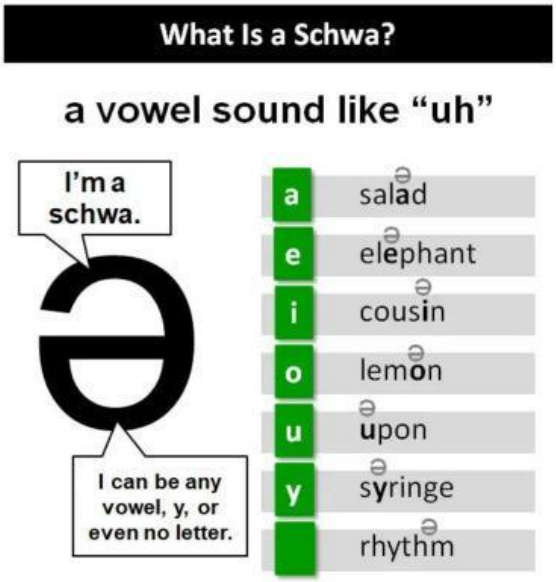
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MODULE 3: DESARROLLO DE DESTREZAS DE LA PRONUNCIACIÓN EN INGLÉS

Vowel sound /ə/ (schwa) as in "ago"





INTRODUCTION

The reduced vowel sound called schwa is one of the most common vowels sounds in spoken English. The schwa vowel [ə] is a very short, quick sound. Your lips should be completely relaxed and barely move during its production.

WATCH VIDEO

Click the "Play" Button

https://sandiegovoiceandaccent.com/american-english-vowels/introduction-to-the-schwa-uh-%C9%99-vowel

LIVEWORKSHEETS

QUICK TIPS

- Other spelling patterns for **[ə] consist of the letters eo, ou, iou,io and ai.**

Pigeon **famous** **delicious** **nation** **certain**

- **The schwa [ə] can occur more than once and can be represented by different letters in the same word. For example:**



President **accident** **elephant**

WATCH VIDEO
Click the "Play" Button

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2BmkUa4Mv60

https://soundsamerican.net/article/vowel_sound_schwa_as_in_ago

[ə] At the Beginning of Words	
ago	upon
away	contain
along	asleep
amaze	suppose

[ə] In the Middle of Words	
agony	relative
holiday	seventy
company	telephone
buffalo	photograph

[ə] At the End of Words	
soda	famous
sofa	lemon
zebra	cousin
reason	circus

[ə] Spelled

a	*e*	*i*	*o*	*u*
arrive	oven	liquid	occur	upon
ashamed	open	humid	obtain	suppose
asleep	cement	capital	lemon	circus
away	jacket	typical	lesson	column
signal	belief	cousin	contain	support



LIVEWORKSHEETS

INSTRUCTIONS Listen and practice words with the sound the [ə].



Vocabulary

1 The sound /ə/ is used in many unstressed syllables and words. In the words below, the spelling has been changed to show you when to use the sound /ə/. Stressed syllables are in bold. Listen and repeat.


chickən


təmatoes


lettəce


ə bənanə


ən onіən


səme chocolətə*


ə questіən


ə womən


womən

* A slash through a letter means it is not pronounced.

INSTRUCTIONS Listen and practice words with the sound the [ə].

International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) Symbol





Practice Words

ago / əˈgoʊ /	**a**bove / əˈbʌv /	**a**gain / əˈgɛn /	per**s**on / ˈpɜr sən /
ac**t**ion / ˈæk ʃən /	**a**bility / əˈbɪl ɪ ti /	**a**brupt / əˈbrʌpt /	**s**ofa / ˈsoʊ fə /
abyss / əˈbɪs /	ac**c**urate / ˈæk yər ɪt /	p**a**rent / ˈpɛər ənt /	**a**cross / əˈkrɔs /

LIVEWORKSHEETS

INSTRUCTIONS Practice pronunciation of the [ə] sound with the top 30 most common words.

Click Here



WATCH VIDEO

1.	the	11.	woman	21.	ago
2.	about	12.	family	22.	suppose
3.	even	13.	open	23.	police
4.	happen	14.	together	24.	person
5.	again	15.	idea	25.	moment
6.	away	16.	problem	26.	reason
7.	around	17.	tomorrow	27.	afraid
8.	listen	18.	tonight	28.	against
9.	today	19.	second	29.	husband
10.	another	20.	alone	30.	children



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m8QcDHExsNs

LIVEWORKSHEETS

INSTRUCTIONS Practice the pronunciation of the following words and sentences with the sound the [ə].

Schwa Words List

a	e	i	o	u
adapt	algebra	accident	astronaut	album
ago	blanket	animal	bottom	campus
alarm	camel	cousin	brother	faculty
alone	calendar	decimal	cannon	focus
alphabet	celebrate	difficult	carrot	suggest
amount	children	easily	command	supply
atlas	effective	festival	confess	support
balloon	elephant	medical	dinosaur	voluntary
banana	enemy	pencil	freedom	upon
comma	event	president	harmony	
formal	item	promise	lemon	
human	present		occur	
idea	problem		offend	
magazine	silent		parrot	
pleasant	system		phantom	
thousand	telephone		reason	
zebra	the		ribbon	

y

analysis	Pennsylvania
catalyst	vinyl
syringe	



1. How are you today?
2. See you tonight.
3. See you tomorrow.
4. Don't complain.
5. I suppose so.
6. I suppose it's possible.
7. Consider my complaint.
8. Complete today's lesson.
9. Don't complain about the problem.
0. My cousin will arrive at seven.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WATCH VIDEO
Click the "Play" Button

https://thriveedservices.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Schwa-Words-list-791x1024.jpg

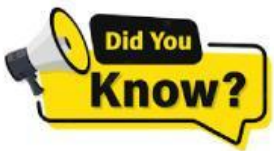
INSTRUCTIONS Practice the pronunciation of the following sentences with the sound the [ə].

Word Bank for -TION	
	• Question • Action • Education • Construction • Action • Attention • Solution • Addiction • Location • Mention • Celebration



Word Bank for -*SION*	Word Bank for -*ious*	Word Bank for -ous
• Profession • Impression • Permission • Depression • Confession • Possession • Discussion • Transmission	• delicious • religious. • conscious. • ambitious. • delicious. • notorious. • malicious. • luxurious. • ingenious.	• Famous • Dangerous • Courageous • Cautious • Jealous • Poisonous • Anxious







LIVEWORKSHEETS

can and *can't*

- *Can* is usually unstressed and has a weak pronunciation when another word follows it in a sentence. The vowel sound is reduced to /ə/.
- *Can* has a strong pronunciation when it is at the end of a sentence. It has the clear vowel sound /æ/.
- *Can't* always has a strong pronunciation. It has the clear vowel sound /æ/.

The difference in vowel sounds can help you hear the difference between *can* and *can't*.





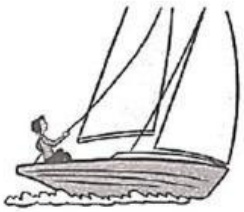
1 Listen and repeat.



She cən ride ə bike.



She cən play thə guətar.



She cən sail ə boat.





She can't drive ə car.



She can't play thə piano.



She can't swim.

2 Listen and repeat.

A Cən she ride ə bike? **B** Yes, she can.

A Cən she drive ə car? **B** No, she can't.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Discussion

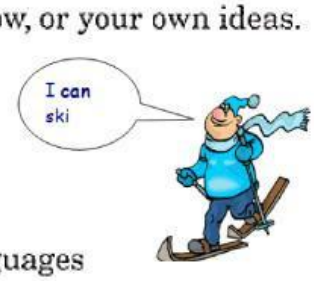
1 Practice in a group of three to five people. List things you can and can't do.

Example: I can ride a bike.
I can't ride a horse.



Use the examples in task C, the ideas below, or your own ideas.

ride a bike	ride a horse
drive a car	drive a truck
play the piano	play the guitar
swim	sail a boat
do a handstand	do karate
bake a cake	speak three languages





2 Tell the class what all of you, some of you, and none of you can do.

Example: **A** All of us can swim.
B Two of us can play the piano.
C One of us can ride a horse.
A None of us can do a handstand.



Listening SECTION

INSTRUCTION Listen to each sentence and choose the word you hear.

1. He **can** **can´t** **play the piano**.
2. I **can** **can´t** stand on my head.
3. She **can** **can´t** **ride a horse.**
4. She **can** **can´t** **speak Japanese, but her children** **can** **can´t**
5. You **can** **can´t** **park your car here**.
6. I **can** **can´t** meet you at three o´clock.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

INSTRUCTIONS Discuss the following questions with a classmate. Make sure you pronounce the sound [ə] **properly**.



CAN DISCUSSION



Student 'A'

- ***Discuss the questions below with your partner.***

1. What languages ***can*** you speak?
2. What ***can't*** you do that most people ***can*** do?
3. What songs ***can*** you sing?
4. Where in your town or city ***can*** you eat great restaurant food?
5. What ***can*** you do to improve your English?
6. Which student(s) in your class ***can*** tell funny jokes?
7. What six animals ***can*** eat you? For example: sharks, bears, … (think of six more)
8. ***Can*** you remember what you dreamed about last night?
9. Why ***can't*** chickens fly?
10. In how many languages ***can*** you say, "Hello"?



CAN DISCUSSION



Student 'B'

- ***Discuss the questions below with your partner.***

1. What ***can*** you do that most people ***can't*** do?
2. What ***can*** you do to make yourself feel happy?
3. What kinds of food ***can*** you cook?
4. At what age ***can*** people drive in your country?
5. What is another thing you ***can*** do to improve your English?
6. What six things ***can*** fly? For example: birds, airplanes, … (think of six more)
7. What six animals ***can't*** eat you? For example: rabbits, … (think of six more)
8. ***Can*** you make a sound like a bird or an animal?
9. What ***can*** you remember about your last English class?
10. In how many languages ***can*** you say, "Thank you"?

LIVEWORKSHEETS