult reads the task instructions and gives a natural spoken model only where the adult guide says to do so.

Pencil and an optional familiar book for the next-step activity.

How to use evidence

Keep the unaided first attempt. Record spoken reading or letter-name evidence exactly; use the fixed models to give specific feedback and choose one fresh recheck.

Print A4 at actual size. Child pages are 2–5; pages 6–7 contain models, rubrics and next steps. Colour is optional.

Limits and source

This bounded set does not establish general apostrophe punctuation or every possible meaning of ambiguous contractions. DfE national curriculum in England: English programmes of study and English Appendix 1 (OGL v3.0). Original TheLearnDen prompts and examples. This is not an official assessment.



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Read and build contractions

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Match full and shortened forms

Draw lines to match each full form with its contraction.

I am

can't

do not

he's

he is

don't

cannot

I'm

Each contraction in this task stands for the printed full form.

2. Build the contractions

Write the contraction. Circle its apostrophe.

we are

she will

they have

did not

The apostrophe marks omitted letters; it is not a decoration at the end of the word.



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3. Write the full forms

Write the two full words.

I'm

we'll

isn't

they're

Expand the whole contraction; do not guess from the apostrophe alone.

4. Choose the standard spelling

do not

☐ don't

☐ dont

we are

☐ we're

☐ were

I will

☐ I'll

☐ Ill

cannot

☐ can't

☐ cant

This checks standard written contractions for the printed full forms.



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5. Place the apostrophe

Join the letter parts with an apostrophe. Read the full form too.

it + s	(it is)	_____
couldn + t	(could not)	_____
you + re	(you are)	_____
I + ve	(I have)	_____

The printed full form fixes the intended meaning.

6. Shorten the sentences

Rewrite each sentence with its contraction.

I am ready.	_____
We are outside.	_____
She will help.	_____
They did not stop.	_____

A contraction shortens part of the sentence; it does not change the sentence meaning here.



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7. Find the omitted letters

Compare each contraction with its full form. Write the omitted letter or letters.

don't ← do not

we're ← we are

he'll ← he will

Some contractions can have more than one meaning; the printed full form removes that ambiguity.

8. Choose the next contraction step

Use the evidence from this pack.

contraction read accurately

full form explained

apostrophe position to revisit

fresh sentence to try

Do not total a score or infer general reading, spelling or punctuation mastery.



ADULT ANSWERS AND FEEDBACK · 1 OF 2

Use the model, record the evidence

Keep the unaided first attempt. Use the boundary under each task and choose one fresh recheck. Do not total a score.

1 I'm; don't; he's; can't

I am—I'm; do not—don't; he is—he's; cannot—can't Draw one line from each full form to its exact shorter form.
Look for: Connects the same meaning. Reads both forms aloud. **Next:** Cover the shorter side and rebuild one contraction.

2 we're; she'll; they've; didn't

we're; she'll; they've; didn't Write the standard contraction and circle the apostrophe.
Look for: Keeps the remaining letters in order. Places the apostrophe where letters are omitted. **Next:** Expand one answer back to its full form.

3 I am; we will; is not; they are

I am; we will; is not; they are Write both full words and check that the sentence meaning stays the same.
Look for: Restores every omitted letter. Keeps pronoun and verb agreement. **Next:** Use one full form in an oral sentence.

4 don't; we're; I'll; can't

don't; we're; I'll; can't Circle the standard written contraction for each full form.
Look for: Uses the apostrophe. Does not confuse a different word with a contraction. **Next:** Explain which letters the apostrophe replaces.



ADULT ANSWERS AND FEEDBACK · 2 OF 2

Use the model, record the evidence

Keep the unaided first attempt. Use the boundary under each task and choose one fresh recheck. Do not total a score.

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- 5** **it's; couldn't; you're; I've**
it's; couldn't; you're; I've Join each pair with an apostrophe in the shown slot.
Look for: Preserves letter order. Explains the matching full form. **Next:** Move between the built form and its two-word form.
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- 6** **I'm ready.; We're outside.; She'll help.; They didn't stop.**
I'm ready.; We're outside.; She'll help.; They didn't stop. Rewrite each sentence with the named contraction, then read both versions.
Look for: Keeps the meaning. Keeps the capital and full stop. **Next:** Ask whether the full and shortened sentences say the same thing.
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- 7** **o; a; wi**
don't—o; we're—a; he'll—wi Write the omitted letter or letters under each contraction.
Look for: Compares the full and shortened forms. Locates the apostrophe at the omission. **Next:** Build a new example with adult support.
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- 8** **Adult-assessed evidence**
Example: read don't; explained do not; revisit we're; try We're ready. Record first-attempt evidence and one precise recheck.
Look for: Names an observed strength. Chooses one contraction or apostrophe position to revisit. **Next:** Repeat later with a fresh sentence.
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