

# Lesson 9

## Initial-Letter Contractions, More Shortforms

### 9.1 In General [UEB §10.7]

The contractions about to be studied are all two-cell configurations. Initial-letter contractions are formed by preceding the initial letter or initial contraction of the word by dot 5, dots 45, or dots 456. So, for instance, the letter *d* standing alone is the word *do*, but when *d* is immediately preceded by dot 5 it becomes the word *day*—which can be used for the whole word *day* or as part of the word *yesterday*.

	<u>Dot 5</u>	<u>Dots 45</u>		<u>Dots 456</u>
-----		-----	cannot	⠠⠠⠠
day	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
ever	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
father	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
here	⠠⠠	-----	had	⠠⠠⠠
know	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
lord	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
mother	⠠⠠	-----	many	⠠⠠⠠
name	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
one	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
part	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
question	⠠⠠	-----	-----	
right	⠠⠠	-----	-----	

some	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	spirit	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	
time	⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	-----		
under	⠠⠎⠠⠎	upon	⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	
work	⠠⠎⠠⠎	word	⠠⠎⠠⠎	world	⠠⠎⠠⠎
young	⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	-----		
character	⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	-----		
through	⠠⠎⠠⠎	those	⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	
where	⠠⠎⠠⠎	whose	⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	
ought	⠠⠎⠠⠎	-----	-----		
there	⠠⠎⠠⠎	these	⠠⠎⠠⠎	their	⠠⠎⠠⠎

**9.1a In General.** Initial-letter contractions are used both as wordsigns and groupsigns.

⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎
⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎	⠠⠎⠠⠎⠠⠎



**9.2g Time.** Use this contraction when its letters are pronounced the same as the word *time*. Therefore, the contraction is used in words like *pastime* or *Timex* but not in words like *centimeter* or *multimedia*.

**9.2h Under.** Use this contraction wherever its letters occur, with the following exceptions:

- (1) Do not use the under contraction when its letters are preceded by the letters *a* or *o*, such as in *flounder* or *launder*.
- (2) Do not use this contraction when any of its letters fall into a prefix, such as in words like *underogatory*.

### Drill 25

Practice by brailleing the following words and sentences. In the word section, leave three spaces between words. Use a 1-3 margin for the sentences.

ransom   ransomed   blossom   blossomed   handsome  
handsomer   lonesome   lonesomest   party   partook   partial  
parterre   common   commoner   commonest   know   knowledge  
acknowledge   ought   brought   drought   Houghton   honest  
gone   honey   alone   abalone   phonetics   pioneer   biosphere

1. Great Scott! You ought to know you cannot remain here forever without work or money.
2. Quick! Write the name and address on the letter because I'm late.
3. We haven't paid them yet because there can be no question of our right to insist upon the work being done promptly under the terms of the contract.
4. We were rather surprised to learn that many of our neighborhood boys had taken part in the street riots and that some had been named as instigators.
5. In these days of supersonic speed one can travel to any part of the world in little or no time at all.
6. To those who have character and a spirit of adventure the Navy is very appealing.
7. The young couple is about to purchase their first home with the help of their families, who both have above average incomes.
8. Wordsworth referred to the skylark as the "Ethereal Minstrel, pilgrim of the sky."



1. Beverly comforted her small brother by saying, "Don't be dispirited. Mother said in her letter that she and Father will take us fishing one day soon."
2. "Upon my word! How can you ever forget the words of 'The Lord's Prayer'?" Grandmother scolded young Gaylord.
3. According to our teacher, everyone ought to take some time each day for reading because to read is to know.
4. We hope that the party and the braille book of world maps will be a big surprise for Grandfather, whose birthday we will celebrate at 2:00 next Friday.
5. Ever since he came into money, he thought he'd be treated like a king every day wherever he went.
6. The characteristics of the adult are inherent in the chromosomes of the embryo.
7. Through the untimely death of the doughty captain the entire ship was plunged into an atmosphere of gloom.
8. The professor reluctantly acknowledges that perhaps those students who cannot make a good grade need more time to complete their theses, but questions their right to protest.
9. Unquestionably, the onerous task of participating in the ceremonies is too burdensome for me to assume.
10. Daniel Boone worked hard to erect a fort at Boonesboro.
11. He is the handsomest little boy in the class and therefore he is always teased and chased by the little girls.
12. The housemother admonished the girls and told them severely that she was not about to serve dessert until the finnan haddie had been eaten.
13. His feverish dreams were haunted by these shadowy figures of children from out of his past.

## READING PRACTICE

Write the following sentences in print. Compare your work with the print version in Appendix A.

1. The cat sat on the mat.

2. The dog barked at the cat.  
3. The bird flew in the sky.  
4. The fish swam in the water.  
5. The car drove on the road.  
6. The train chugged on the tracks.  
7. The plane flew in the air.  
8. The boat sailed on the sea.  
9. The truck drove on the highway.  
10. The helicopter flew in the air.

11. The rocket launched into space.  
12. The submarine sailed under the sea.  
13. The jet flew in the sky.  
14. The propeller plane flew in the air.  
15. The biplane flew in the air.  
16. The glider flew in the air.  
17. The hot air balloon floated in the air.  
18. The blimp floated in the air.  
19. The dirigible floated in the air.  
20. The zeppelin floated in the air.

21. The balloon floated in the air.  
22. The kite flew in the air.  
23. The paper airplane flew in the air.  
24. The model airplane flew in the air.  
25. The remote control airplane flew in the air.  
26. The radio control airplane flew in the air.  
27. The electric airplane flew in the air.  
28. The gas airplane flew in the air.  
29. The jet airplane flew in the air.  
30. The turbojet airplane flew in the air.

## EXERCISE

Prepare the following exercise for submission to the instructor. Use a 1-3 margin. After you have successfully completed this exercise, the instructor will provide you with a reading exercise to complete before proceeding to Lesson 10.

## LESSON 9

1. Yesterday, at 8:00 PM, Mortimer started to work on his first part-time job for his father-in-law.
2. Some of the questions in the questionnaire had to be answered "yes" or "no."
3. To say that wherever he went he was under the close scrutiny of the police is not quite right.
4. The youngsters are planning a big surprise for their father for Father's Day.
5. Though lonesome and frightened, the young lad was none the worse for the night spent in the woods.
6. Here and there the sun peeped through the clouds, creating little shadows.
7. I don't know whether or not I want to go to Germany, as I don't understand a word of the language.
8. "How many guests do you expect at the party?" asked the spirited young man.
9. One of the outstanding characters in the play is a typical man of the world who reads using a refreshable braille display.
10. "These are the times that try men's souls," wrote Tom Paine.
11. Everyone ought to follow @PCMagazine for insider tips on the workings of PCs and other technology throughout the world.
12. Rebecca's letter said that several cases of typhoid fever were reported in the flooded area.
13. He continued to adhere to his beliefs even though he was about to be condemned as a heretic.
14. His gift to the children is a little below average as he is not as prosperous now as he has been heretofore.
15. To this day the name of Daniel Boone is familiar to every Kentuckian.
16. Mrs. Hadley was impressed with the beauty of the Parthenon.



17. Chelsea loved Paris where she got great buys, including a miniature sword for which she paid only a few centimes.
18. Because money laundering is illegal it is always done in secret.
19. Many doctoral theses involve hard and painstaking work.
20. The old abandoned enamelworks is being leased for a new factory.
21. PARADISE LOST by John Milton tells of Lucifer's fall from ethereal splendor to the underworld of Hades.
22. My grandmother had saved enough coupons for a handsome new set of luggage.
23. Throughout the 1930s, known as the drought years, many farmers were hard-pressed for money and lost their farms.
24. John Paul Jones was one of the early pioneers of the American Navy.
25. Whereas Colonel Doubleday cherished the family heirlooms even though they had no monetary value, his wife regarded them with disdain.
26. Just above Glasgow is one of the handsomest villas in Scotland, which has been purchased by the baronet.
27. His lordship, a real character, partook generously of the sparkling beverage and fell into a deep reverie.
28. The response from the prisoner of war to the chaplain's words of solace was incoherent.
29. Everett was too dispirited to participate in the holiday festivities.
30. Quick, duck down here below the wall so mother cannot find us.