Apostrophe Sort

Sort contractions by the words they join.

2.LF.38.p "Encode contractions with am, is, has, not, have, would, and will, using apostrophes appropriately."

NAME _____ DATE _____

JOINS WITH NOT

This contraction joins a word with not. The apostrophe marks a missing letter.

couldn't = could not

STARTS WITH A PERSON WORD

This contraction starts with a word for a person or people. The apostrophe marks missing letters in the next word.

you'd = you had

1 SORT

8 items

Circle NOT or PERSON for each contraction, then choose one item from each group and explain how you knew.

1. isn't NOT PERSON

2. I'm NOT PERSON

3. we've NOT PERSON

4. don't NOT PERSON

5. wouldn't NOT PERSON

6. they'll NOT PERSON

7. haven't NOT PERSON

8. he's NOT PERSON

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Choose one item from each group and explain how you knew.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new NOT contraction and one new PERSON contraction.

NOT _____

PERSON _____

CHALLENGE

Change did not and she will into contractions. Tell which letters each apostrophe replaces.

ANSWER KEY

Apostrophe Sort

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	isn't	**NOT**	It joins is and not.
2	I'm	**PERSON**	It joins I and am.
3	we've	**PERSON**	It joins we and have.
4	don't	**NOT**	It joins do and not.
5	wouldn't	**NOT**	It joins would and not.
6	they'll	**PERSON**	It joins they and will.
7	haven't	**NOT**	It joins have and not.
8	he's	**PERSON**	It joins he and is or he and has.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Choose one item from each group and explain how you knew.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **NOT**: wasn't
- **PERSON**: you'll

Challenge: Didn't replaces the o in not. She'll replaces the wi in will.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify not in one chosen contraction and a person word at the start of the other. He's can mean he is or he has.