

Schwa Words: Schwa Stress

1 / 4

Say each word out loud. Circle the beat that sounds weaker, then write the letter that spells its quiet “uh”.

WORD	CIRCLE THE WEAK BEAT		LETTER
1. pupil	pu	pil	_____
2. today	to	day	_____
3. until	un	til	_____
4. open	o	pen	_____
5. between	be	tween	_____
6. suppose	sup	pose	_____
7. lemon	lem	on	_____
8. salad	sal	ad	_____
9. away	a	way	_____
10. direct	di	rect	_____



Wonster WORDS

www.wonsterwords.com/download



Schwa Words: Schwa Stress

2 / 4

Say each word out loud. Circle the beat that sounds weaker, then write the letter that spells its quiet "uh".

WORD	CIRCLE THE WEAK BEAT		LETTER
11. zebra	zeb	ra	_____
12. begin	be	gin	_____
13. upon	u	pon	_____
14. wagon	wag	on	_____
15. lesson	les	son	_____
16. instead	in	stead	_____
17. belong	be	long	_____
18. pencil	pen	cil	_____
19. about	a	bout	_____
20. cactus	cac	tus	_____



Schwa Words: Schwa Stress

3 / 4

Say each word out loud. Circle the beat that sounds weaker, then write the letter that spells its quiet “uh”.

WORD	CIRCLE THE WEAK BEAT		LETTER
21. divide	di	vide	_____
22. tonight	to	night	_____
23. minus	mi	nus	_____
24. circus	cir	cus	_____
25. alone	a	lone	_____
26. police	po	lice	_____
27. garden	gar	den	_____
28. seven	sev	en	_____
29. balloon	bal	loon	_____
30. fossil	fos	sil	_____



Wonster

WORDS

www.wonsterwords.com/download



Schwa Words: Schwa Stress Answer Key

4 / 4

For the grown-up. The ringed beat is the weak one, and the letter beside it spells the schwa.

PAGE 1

1. pu **pil** i
2. **to** day o
3. **un** til u
4. o **pen** e
5. **be** tween e
6. **sup** pose u
7. lem **on** o
8. sal **ad** a
9. **a** way a
10. **di** rect i

PAGE 2

11. zeb **ra** a
12. **be** gin e
13. **u** pon u
14. wag **on** o
15. les **son** o
16. **in** stead i
17. **be** long e
18. pen **cil** i
19. **a** bout a
20. cac **tus** u

PAGE 3

21. **di** vide i
22. **to** night o
23. mi **nus** u
24. cir **cus** u
25. **a** lone a
26. **po** lice o
27. gar **den** e
28. sev **en** e
29. **bal** loon a
30. fos **sil** i

How to use this sheet

1. Say the word the way you really say it. Not beat by beat, and not carefully. The weak beat only sounds weak at normal speed.
2. Call it across the room. The beat that stretches is the strong one. The other is the one to circle.
3. Then look at the letter. Ask what letter is written in the weak beat, not what letter it sounds like. That gap is the whole lesson.

The quiet “uh” is called the schwa, and it is the most common vowel sound in English. Any vowel can spell it, which is why these words cannot be spelled by ear and have to be seen. If your child writes *lessun* for *lesson*, they heard it correctly. Show them the word rather than saying it again more slowly.



Wonster WORDS

www.wonsterwords.com/download

