CONTRACTIONS 01

A contraction is a shortened form of one or two words (one of which is usually a verb). In a contraction, an apostrophe takes the place of the missing letter or letters. Some contractions are: I'm (I am), can't (cannot), how's (how is), and Ma'am (Madam).

For example, "don't" is a contraction that is short for "do not"; the apostrophe in "don't" takes the place of the missing "o". Another example is "o'clock," a contraction "of the clock." A less common example of a contraction is "jack-o'-lantern," short for "jack-of-lantern"; in it, the apostrophe takes the place of the missing "f" in "of."

List o' Common Contractions:

	BE	WILL	WOULD	HAVE	HAD
I	I'm I am	I'll I will	I'd I would	I've I have	I'd I had
you	you're you are	you'll you will	you'd you would	you've you have	you'd you had
he	he's he is	he'll he will	he'd he would	he's he has	he'd he had
she	she's she is	she'll she will	she'd she would	she's she has	she'd she had
it	it's (or 'tis) it is	it'll it will	it'd it would	it's it has	it'd it had
we	we're we are	we'll we will	we'd we would	we've we have	we'd we had
they	they're they are	they'll they will	they'd they would	they've they have	they'd they had

that	that's that is	that'll that will	that'd that would	that's that has	that'd that had
who	who's who is	who'll who will	who'd who would	who's who has	who'd who had
what	what's/what're what is/what are	what'll what will	what'd what would	what's what has	what'd what had
where	where's where is	where'll where will	where'd where would	where's where has	where'd where had
when	when's when is	when'll when will	when'd when would	when's when has	when'd when had
why	why's why is	why'll why will	why'd why would	why's why has	why'd why had
how	how's how is	how'll how will	how'd how would	how's how has	how'd how had

WORDS (negating a verb)	CONTRACTION
is not	isn't
are not	aren't
was not	wasn't
were not	weren't
have not	haven't
has not	hasn't
had not	hadn't
will not	won't
would not	wouldn't
do not	don't
does not	doesn't
did not	didn't
cannot	can't
could not	couldn't
should not	shouldn't

might not	mightn't
must not	mustn't

WORDS (would-should-could)	CONTRACTION
would have	would've
should have	should've
could have	could've
might have	might've
must have	must've

WORDS (odd ones)	CONTRACTION
of	o'
of the clock	o'clock
madam	ma'am
never-do-well	ne'er-do-well
cat-of-nine-tails	cat-o'-nine-tails
jack-of-the-lantern	jack-o'-lantern
will-of-the-wisp	will-o'-the-wisp
it was	'twas (archaic)