

Training Your Ear to Understand Contractions

(Fill-in exercise No. 1)

You are going to write down contractions in simple and full forms.

Here are some equivalents to help you:

I'm = I am / you're = you are / we're = we are / he's / she's / it's = he is / she is / it is

I've seen = I have seen / You've seen = you have seen / She's seen = she has seen

He's gone = he has gone or he is gone / They're gone = they are gone

I'll be = I will be / he'll be = he will be / you won't = you will not be

You'd agree = you would agree

I'd known = I had known / I'd have done it = I would have done it

He must've done = he must have done / you should've done = you should have done

Didn't you tell him? = **Did you not tell him?**

Tags: won't he? = will he not? / wouldn't you? = would you not *? / can't they? = can they not?

Also: You'd better = you had better / I'd rather = I would rather / I'd rather = I would rather

Sometimes English people say: "I had rather," but Americans never! So stick with "**I would rather.**"

Listen to the recording (or listen to your partner). Make sure you have written both the contracted forms and the full forms correctly.

Monologue with contracted forms:

The trainee _____ be checking the software program soon, _____ he? _____ you tell him about it? If you _____ as yet, you _____ better do so before he _____ gone. I _____ have done it myself, if I _____ known you _____ forget. You _____ very forgetful, _____ you? You _____ agree on that point, _____ you? This time the assignment _____ be forgotten, will it? We _____ relying on you, you know!

Now fill in the full forms:

The trainee _____ be checking the software program soon, _____ he not? _____ you not tell him about it? If you _____ not as yet, you _____ better do so before he _____ gone. I _____ have done it myself, if I _____ known you _____ forget. You _____ very forgetful, _____ you not? You _____ agree on that point, _____ you not? This time the assignment _____ not be forgotten, _____ it? We _____ relying on you, you know!