

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Contraction or Possessive Noun?

Contractions and possessive nouns are two types of words with apostrophes.

A **contraction** is a word that takes the place of two other words.

An apostrophe takes the place of missing letters.

*example: Don't is a contraction for the words "do not."*

A **possessive noun** shows that someone has or owns something.

An apostrophe and the letter s are added to show ownership.

*example: That is Dan's car.*

Read each sentence and circle the word with the apostrophe. Then, tell whether the circled word is a contraction or possessive noun.

1. I'll arrive later this afternoon. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Sarah's pencil tip is broken. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The dog's bowl is filled with water. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Haven't you read the book yet? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What's the matter? \_\_\_\_\_
6. The children's ball rolled away. \_\_\_\_\_
7. It's a lovely painting. \_\_\_\_\_
8. You'll you ever get out of this mess. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Jim said he's been to China. \_\_\_\_\_
10. She's the fastest girl on the team. \_\_\_\_\_

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*example: That is Dan's car.*

Read each sentence and circle the word with the apostrophe. Then, tell whether the circled word is a contraction or possessive noun.

1. **I'll** arrive later this afternoon.      **contraction (I will)**
2. **Sarah's** pencil tip is broken.      **possessive noun (tip belongs to Sarah)**
3. The **dog's** bowl is filled with water.      **possessive noun (bowl belongs to the dog)**
4. **Haven't** you read the book yet?      **contraction (have not)**
5. **What's** the matter?      **contraction (what is)**
6. The **children's** ball rolled away.      **possessive noun (ball belongs to the children)**
7. **It's** a lovely painting.      **contraction (it is)**
8. **You'll** you ever get out of this mess.      **contraction (you will)**
9. Jim said **he's** been to China.      **contraction (he has)**
10. **She's** the fastest girl on the team.      **contraction (she is)**