

LESSON NOTE ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE WEEK 3

SUBJECT: English Language
TOPIC: Speech Sounds: Vowels /ʌ/, /ə/
CLASS: JS1
WEEK: 3

DESCRIPTION OF THE /ə/ SOUND

When you say the sound /ə/, the centre of your tongue is raised and your lips are neutrally spread and relaxed. The /ə/ sound is also known as the **schwa** sound and it is used in many unstressed syllables in the English Language.

SPELLING THE /ə/ SOUND

Nearly any vowel spelling may be pronounced as /ə/ which is why a spelling guide has not been provided. Always check the pronunciation of the individual words from the dictionary and practice the words constantly. Examples of words with the /ə/ sound:

Paper
better
teacher
about
obtain
contain
perceive
avoid etc

DESCRIPTION OF THE /ʌ/ SOUND

When you say the /ʌ/ sound, your lips are neutrally open, the centre of your tongue is raised but no contact is made between tongue and the upper teeth. Your jaw is in a relaxed position. The /ʌ/ is a short vowel sound.

SPELLING THE /ʌ/ SOUND

The /ʌ/ sound can be spelt in different ways in English

U	o	ou	oo
Luck	son	country	flood
Cud	come	southern	blood
Bud	among	enough	
Dust	one	young	
Bus	done	couple	

SOUND CONTRAST

HOME WORK

Answer the multiple choice questions in page 111, exercise II of your New Concept English text book.