

## Elision vs. Contractions

Elisions are a prominent feature of Roman poetry. Elisions are much like contractions in English: two words are pronounced together as if they were one word.

*Contraction Examples:*

will not => won't

do not => don't

should have => should've

Elisions are **much more flexible** than English contractions. They can happen with virtually any word.

## Elision in Latin


Elision occurs in Latin when:

1. A word ends in
  - a. a **vowel**
  - b. the letter **M**
2. The next word starts with
  - a. a **vowel**
  - b. the letter **H**

Elided words are essentially contracted together, with only the **second** vowel being pronounced.

*Example:*

conticuēre omnēs = conticuēr<sup>o</sup>mnēs

When scanning Latin poetry, the elided vowel does not receive a mark. Elision is usually shown by drawing  underneath the 2 vowels.

Example:

- ~ ~ | - - | - || - ~ ~ | - ~ ~ | -  
nēc tibi pēr nūtūs accipiēda nota est: