

## Contractions

A **contraction** is a word made by putting two words together. When words are joined in a contraction, an apostrophe is used to show where a letter or letters have been left out.

- Some contractions combine a pronoun and a verb: *I + will = I'll*; *they + would = they'd*; *she + is = she's*; *it + is = it's*; *he + has = he's*; *they + have = they've*; *you + are = you're*.
- Some contractions combine a verb and *not*: *has + not = hasn't*; *had + not = hadn't*; *was + not = wasn't*; *did + not = didn't*; *could + not = couldn't*; *will + not = won't*.

**Contractions** We've gone swimming every day, but we won't go tomorrow.

- A** Write the contraction in each sentence. Then write the words that make up the contraction.
1. Swimming was popular long ago, and it's still popular today.
  2. Swimmers began competing in the 1896 Olympics, and they've competed ever since.
  3. Women didn't compete in the Olympics until 1912.
  4. Wasn't Mark Spitz a winner of seven gold medals in 1972?
  5. American swimmers couldn't beat Spitz's record in 2004.

- B** Write the contraction for the underlined words.
1. My grandpa likes to swim, and he is a good swimmer.
  2. He did not swim in a pool when he was young.
  3. He would swim in the pond on his parents' farm.
  4. He could not wait to dive in on a hot summer day.
  5. He had not had swimming lessons.
  6. He was not afraid of the frogs and ducks in the pond.
  7. They would all swim together.
  8. He will not forget his swimming pond.
  9. Now he will swim in an indoor pool.
  10. Today I will go swimming with Grandpa.

- C** Expand each group of words to create an interesting sentence. Replace two words in each group of words with a contraction.

11. I am trying out
12. We are practicing
13. My friends are not discouraged
14. We will learn
15. I did not know
16. I had not done
17. It is good to learn
18. The coach says we are
19. The team has not
20. I will be happy



## Test Preparation

Write the letter of the correct contraction for the underlined words.

- People do not swim just in pools.  
 A doesn't    C isn't  
 B don't    D didn't
- They will swim wherever there is water.  
 A They're    C They'd  
 B They'll    D Their
- He is swimming in a lake.  
 A He'd    C He's  
 B She's    D His
- We are in a river.  
 A We'd    C Were  
 B You're    D We're
- I have swum in the ocean when it is warm.  
 A it's    C I'm  
 B its    D I'll
- Have not people swum in the English Channel?  
 A Hadnt    C Hadn't  
 B Hasn't    D Haven't
- You were not swimming in the pond.  
 A wasn't    C won't  
 B weren't    D we'll
- Lakes are not as warm as pools.  
 A isn't    C arent  
 B don't    D aren't



## Review

Write the contraction in each sentence. Then write the words that make up the contraction.

- She's doing the backstroke in the swim meet.
- Eddie hasn't done the backstroke before.
- He'll probably do the butterfly.
- Maggie didn't practice the breaststroke.
- She'd like to do the backstroke.
- Wouldn't you like to practice the butterfly?
- Tyler won't be at practice tomorrow.
- He's going to the dentist.
- I think it's all right to miss practice sometimes.
- I'm sure Tyler will practice the next day.

Write the contraction for the underlined words.

- If you are a good swimmer, you can learn to dive.
- She will dive from a springboard.
- He has learned to do a forward dive.
- She is not ready to do a half-twist.
- His body was not straight when he hit the water.
- They will practice before the meet.
- She is jumping at the end of the board.
- She does not jump high enough.
- They are applauding for her.
- They could not believe how good she was.