

Syllable Juncture Stage Feature 0

Unstressed Syllable Vowel Patterns

Final $\text{ər}, \text{ən}, \text{əl}$

Sort # 1	er noun (person) miser	er noun/verb (concrete) toaster, litter	er adj./adv. (comparison) cheaper	? (oddball) doctor, author
Sort # 2	er noun (person) trooper	er noun (concrete) poster	or noun (person) sculptor	or noun (concrete) parlor simpler
Sort # 3	er noun (person) archer	er adj./adv. (concrete) quicker	or noun (comparison) sponsor	ar adj. (concrete) stellar sugar, beggar
Sort # 4	<i>en</i> adj. golden	<i>en</i> verb sharpen	<i>on</i> noun button	? (oddball) chicken, raisin
Sort # 5	<i>əl</i> adj. legal	<i>əl</i> verb angel	<i>le</i> angle	

Syllable Juncture Stage

Feature 0

Word Study Sort # 4 (4.1-4.3)

Suggested Demonstration:

Unstressed Syllable Vowel Patterns: Final /schwa ən/

<i>en</i> adj.	<i>en</i> verb	<i>on</i> noun	? (oddball)
golden	sharpen	button	chicken, raisin

You may start with an open sort. Having students examine the schwa in a variety of contexts will increase their awareness of how to pronounce syllables that contain a schwa.

4.1 – Easiest list (Recommended for intermediate students)

4.2-- Average list- (Recommended for advanced intermediate students)

4.3-- Challenge list- (Recommended for middle level and up)

Key Points: Here are helpful hints for spelling unstressed syllables:

Final /schwa en/.

The schwa is the vowel sound in many lightly pronounced unaccented syllables in words of more than one syllable. It is sometimes signified by the pronunciation "uh" or symbolized by an upside-down rotated ə. A schwa sound can be represented by any vowel. When examining words of more than one syllable, knowing about accent helps students identify what they know about the spelling of a polysyllabic word. When sorting these words you will find there is no generalization that governs the spelling. The spelling of the schwa in the unaccented syllable can sometimes be explained in terms of meaning.

Link to Assessment:

- Take Home Word List
- Word Hunts using trade books can make this apparent
- Word Study games

sudden	human	basin
apron	captain	raisin
	chicken	
button		sharpen
golden	frighten	garden
kitten	mitten	women
	listen	thicken
sweeten		shorten

Sort O4.1

Dear Family,

Your child is studying the following words as part of a word study program. Please help your child practice the words listed below.

apron
basin
chicken
frighten
garden
listen
mitten
raisin
sharpen
shorten
sudden
thicken
women

often	rotten	swollen
dragon	weapon	
	reason	lemon
sunken	wooden	
listen	widen	
cannon		carton
salmon	wagon	
ribbon		children

Sort O4.2

Dear Family,

Your child is studying the following words as part of a word study program. Please help your child practice the words listed below.

cannon
carton
children
dragon
lemon
listen
often
reason
ribbon
rotten
salmon
sunken
swollen
weapon
widen
wooden

golden		sharpen
button	chicken	raisin
cousin	margin	pardon
salmon	garden	sharpen
frighten	listen	
	women	sunken
penguin	rotten	season
		bacon

Sort O4.3

Dear Family,

Your child is studying the following words as part of a word study program. Please help your child practice the words listed below.

bacon
button
cousin
frighten
golden
pardon
raisin
salmon
season
sharpen
sharpen
sunken