

RULE XV. 46.

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RULE XV – FINAL-LETTER CONTRACTIONS

Dots 4-6 Contractions

Dots 5-6 Contractions

Dot 6 Contractions

Sign	Letters	Sign	Letters
	ation		ally

46. Final-letter contractions should be used in the middle or at the end of a word, or at the beginning of a line in a divided word. They may never begin a word nor be used alone as a whole word, nor should they be used when preceded by the hyphen or the apostrophe. **Ex:**

con-sti-tu-tion

useless-

ness

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Examples

Used		Not Used
ound	found	'ounds
	foundry	
ance	chancellor	ancestor
	Frances	
sion	confusion	Sion
	expressionless	
less	blessing	less
	careless	lessee
	unless	lesson
	unlessoned	

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	Used	Not Used
tion	diction 	—
	fractional 	
ness	finesse 	Nesselrode  (See §b. below.)
	business 	
	Tennessee 	
	(See §b. below.)	
ment	memento 	mental 
	comment 	
ity	pity 	hoity-toity  (See §c. below.)
	deity 	
ation	(See §d. below.) 	(See §d. below.)

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	Used	Not Used
ally	rallying	ally
usually	••••••••••••••	••••••••••••••
really	••••••••••••••	(See §c. below.)

Exceptions

- a. The contraction "ence" should be used when followed by "d" or "r." Ex:

commenced

silencer

Spencer

- b. The contraction "ness" should be used in such easily read words as:

baroness ● ● ● ● ●

governess

but not where the root word ends in "en" or "in." Ex:

citizenship

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c. The contractions "ity" and "ally" should not be used where "y" has been added to a base word. **Ex:**

fruity ::::: ::::: ::::: ::::: ::::: squally ::::: ::::: ::::: :::::

d. The contraction "ation" should be used in preference to the letter "a" and the contraction "tion." Ex:

education  stationary 

ration 