

SYLLABLE TYPES

EXACT TEKS WORDING (FROM TEA)

“demonstrate and apply spelling knowledge by: (i) spelling multisyllabic words with closed syllables; open syllables; VCe syllables; vowel teams, including digraphs and diphthongs; r-controlled syllables; and final stable syllables”

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO ME?

When a syllable is not stressed, the vowel often says a quick uh sound called schwa.

The schwa can be spelled with a, e, i, o, or u.

When I find the unstressed syllable, I can hear the schwa and spell the word.

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

Schwa

from “Serve”

The schwa is the quick uh sound in an unstressed syllable. In about, the a says schwa. In president, the i says schwa. This week we find schwa sounds in words from "Serve."

This deck teaches **the schwa sound** across the five RPLD thinking levels:

NOTICE → CHOOSE → SHOW → OWN → DEFEND.



SYLLABLE TYPES

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

NOTICE

"I can notice a schwa sound."

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Notice the schwa sound.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the bold word and the unstressed syllable and the schwa sound.

"Grandpa explained that **about serving others was the most important lesson of all."**

I CAN

I can notice a schwa sound and name the unstressed syllable and the schwa sound.



TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

"I can choose a schwa sound."

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Choose the schwa sound.

Read the sentence. Which word is a schwa sound? Use the rule.

"President Kennedy wanted **Americans to think about something important: serving others."**

A Americans • **B** important • **C** others

I CAN | I can choose the schwa sound and explain how I know.



SYLLABLE TYPES

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

“I can show how a schwa sound works.”

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Show the schwa sound.

Read the sentence. In the bold word, name the unstressed syllable and the schwa sound.

“**President** Kennedy did not want people only asking what they could receive.”

I CAN | I can show the unstressed syllable and the schwa sound.



SYLLABLE TYPES

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can find the schwa to read an unstressed syllable.”

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Own it. Read the longer word.

Split the word into its parts. Name the unstressed syllable and the schwa sound.

inauguration
in / au / gu / ra / tion

I CAN | I can find the schwa to read an unstressed syllable.



SYLLABLE TYPES

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can prove that a word has a schwa."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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Defend the rule.

Prove the bold word follows the rule. Name the unstressed syllable and the schwa sound.

"Tell me again about President Kennedy, I said, turning on my recorder."

I CAN | I can prove that a word has a schwa.



SYLLABLE TYPES

Find a schwa sound on your own.

Go back to the passage. Find one schwa sound. Copy the sentence and name the unstressed syllable and the schwa sound.

Go back to the reading.

Find one schwa sound.

**Copy the exact sentence. Then name the unstressed syllable
and the schwa sound.**

I CAN | I can find a schwa sound and prove it.



SYLLABLE TYPES

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE about. The first syllable a is unstressed and says the schwa sound, a quick uh. The second syllable bout is stressed.

CHOOSE A. Americans. The second syllable mer is stressed, so the first syllable A says schwa, a quick uh. Important also has a schwa in the last syllable, but Americans has the clearest schwa in its first syllable.

SHOW president. Pres is stressed. The i in the second syllable says schwa, a quick uh. The unstressed vowel is not long or short.

OWN in / au / gu / ra / tion. The gu and ra syllables have schwa sounds because they are unstressed. The au syllable is stressed.

DEFEND recorder. Re has the schwa sound because it is unstressed. Cord is the stressed syllable. Er is r-controlled.

YOUR TURN difference. The e in the last syllable says schwa because it is unstressed.



SYLLABLE TYPES

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

“Tell me again about President Kennedy, I said, turning on my recorder. ... President Kennedy wanted Americans to think about something important.”

In which word does the underlined vowel say the schwa sound?

A said (the ai)

B serve (the e)

C about (the a)

D cold (the o)



SYLLABLE TYPES

The answer is C.

A **said (the ai)**
Said has a short e sound, not a schwa.

B **serve (the e)**
Serve has an r-controlled vowel, not a schwa.

C **about (the a) Correct.**
The first syllable a is unstressed and says the schwa sound, a quick uh.

D **cold (the o)**
Cold has a long o sound, not a schwa.

