

Weekly Dose Which Contraction Works Best

The standing-alone rule can impact the use of how contractions are utilized. Time to take a deeper dive as to why this is the case. But first, what is the Standing Alone rule again?

Standing Alone Rule - A letter or letters-sequence is considered to be "standing alone" if it is preceded and followed by a space, a hyphen or a dash. The dash may be of any length, i.e. the dash or the long dash.

EXAMPLES

disc ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

dish ⠠⠠⠠⠠

These examples are one syllable words so the contraction dis cannot be used. Also, the dis contraction must be the first syllable of the word.

be-hive ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

The hyphen stops the use of the "be" contraction plus the letters "be" must be followed by a letter, contraction and/or modified letter or ligatured letter.

be'lieve ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

In this example the apostrophe stops the use of the "be" contraction.

bet ⠠⠠⠠⠠

The contraction "be" cannot be used so it can be read as an abbreviation plus if you used the contraction "be" it would become the word between [⠠⠠].

Source: Rules of Unified English Braille 2013 section 2.6 and National Braille Association.