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combining some of the sounds of a longer phrase b the formation of such a word 3 a physiology the shortening and thickening of functioning muscle or muscle fiber b **contraction english meaning cambridge dictionary** Oct 25 2022 web contraction noun u reduction the fact of something becoming smaller or shorter cold causes contraction of the metal the contraction of this muscle raises the lower

contraction definition meaning merriam webster Dec 27 2022 web contraction noun con trac tion kən 'trak shən 1 a the act or process of contracting the state of being contracted b the shortening and thickening of a working muscle or muscle fiber 2 a a shortening of a word syllable or word group by leaving out a sound or letter b a form as don t or they ve produced by such shortening **what are contractions in english grammar thoughtco** Aug 23 2022 web jul 10 2019 a contraction is a word or phrase that has been shortened by dropping one or more letters in writing an apostrophe is used to indicate the place of the missing letters contractions are

commonly used in speech or written dialogue informal forms of writing and where space is at a premium such as in advertising **33 synonyms antonyms of contraction merriam webster** Jun 21 2022 web noun as in contracting the act or process of reducing the size or volume of something by or as if by pressing most substances undergo contraction when cooled synonyms similar words relevance contracting compression squeezing condensing condensation constriction squeeze consolidation constricting compaction telescoping concentration compacting [contraction definition meaning dictionary com](#) Nov 26 2022 web the thickening and shortening of a muscle myosin is a protein in muscles working together with actin to produce muscle contraction one in an often rhythmic series of such muscular changes especially in the wall of the uterus during labor when i got to the hospital my labor was in full force with only 10 seconds between contractions

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