

Apostrophes

An **apostrophe** goes in the place of a missing letter or letters. When we write informally we write the way people speak. In speech people often miss out letters in the words spoken.

For example: "I'd like a drink," said Nick.

In the sentence above I'd is short for I **would**.

The most common use of the apostrophe is to replace the **o** in the middle of **not**.

For example: **is not** is often shortened to **isn't**

Write the shortened form of each of the following:

was not have not

did not does not

should not must not

do not has not

Write a sentence for each of the new words you have just made.

Copy out the following sentences.

Use an apostrophe to shorten the words underlined.

,

1. "I am not going to school today," said John.
2. "You are going to school," said his mother.
3. "We are on holiday this week," said John.
4. "I will ask Mrs Jones next door," said his mother.
5. "They have all gone out," said John.
6. "We will see about that," said his mother.
7. "They are all out," said John's father.
8. "Well, I have not had a letter about it," said his mother.
9. "It is too late to go now, anyway," said John.