

## LESSON 7

### Contractions for **and**, **for**, **of**, **the**, **with**

#### Contractions in General

To save space and facilitate reading, certain groups of letters appearing frequently in the English language are represented in braille by special characters known as contractions. These contractions may utilize one or two cells, and they may represent whole words, parts of words, or both.

#### **Strong Contractions** **and**, **for**, **of**, **the**, **with**

The next contractions to be studied are known as strong contractions because they contain dots in both the top and bottom rows and in both the left and right columns of the braille cell.

and ⠠ (dots 12346)

the ⠡ (dots 2346)

for ⠢ (dots 123456)

with ⠣ (dots 23456)

of ⠤ (dots 12356)

Unlike the alphabetic wordsigns just studied, the contractions for: **and**, **for**, **of**, **the**, and **with** can be used as either wordsigns (used to represent whole words) or groupsigns (used to represent parts of words).

In hyphenated compound words and phrases. Like the alphabetic wordsigns, the contractions: **and**, **for**, **of**, **the**, and **with** are used in hyphenated compound words and phrases.

### Example:

man-of-the-trade

Alphabetic wordsigns **MUST STAND ALONE** [Which means the alphabetic wordsign **CANNOT** be used next to another word or within a word.]

**Maybe this example will help...**

will 

freewill    ⠠⠋⠠⠋⠠⠋⠠⠋⠠⠋ [Alphabetic wordsign **will**, IS NOT alone, the word **free** is next to it, therefore, it is not standing alone.]

**With slashes.** Unlike the alphabetic wordsigns, strong contractions **can** be used when in contact with a slash.

### Example:

and/but 

with/for