

Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_

Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

Escuela/Hora: \_\_\_\_\_

Profesor/a: \_\_\_\_\_

## Contractions in Spanish - Explanation AND Practice 1

- **In English**, when we think of a contraction, an apostrophe should spring to mind.

Do not → don't      we will → we'll      I have → I've

- **In Spanish** there are only two contractions and no apostrophe is used.

**a** combines with the masculine singular definite article **el** to form **al**

**de** combines with the masculine singular definite article **el** to form **del**

The contraction is made only with the masculine singular form of the definite article.

Voy al banco.

-but-

Voy a la clase.

Voy a los bancos.

Voy a las clases.

Es el libro del chico.

-but-

Es el libro de la chica.

Es el libro de los chicos.

Es el libro de las chicas.

- **Remember** that **a** can follow the verb **ir** and is also used before a direct object that is a person (called the **personal a**), and that **de** is used with the verb **ser** to indicate origin and used with possession.
- **Note:** **el** is the definite article **the**      **él** (with accent) is the subject pronoun **he**  
**él** meaning **he** is **never** used in a contraction.

**Práctica.** Fill in the blank with the correct words or contraction.

1. Voy a la **escuela**.

Voy \_\_\_\_\_ **teatro**.

2. Es el carro del **señor**.

Es el carro \_\_\_\_\_ **profesora**.

3. Marcos no va a las **clases**.

Marcos no va \_\_\_\_\_ **concierto**.

4. El alumno habla de la **clase**.

El alumno habla \_\_\_\_\_ **profesor**.

5. Miramos al **chico**.

Miramos \_\_\_\_\_ **chicas**.

6. Son los lápices del **alumno**.

Son los lápices \_\_\_\_\_ **estudiantes**.

7. Escucho a la **señorita**.

Escucho \_\_\_\_\_ **señor**.

8. Es el libro de la **maestra**.

Es el libro \_\_\_\_\_ **chico**.