MINI-LESSONS

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Contractions

What's the form and function of a contraction?

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Choose a chapter in your book.

- Write down all the contractions you can find in the text.
- A contraction combines words and misses some letters.

CAN	NOT	=	CAN’T
IT	IS	=	IT’S

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Look at your contraction list.

- What do you notice about the punctuation?
- Create a rule for using punctuation in contractions.

ASKING ALL AGENTS!

Why has the author used contractions instead of writing out the full words?

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Read the following texts.

You are invited to our wedding. **There is** going to be a disco.
It is on 18 July and please reply if you can or **cannot** attend.
We are looking forward to your reply.

- Try converting the full words into contractions.

"**Let's** go," Peter huffed. "**She's** forgotten **it's** time to leave!"
"But **I'm** not sure **she'll** catch up," Omar replied guiltily.
He'd broken her watch and she **couldn't** afford a new one.

- Now try expanding the contractions to their original parts.

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Read your versions out loud.

- Compare how different they sound to before you changed the contractions.

ASKING ALL AGENTS!

What difference does using contractions make?
Are some texts be better to use contractions in than others?

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