

# **Apostrophes for Contractions**

# Shortened Words

Sometimes, we join two words together to make them shorter.

We call these contractions.

Today we are going to learn some rules for using contractions correctly.



# I am

If 'I' is one of the words in the contraction, the 'I' must be a capital letter.

In the shortened word the letter 'a' has been removed and replaced with an apostrophe.

I am

=

I'm

# Other Examples:

**RULE:** when two words are pushed together and letters removed, an apostrophe must be placed to show the missing letters:

he is

we are

she will

could not

=

=

=

=

he's

we're

she'll

couldn't

To work out where to place the apostrophe, write out the two words you want to shorten (e.g. I have). Then say the shortened version of the words (e.g. I've).

Which letters can you no longer hear?

These have been removed and this is where the apostrophe is needed!

# More Examples:

that is

=

that's

it will

=

it'll

he has

=

he's

they had

=

they'd

I have

=

I've

is not

=

isn't

you will

=

you'll

would not

=

wouldn't

But watch out!

will not = won't

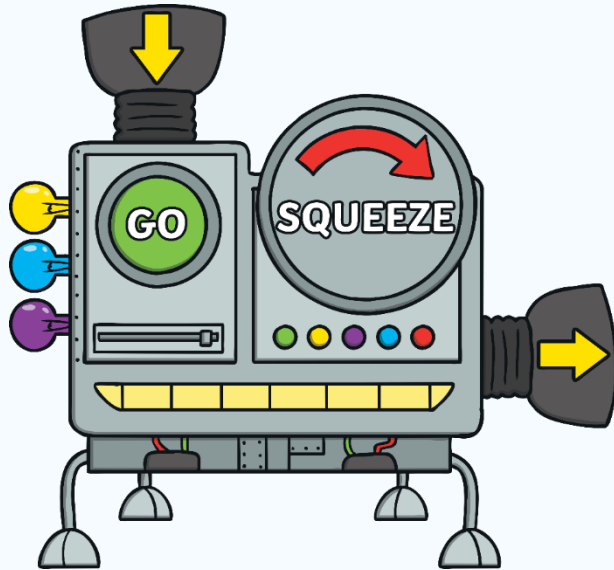
This is the Squeeze-O-Matic 100. It squeezes two words together and takes out a letter (or letters) to make one shorter word. Here are the words that go into the Squeeze-O-Matic. Can you work out which words will come out?

are not

he had

he will

I have



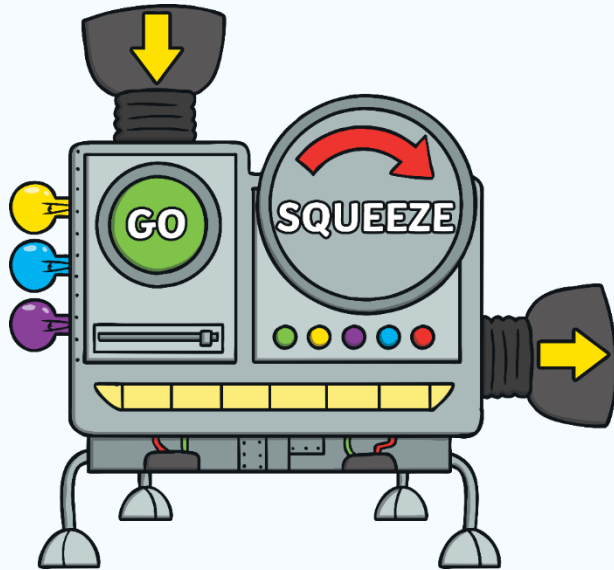
# ANSWERS:

are not

he had

he will

I have



aren't

he'd

he'll

I've

These children are talking very fast and squeezing together some of their words. Can you change the words that have apostrophes in them so that they are saying two words rather than one?

I **can't** ride a skateboard.  
**I'm** scared of falling off.



**Don't** worry, **it's** easy. **I'll** show you how.

Do you think **we'll** be taller next year?



Yes, **we're** growing all the time!





# ANSWERS:

I **can not** ride a skateboard. **I am** scared of falling off.



**Do not** worry, **it is** easy. **I will** show you how.

Do you think **we will** be taller next year?



Yes, **we are** growing all the time!



Can you work out which spelling is correct and has the apostrophe in the right place?

## Which is correct?

wheres'

where's

shoul'dnt

shouldn't

won't

wo'nt

I'd

Id'

wel'l

we'll

couldn't

could'nt

# ANSWERS:

Which is correct?

wheres'

where's

shoul'dnt

shouldn't

won't

wo'nt

I'd

Id'

wel'l

we'll

couldn't

could'nt