

The Schwa Sound: / ə / from: “How Now Brown Cow?”

1) Practice saying these words and identify the schwa sounds by **bolding** them:

Initial      China      husband      legacy      curtain      importance  
 Vineyard      photography      England      Human      dozen      nonsense  
 Confirmation      nobody      apology      philosophy      handsome      polite  
 Complain      maximum      circus      vision      relation      passion  
 Magician      spacious      pressure      amusement      performance      banana

2) Practice saying these sentences. **Bold** the schwa sounds. Record your pronunciation of these sentences (if you do not have access to a microphone, please contact us so that we can meet before class). In you computer open **Start → Accessories → Sound Recorder:**

To bet **your** bottom dollar.  
 To take **your** pleasures seriously.  
 Nature is the best healer.  
 Nothing **succeeds** like **success**.  
 Necessity is the **mother** of invention.

/ ə / or / ɪ / ?

3) Write the words in the correct part of the table. Then, listen and check. From: “English Pronunciation in Use”

Orange      woman      return      collect      market      begin  
 Visit      asleep      salad      teaches      needed      letter  
 Sofa      peaches      quarter

Vowel in weak syllable = / ə /			Vowel in weak syllable = / ɪ /	
Orange	Asleep	Quarter	Return	Needed
Woman	Salad		Begin	Peaches
Collect	Letter		Visit	
Market	Sofa		Teaches	

The Chinese Hat : / ʌ / from “How Now Brown Cow”

4) Practice saying these words and identify the Chinese hat sounds by **bolding** them:

Fun	luck	stuck	onion	touch	young
Nothing	couple	cousin	flood	company	won
Trust	begun	double	month	mother	color
Enough	tough	glove	shovel	govern	tongue

5) Practice saying these sentences and record your pronunciation. Find and **bold** the Chinese Hat Sounds:

Lucky in cards, unlucky in love.  
Not in a month of Sundays.  
What's done cannot be undone.  
Well begun is half done.

6) /u/ Practice saying these words and **bold** the /u/ sounds:

Tool	shoot	food	spoon	proof	do
Who	school	womb	June	conclusion	root
Group	queue	fluid	suicide	truth	future
Museum	beauty	value	argue	monument	tooth

7) /ʊ / Practice saying these words and **bold** the /ʊ / sounds:

Wood	usual	sugar	could	should	would
Wolf	bullet	foot	butcher	cushion	pudding
Bush	took	faculty	book	put	maturity