

Name _____

Schwa Sound Check Answer Key

Circle all of these words:

- ba**co**n (a = schwa)
- me**lo**dy (o = schwa)
- fa**mi**ly (i = schwa)
- ca**ct**us (u = schwa)
- la**bo**r (o = schwa)
- ca**bi**n (i = schwa)
- ti**ge**r (e = schwa)
- ro**bo**t (first o = schwa)
- le**mo**n (e = schwa)

- dra**go**n (o = schwa)
- ma**jo**r (o = schwa)
- ca**me**ra (e = schwa)
- sa**la**d (a = schwa)
- pi**lo**t (i = schwa)

Words that are not schwa:

- ta**pp**ed (e is regular short e)
- pa**n**ic (vowels pronounced clearly)

Teacher's Guide

- Review the schwa as the vowel sound that often sounds like uh and appears in unstressed syllables.
- Read several words aloud and have students echo them, noticing which vowels sound strong and which sound weaker.
- Support learners by modeling how to tap out syllables to identify which part of the word is unstressed.
- For extension, ask students to sort the schwa words by which vowel letter spells the schwa or to write a short sentence using three schwa words from the list.