

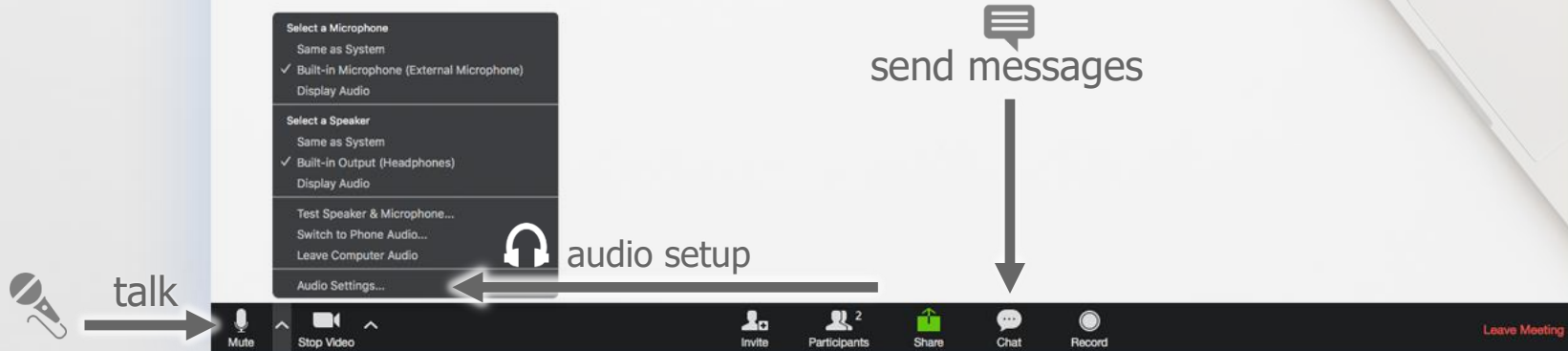
Welcome!

How can I interact with the class?

Take a look at how to use your toolbar.

Quick tip: Can't see the toolbar?

Hover your mouse at the bottom of your screen and it will automatically pop up.



Grammar: Contractions

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- use present perfect contractions.
- use contractions with modal verbs.
- use conversational contractions.

Warm Up

Answer the questions. Listen to your classmates' answers.

- What is the name for this punctuation mark: ' ?
- Give an example of the difference between formal and informal language in English or your native language.
- Why is it important to study both formal and informal language use?



Would they speak formally or casually? Why?

Let's Learn 1

Talk about contractions with your class.

A contraction is a short form of a word. We use contractions so that we can speak more quickly and easily. Look at some contraction examples.

Type of Phrase	Contractions
subject pronoun + "be" verb	I'm, you're, he's, she's, it's, we're, they're
"be" verb + "not"	isn't, aren't, wasn't, weren't
"do/does" + "not"	don't, doesn't, didn't
modal verb + "not"	can't, shouldn't, wouldn't
subject pronoun + "will"	I'll, you'll, he'll, she'll, it'll, we'll, they'll

Give an example of a modal verb contraction.

What is most difficult about remembering contractions? Do you use any tricks to memorize them?

Let's Practice 1

Find the phrases that can be changed to contractions and change them to the correct contraction form.

Dear Tina,

I am so happy that you will be attending my graduation. I did not know if you could come because you are so far away. I cannot wait to see you! We do not have an extra bedroom, but I would not mind if you slept on our couch. You should not worry about anything while you are here. Mom says, "Hi," and she is waiting to hear from you. We are available all day, so do not hesitate to call us to make plans.

See you soon,
Bianca

Why is the use of contractions acceptable in this letter?

Do you think it's incorrect to use contractions in formal language? Why or why not?

Extension

Use this slide to extend the activity.

Let's Learn 2

Talk about present perfect contractions. Review the chart with your class.

The present perfect tense uses a form of "have" before an action verb. The verb that follows the contraction should be a *past participle form*.

Examples:

I have been to Canada. = *I've* been to Canada.

He has given me the report. = *He's* given me the report.

Singular Phrase	Contraction	Plural Phrase	Contraction
I have	I've	we have	we've
you have	you've	you have	you've
he/she/it has	he's/she's/it's	they have	they've

Practice using contractions in the present perfect. Talk about your past experiences.
Example: I've climbed Mount Everest.

Let's Practice 2

Decide which sentences use the *present perfect tense* and add a contraction to them.

Example: She has gotten a promotion. = *She's gotten* a promotion.

1. I have finished the report. Now, I have free time.
2. They have visited fifteen countries. They have many stamps on their passports.
3. He has seen many cities on his trip. He has dozens of sightseeing photographs.
4. You have seen the news. You have the latest newspaper.



Let's Learn 3

Talk about modal contractions. Practice them with your class.

We can make two kinds of contractions from some modal verbs:

Negative modal phrase: modal + not + verb

Perfect tense modal phrase: modal + have + past participle

Modal	Negative Contraction	Modal + Have Contractions
should	shouldn't	should've
could	couldn't	could've
would	wouldn't	would've

Use each modal verb in a sentence.

Example: They *shouldn't pack* too much for their trip. They *should've packed* less.

Let's Practice 3

Complete these sentences with the correct form of the modal verb.

1. The company _____ called you before it scheduled the delivery. (should)
2. I _____ find my keys this morning, even though I looked everywhere. (could)
3. She _____ been at the party, but I honestly don't remember. (might)
4. If I were her, I _____ accept the first salary offer. (would)



Make a sentence of your own using a modal verb contraction. Does the class believe that your sentence is correct?

Pronunciation Practice

Listen to your teacher say the words. Practice saying them. Make a sentence using at least two of the words.

Many non-native speakers find these contractions difficult to pronounce. Say these contractions with your class.

A.

it'll

weren't

should've

mightn't

Make a sentence with each of these contractions.

Idiom

Talk about this idiom with your teacher and classmates.

could've, would've, should've = "coulda, woulda, shoulda" = I could have done something, but that time has passed.



Max: I should've talked to that girl at the party. She seemed really interesting.

Corey: *Coulda woulda shoulda*. I hope you see her again.

Do you have a similar expression in your language? Tell the class about it.

Let's Learn 4

Talk about commonly casual contractions without apostrophes.

Not all contractions use apostrophes. These English contractions are used in **informal speech, but not writing**. They reflect the sound of the quick pronunciation of each phrase.

Phrase	Contraction	Example
going to	gonna	"I'm gonna run to the store. Do you want anything?"
want to	wanna	"I wanna finish work early today, but I have a lot to do."
got to	gotta	"I gotta leave now or I'll be late."
give me	gimme	"Gimme the phone and I'll call the cable company."
let me	lemme	"Just lemme get my jacket and we can go."

Try to use these informal contractions with your classmates.

Let's Practice 4

Complete this conversation with the correct contractions.

Alan: Are you ready? I _____ get to the supermarket before it closes.

Darren: Sure. _____ five minutes. I'm watching something on Facebook.

Alan: Ok, I'm _____ make a quick phone call to Ray.

Darren: Ok. _____ talk to him before you hang up. I _____ ask him something about this weekend.

Alan: No problem. I'll call him now.

gonna

wanna

gotta

gimme

lemme

In what other ways do you know that this is a casual conversation?

Extension

Use this slide to extend the activity.

Wrap Up

Talk with your class and answer the questions.

Putting it all together:

- Why do we use contractions in informal English?
- How do we form present perfect contractions?
- The modal "should" has two contraction forms. What are they?
- Give an example of a contraction that does not use an apostrophe.