

Forming Contractions with *Not*

Lewis and Clark
Grammar: Contractions

A **contraction** is a word formed by joining two words into one shorter word. An **apostrophe** (') takes the place of the letter or letters dropped in making the shorter word. You can combine some verbs with the word **not** to make contractions.

Thinking Question

Which contraction is made with the word not?

contractions

do + not = don't

are + not = aren't

have + not = haven't

will + not = won't

1–5. On the line, write a contraction for the underlined words.

1. We hope they will not get lost when they hike through the national park.
2. Nasser knows there are not many different paths to take.
3. Paula does not think they need a map for the hike.
4. After all, Lewis and Clark did not have a map.
5. Would Lewis and Clark have succeeded if they had not had a guide?

6–8. Rewrite the sentence using a contraction with the verb and *not*.

6. The explorers did not stop traveling for many months.
7. They could not wait to explore the lands west of the Rocky Mountains.
8. I think they would not have made it very far without horses.