

# short ɔ /a/ AH\*

initial	medial	
off	across	job
often	along	Los Angeles
on	bor <u>ro</u> w	not
o <u>pp</u> osite	bo <u>u</u> ght	possible
ou <u>gh</u> t	bro <u>u</u> ght	probably
	co <u>s</u> t	problem
	do <u>ct</u> or	stop
	do <u>ll</u> ar	tho <u>u</u> ght
	go <u>n</u> e	tom <u>o</u> rr <u>o</u> w
	go <u>t</u>	wro <u>ng</u>

\*Note: Speakers in many areas of the United States will pronounce some of these words with the open ɔ /ɔ/ AW sound for the letter o.

CD Two, track 25

**Student A:** Could I borrow a few dollars for gas? I got a new job. It starts tomorrow.

**Student B:** Not a problem. You ought to be on time on the first day!

**Student A:** Thanks. It probably costs less to take the bus across town. But I don't want to get on the wrong bus or get off at the wrong stop. Not on my first day.

CD Two, track 26

# long ō /o<sup>w</sup>/ O

initial	medial	final
old	both	ago
only	close*	also
open	clothes	go
over	don't	know/no
owe/oh	goes	low
own	hope	slow
	nowhere	so
	phone	yellow
	those	

\*Note: There are two pronunciations (and meanings) for this word. /klo<sup>w</sup>z/ means "to shut" and /klo<sup>s</sup>/ means "near."

CD Two, track 27

**Wife:** Slow down! Let's park over there, between those yellow posts.

**Husband:** Those spaces are only for handicapped drivers. Both of them. There's nowhere in this lot to park.

**Wife:** Oh no! I hope they don't start eating. We should have been here an hour ago.

**Husband:** I know. Why don't you phone them? I'll go to the lower parking level.

CD Two, track 28

# ou and ow pronounced /æ<sup>w</sup>/ OU

initial	medial		final
our	about	loud	how
out	amount	mountain	now
	around	noun	
	crowd	south	
	down	thousand	
	flower	town	
	hours	vowel	
	house		

CD Two, track 29

**Husband:** It's about time we think about buying a house in the mountains.

**Wife:** Fine with me. This downtown area is dirty, loud, and crowded. How much will it cost to move out of the city?

**Husband:** If we downsize to a small cabin, we can save around ten thousand every year.

**Wife:** Great! How about we move out now?

CD Two, track 30

# schwa o /ə/ UH

initial	medial	
of	above	enough
once*	among	from
one*	another	love
other	brother	money
	color	month
	come	mother
	country	nothing
	cover	some
	does	wonderful
	done	

*\*Note: These words both start with the semivowel /w/. (E.g., **once** is pronounced /wəns/.)*

*CD Two, track 31*

**Student A:** What's more important to you, love or money?

**Student B:** Definitely money, above all.

**Student A:** Really? How come?

**Student B:** Well, love doesn't cover your rent every month. But if you're rich, life is wonderful. Plus, if you have enough money, everyone loves you!

*CD Two, track 32*

# open ô /ɔ/ OR

initial	medial	
or	before	poor
order	door	report
	for	short
	important	sport
	more	store
	morning	story

CD Two, track 33

**Wife:** Could you go to the store for a few things?  
I need milk and eggs before I can start making  
breakfast.

**Husband:** Sure. In just a minute. I'm reading an  
important report in the morning paper. It says  
that poor people in our city pay more for their  
food than rich people.

**Wife:** Why is that?

**Husband:** Fewer stores want to open in poor  
neighborhoods. This story says that in order to  
keep prices lower, you need competition. Stores  
can charge higher prices in poor areas.

CD Two, track 34

## Three pronunciations for oo

long $\bar{o}$ /u <sup>w</sup> / OO	short $\bar{o}$ /ʊ/ U	schwa oo /ə/ UH
choose	book	blood
cool	cook	flood
moon	good	
noon	look	
room	stood	
school	wood	
soon		
too		
zoo		

CD Two, track 35

**Daughter:** Cool! Look at the full moon!

**Mother:** That brings back a flood of memories. Your father and I stood right here and looked at that same moon. We were in high school, like you.

**Daughter:** You have a good memory. That was a long time ago!

**Mother:** Yes, but time flies. And I became old too soon!

CD Two, track 36