

Lesson Vocabulary

Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *The Three-Century Woman*. Practice using these words.

Vocabulary Words

eerie causing fear because of strangeness or weirdness

intersection point, line, or place where one thing crosses another

pondered considered carefully; thought over

severe serious; grave

spectacles eyeglasses

withered made dry and lifeless; dried up; faded; shriveled

Grammar

Contractions and Negative Contractions

A **contraction** is a shortened form of two words. An apostrophe takes the place of one or more letters.

Contractions can be formed from a pronoun and a verb. *For example: I + am = I'm; she + will = she'll; you + are = you're.*

A **negative contraction** is when you combine a verb with *not*. An apostrophe takes the place of the letter *o* in *not*. *For example: do + not = don't; are + not = aren't; will + not = won't.*

Activity

Cut It Down Newspapers usually avoid using contractions in their articles. Choose a newspaper article and read a few sentences to a family member. Then read the sentences again, this time using contractions wherever you can. Discuss with your family member how this changes the way the article sounds.

Practice Tested Spelling Words

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