

# Contracted words

Fluent speakers of English often run sounds together, making it more difficult to understand what they are saying: **I have** is contracted to **I've**, **you are** to **you're**, etc.

With guidance from the examples on the right, find a possible contraction in each sentence, and say them aloud:

1. Today we are going to Paris.
2. You are lucky to be here!
3. They had all left by midday.
4. She is not on holiday.\*
5. I am very sorry!
6. You will never see her again.
7. They have come to see you.
8. We will share the prize.
9. Why did they not call in?
10. If I were rich I would not be here.\*

\* 2 possible contractions: the more usual is a contraction of the negative 'not'

Replace the contracted 'd with either **would** or **had** depending on which is correct:

1. I'd rather live in London
2. He'd better be careful.
3. If I were you, I'd live in Paris.
4. She'd like to stay here forever.
5. He'd got into some trouble.

am > 'm  
e.g. I'm sorry

is > 's  
e.g. he's always first in the queue

are > 're  
e.g. we're going to be late

have > 've  
e.g. I've seen this film before

will/shall > 'll  
e.g. I'll see you tomorrow

would > 'd  
e.g. you'd think he would wait for us

had > 'd  
e.g. he did not come until after I'd left

not > n't  
e.g. he isn't coming today  
you wouldn't think he was Russian  
she didn't have any qualifications  
why aren't you rich?

Create *two* contractions in each bubble, and say aloud:

Do not run in the house. The floor is wet.

They have got no idea who is in charge!

If he had heard the presentation, he would know the figures.