



Rule 13: Contractions



Parent information

- This teaching resource is organised into four sections:
1) Explanation of the rule 2) Examples of key words that fit the rule 3) Opportunities to practise 4) Further examples of commonly used words following the rule & some notable exceptions.
- These slides are intended as a starting point for teaching this rule. The lists of words given at the end might be used for card sorting exercises or a variety of spelling games.

1) Rule 13: Explanation

What has happened?

have not > haven't he will > he'll

When we write the contraction, an apostrophe goes in the place of the missing letters.

there would > there'd I am > I'm

WATCH OUT: some words change completely!

will not > won't shall not > shan't

TIP: willn't and shaln't are too hard to say!

2) Rule 13: Examples

Compare the expanded and the contracted form.

What has changed?

did not > didn't

we are > we're

he has > he's

she would > she'd

should not > shouldn't

we have > we've

THINK: What do **you're** and **they're** mean? What other spellings & meanings of these words are there?

3) Rule 13: Practice

Write the expanded or contracted form.

Starter

do not = _____

_____ = can't

she is = _____

_____ = we have

you are = _____

Challenge 1

she had = _____

_____ = I'm

he will = _____

_____ = they've

he would = _____

Challenge 2

_____ = they'll

will not = _____

_____ = there's

I would = _____

_____ = shan't

THINK: What COULD the expanded forms of **she'd** and **he's** be? There is more than one answer!

4) Rule 13: Further examples

Contracted forms with n't

don't
didn't
doesn't
can't
aren't
isn't
haven't
hasn't
mustn't
wasn't
weren't
couldn't
wouldn't
shouldn't

Other contracted forms

To be

I'm
he's / she's / it's
there's / here's
who's
you're / they're
we're

To have

I've
he's / she's / it's
you've / they've
we've / should've
would've
could've

would

I'd
he'd / she'd / it'd
there'd / who'd
you'd
they'd
we'd

Will

I'll
he'll / she'll / it'll
there'll / who'll
you'll
they'll
we'll

NOTE

'Will not' and
'shall not' change
to 'won't' and
'shan't'.

Some contracted
forms could come
from more than
one expanded
form (e.g. he's
could be 'he is' or
'he has'). The
choice will depend
on the context.