

Example Sentences with Schwa Words

Read each sentence with your students and discuss where the schwa sounds are. We've printed some suggested answers on the next page.

This story is all about a gorilla.

Jill had to go to the hospital.

The battle happened a long time ago.

You can either have it today or tomorrow.

The panda sat on the sofa.

The children cried when they lost their kitten.

Sam took a carrot out of the basket.

The boy drew a piglet with his pencil.

It was an ancient kingdom

She pricked her finger on a cactus.

Johnny was excited about his birthday.

Liz had to learn the alphabet.

Mum spoke on the telephone.

Emma wanted to be an astronaut.

Tim loved reading about dinosaurs.

The girl ate a banana in the cafeteria.

Remember that there is some variation in the way we pronounce words in different regions, so some of the highlighted letters in the suggested answers on the next page might not represent a schwa sound in your local accent.



Example Sentences with Schwa Words

Suggested Answers:

This story is all **about a** gorilla.

Jill had to go to **the** hospital. (The letter o in the word 'to' can also be pronounced with a schwa sound when it's spoken quickly in sentences).

The battle happened **a** long time ago.

You can **either** have it **today** or **tomorrow**. ('er' might not be pronounced as a schwa in some accents).

The panda sat on **the** sofa.

The children cried when they lost their kitten.

Sam took **a** carrot out of **the** basket.

The boy drew **a** piglet with his pencil.

It was an **ancient** kingdom. (The letter a in the word 'was' can also be pronounced with a schwa sound when it's spoken quickly in sentences. The letter a in the word 'an' might also be pronounced as a schwa sound).

She pricked her **finger** on **a** cactus. ('er' might not be pronounced as a schwa in some accents).

Johnny was **excited** **about** his birthday. (The letter a in the word 'was' can also be pronounced with a schwa sound when it's spoken quickly in sentences).

Liz had to learn **the** **alphabet**. (The letter o in the word 'to' can also be pronounced with a schwa sound when it's spoken quickly in sentences).

Mum spoke on **the** telephone.

Emma wanted to be an **astronaut**. (The letter o in the word 'to' can also be pronounced with a schwa sound when it's spoken quickly in sentences. The letter a in the word 'an' might also be pronounced as a schwa sound).

Tim loved reading **about** dinosaurs.

The girl ate **a** **banana** in **the** cafeteria.

