E. Grammar: Apostrophes

A contraction is a shortened form of two words written as one word.

Contractions use an apostrophe in place of missing letters.

Examples: is not = isn't, we have = we've

Contractions can make writing sound less formal.

Write the underlined words as contractions.

- 1. The teacher's mind was not going to change so I did not argue.
- 2. 'There is no justice in the world,' said Molly.
- 3. Aaron <u>could not</u> think of the answer to the question.
- 4. The day had not been as bad as Shane had feared.
- 5. 'You are not going to the party,' insisted Mam.

We also use an apostrophe to show ownership.

For a single owner, the apostrophe goes before the s. E.g. Jo's car

For a plural owner, it goes after the s. E.g. the cats' bowls

For plurals not ending in s, add one after the apostrophe. E.g. the men's hats.

Write the sentences, using apostrophes to show ownership. Add an 's' where needed.

- 1. The friends bracelets had mysteriously disappeared.
- 2. My cousins new spaniel is adorable.
- 3. Jennifers football boots were found in the dressing room.
- 4. Ronans painting was brilliant.
- 5. The childrens Christmas play was postponed.

Create a word web of all the contractions you can think of.

