

# Abbreviations and Contractions

## Objective

Students will use abbreviations and contractions.

## Materials

- Handout 1: Abbreviations
- Handout 2: Contractions
- Scissors and glue
- Students' journals
- Optional video for teacher: *Contractions* (<http://texasgateway.org/resource/contractions>)

## Overview

Explicitly model how to complete the handouts. Monitor students and provide support as needed.

## Activity

1. Review the meaning of abbreviations and contractions:
  - An abbreviation is a shortened way to write a word. Abbreviations must include a period after the last letter. Example: *Mr.* – *Mister*.
  - A contraction is a shortened form of a set of words. The apostrophe in contractions stands for missing letters. Example: *don't* – *do not*.
2. Have students complete the handouts. **Optional:** Have students use the words in a sentence.
3. Have students cut out and glue their completed tables in their journal as a reference to use during writing tasks.

Adapted from Vaughn Gross Center for Reading and Language Arts at The University of Texas at Austin. (2009). *Teacher reading academies*. Austin, TX: Author.

## Abbreviations

Match each word with its abbreviation by writing the letter choice in the blank. Then rewrite each abbreviation in the right column. The first one has been completed for you.

### Months

- |                 |                    |           |             |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>a.</b> Sept. | <b>1.</b> <u>c</u> | January   | <u>Jan.</u> |
| <b>b.</b> Dec.  | <b>2.</b> _____    | February  | _____       |
| <b>c.</b> Jan.  | <b>3.</b> _____    | March     | _____       |
| <b>d.</b> Aug.  | <b>4.</b> _____    | April     | _____       |
| <b>e.</b> Feb.  | <b>5.</b> _____    | August    | _____       |
| <b>f.</b> Nov.  | <b>6.</b> _____    | September | _____       |
| <b>g.</b> Apr.  | <b>7.</b> _____    | October   | _____       |
| <b>h.</b> Oct.  | <b>8.</b> _____    | November  | _____       |
| <b>i.</b> Mar.  | <b>9.</b> _____    | December  | _____       |

### Days of the Week

- |                  |                 |           |       |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| <b>a.</b> Thurs. | <b>1.</b> _____ | Monday    | _____ |
| <b>b.</b> Mon.   | <b>2.</b> _____ | Tuesday   | _____ |
| <b>c.</b> Fri.   | <b>3.</b> _____ | Wednesday | _____ |
| <b>d.</b> Sun.   | <b>4.</b> _____ | Thursday  | _____ |
| <b>e.</b> Tues.  | <b>5.</b> _____ | Friday    | _____ |
| <b>f.</b> Sat.   | <b>6.</b> _____ | Saturday  | _____ |
| <b>g.</b> Wed.   | <b>7.</b> _____ | Sunday    | _____ |

## Contractions

Match each set of two words to its contraction by writing the letter choice in the blank. Then rewrite each contraction in the right column. The first one has been completed for you.

### Contractions With *Not*

- |                     |                                |                  |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>a.</b> hasn't    | <b>1.</b> <u>  j  </u> can not | <u>  can't  </u> |
| <b>b.</b> weren't   | <b>2.</b> _____ will not       | _____            |
| <b>c.</b> shouldn't | <b>3.</b> _____ should not     | _____            |
| <b>d.</b> didn't    | <b>4.</b> _____ is not         | _____            |
| <b>e.</b> couldn't  | <b>5.</b> _____ has not        | _____            |
| <b>f.</b> isn't     | <b>6.</b> _____ did not        | _____            |
| <b>g.</b> won't     | <b>7.</b> _____ are not        | _____            |
| <b>h.</b> aren't    | <b>8.</b> _____ were not       | _____            |
| <b>i.</b> haven't   | <b>9.</b> _____ could not      | _____            |
| <b>j.</b> can't     | <b>10.</b> _____ have not      | _____            |

### Contractions With *Is* and *Will*

- |                   |                            |       |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| <b>a.</b> what's  | <b>1.</b> _____ she is     | _____ |
| <b>b.</b> he'll   | <b>2.</b> _____ she will   | _____ |
| <b>c.</b> I'll    | <b>3.</b> _____ he is      | _____ |
| <b>d.</b> she's   | <b>4.</b> _____ he will    | _____ |
| <b>e.</b> they'll | <b>5.</b> _____ it is      | _____ |
| <b>f.</b> it's    | <b>6.</b> _____ we will    | _____ |
| <b>g.</b> she'll  | <b>7.</b> _____ what is    | _____ |
| <b>h.</b> we'll   | <b>8.</b> _____ I will     | _____ |
| <b>i.</b> who's   | <b>9.</b> _____ who is     | _____ |
| <b>j.</b> he's    | <b>10.</b> _____ they will | _____ |