

Lesson 10

Final-Letter Contractions, More Short-Form Words

10.1 Final-Letter Contractions [XV.46]

10.1a In general. Final-letter contractions are two-cell contractions that are formed by preceding the final letter of common letter combinations by dots 4-6, dots 5-6, or dot 6. The following is a complete list of these contractions. Note that in each column the contractions are listed alphabetically using the last letter of the letter grouping.

<u>Dots 4-6</u>		<u>Dots 5-6</u>		<u>Dot 6</u>	
-ound	⋮⋮⋮	-----		-----	
-ance	⋮⋮⋮	-ence	⋮⋮⋮	-----	
-----		-ong	⋮⋮⋮	-----	
-----		-ful	⋮⋮⋮	-----	
-sion	⋮⋮⋮	-tion	⋮⋮⋮	-ation	⋮⋮⋮
-less	⋮⋮⋮	-ness	⋮⋮⋮	-----	
-ount	⋮⋮⋮	-ment	⋮⋮⋮	-----	
-----		-ity	⋮⋮⋮	-ally	⋮⋮⋮

Dots 4-6 also form the italic sign, dots 5-6 the letter sign (both to be studied later), and dot 6 the capital sign. These composition signs nearly always appear at the beginning of a word. To avoid confusion with these composition signs, final-letter contractions are used *only in the middle or at the end* of a word or name. Examples:

(ar)(ound)	b(ound)(ar)y	assi(st)(ance)	(ch)(ance)llor
preci(sion)	proces(sion)al	hope(less)	b(less)(ed)
c(ount)	m(ount)a(in)	provid(ence)	h(ence)(for)(th)
(be)l(ong)	m(ong)rel	hope(ful)	fai(th)(ful)ly
(con)(st)itu(tion)al	edi(tion)	firm(ness)	T(en)(ness)ee
me(ment)o	(com)(ment)	cav(ity)	p(ity)(ing)
(st)(ation)(ar)y	n(ation)	re(ally)	r(ally)(ing)
L(ance)	Fr(ance)s	Sp(ence)r	S(ally)

They are also used when they appear at the beginning of a line in a divided word. Thus:

reli-	vital-	hope-	funda-	proposi-
(ance)	(ity)	(less)(ness)	(ment)al	(tion)

15. Hercules shot Nessus with a poisoned arrow for trying to abduct his wife.
16. Terrence's mental capacity verges upon imbecility.
17. Accused persons are protected from self-incrimination by the Fifth Amendment of our Constitution.
18. Can you braille this recipe for Quick Banana Bread and have it ready for Sally on Tuesday?
19. Allyson was especially fond of her little pet mongoose.
20. The bewildered Londoner inquired of a passer-by on Pennsylvania Avenue, "I say, which is the street to the Grey'ound Bus Station?"
21. The only person we encountered was a disreputable-looking fellow, who spoke in a mongrel tongue that sounded like nothing we had ever heard.
22. According to the announcement, our flight is cancelled on account of poor visibility over the mountains.
23. The recreational facilities of the playground have really undergone some major improvements.
24. Because her skills are below average, Frances cannot pass our course in business administration unless she has some special instruction.
25. The Baroness served a beverage with a good fruity flavor.
26. His dreams of romance remained wholly unfulfilled until he met the beautiful French countess.
27. Since her husband's election to Congress she has become rather hoity-toity—and her children are even worse!
28. Every weekend an incongruous conglomeration of guests descends upon her woefully overcrowded country house.
29. When he came riding across the bridge and into the village no one knew whence he had come or anything else concerning his background.
30. The committee will study the recommendations of the Treasury Department experts and an immediate response will be sent to the president.
31. Four columns advanced toward the city from without, and a fifth column cooperated from within.
32. Just a short time ago, science seemed almost powerless in finding a cure for cancer.
33. Perhaps we can make an excursion into the country on Sunday.
34. The tribe was governed by a chieftainess who dispensed justice swiftly and impartially.
35. Martha also has applied for the position of governess that was advertised in the Sunday edition of the Times.

