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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dot 5</th>
<th>Dots 45</th>
<th>Dots 456</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>day</td>
<td>: :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ever</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>father</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>here</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>had : :</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>know</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lord</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mother</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>many : :</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>name</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>part</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>question</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right</td>
<td>: : :</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In General. Initial-letter contractions are used both as wordsigns and groupsigns.
Initial letter contractions should not be used when they would seriously distort the pronunciation of the word. For example, do not use part in Parthenon, had in shadow, mother in chemotherapy, or here in heretic.

9.1b With a Slash. Use initial-letter contractions next to a slash. Example:

month/day/year  

9.2 Rules for Specific Initial-Letter Contractions

9.2a Upon, These, Those, Whose, There [UB §10.7.2]. These five contractions should only be used when their whole word meaning is retained. Do not use them in words like blathered, Dupont, or hypotheses.

9.2b Had [UB §10.7.3]. Use the had contraction only when the a is short. It should not be used in words like Hades.

9.2c Ever. The ever contraction is only used when the stress is on the first e, and when its letters are not preceded by i or e. Words like severe and believer should not contain the ever contraction.

9.2d Here and Name. Use these contractions only when all of their letters fall into the same syllable. They should not be used in words like ethereal or enamel.

9.2e One. This contraction is used when its letters fall into the same syllable of a word (phone, done, dethrone), with the following exceptions:

(1) Do not use this contraction when its letters are preceded by the letter o, as in words like Boone.

(2) Use the one contraction in words that end with oney like honey or money.

(3) Use this contraction in the two words honest and monetary and their derivatives (words like honesty and monetarily).

9.2f Some. Use this contraction only when its letters form a syllable of the basic word. It is used in loathsome and handsomest but not in ransomed or somersault.
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 brailling 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."
9. The mothers and fathers first partook of a light lunch of biscuits and honey and tea and then went out onto the veranda and watched the youngsters turning somersaults and cartwheels.

10. Germany invaded Poland in September, 1939, whereupon the British, whose word had been pledged, proclaimed a state of war.

11. "Surely, m'lord, we can't seat the good Duchess below the salt!" said the pompous butler.

9.3 More Shortforms [UEB §10.9]

Following are five more shortforms to be memorized.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shortform</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Shortform</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Shortform</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ac</td>
<td>according</td>
<td>brl</td>
<td>braille</td>
<td>p(er)h</td>
<td>perhaps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alw</td>
<td>always</td>
<td>(ch)n</td>
<td>children</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example:

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AC TO DADDY. GD AN 90 R&D BRL
ALW G TO DF AT 9:00 — PHER LATE ON WEEKENDS.
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According to Daddy, good children who read braille always go to bed at 9:00 — perhaps later on weekends.

Drill 26

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

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stone stoned stoning phone phoned coherent sphere atmosphere hemisphere heretic heresy adhered adhere under thunder launder name named enamel Germany fright right-handed Brighton Mortimer centimeter Hades hadji
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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. He tells us he was in prison for years. He built a dog and a fish in a small room. His cell was very small. He had room to build a fish. He was happy to be free.
2. We were very happy to see him. We were happy to see him.
3. He tells us he was in college in China. He was very happy to see us. He was happy to see us.
4. We were very happy to see him. We were happy to see him.

My graph of a doctor's graph using frequency: red. My graph is easy to read. I made it from a neighborhood. How to learn the practical aspects of medicine: write my list to take. It is necessary to return to hospital. I made it. I had to play with dogs. I went to look at the clinic. I lost my phone. I saw my doctor.
5. I lost my phone. I saw my doctor. I went to look at the clinic. I made it. I had to play with dogs. I went to look at the clinic. I lost my phone. I saw my doctor.

My graph of a doctor's graph using frequency: red. My graph is easy to read. I made it from a neighborhood. How to learn the practical aspects of medicine: write my list to take. It is necessary to return to hospital. I made it. I had to play with dogs. I went to look at the clinic. I lost my phone. I saw my doctor.
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.