

short ũ /ə/ UH

initial	medial	
under	but	result
understand	cut	run
unless	difficult	shut
until	discuss	study
up	just	succeed
upon	much	such
us	must	suddenly
		suffer

CD Three, track 25

Doctor: Unless you cut down on salt and fat your health will suffer.

Patient: But it's so difficult! I already run every day for my health.

Doctor: I understand. But good health is the result of both exercise and diet. You must cut down.

CD Three, track 26

medium u /u/ OO

medial	final
include	blue
influence	true
introduce	you
produce*	
reduce	
rule	
suit	
sure**	

***Note:** There are two pronunciations (and meanings) for this word. Stress on the first syllable is a noun (PRO·duce); stress on the last syllable is a verb (pro·DUCE).

****Note:** *sure* uses a medium *u* in more careful pronunciation. In relaxed conversation, it may be pronounced /ʃr/.

And note that the spellings *o* and *ou* in *do* and *you* may also be pronounced with the medium *u* sound.

CD Three, track 27

Student A: Do you have any influence with your boss?
I'm looking for work.

Student B: I'm not sure about influence, but I can
introduce you.

Student A: Thanks! Any advice about how I might
produce the best impression?

Student B: In fact, I do. As a rule, I think it's best to
wear a blue or gray suit.

CD Three, track 28

long u /yu/ YOO

initial	medial	final
U.S. united university use* used usually	communicate computer contribute f <u>u</u> ture music popular refuse**	argue continue value

***Note:** *use* is pronounced /yuz/ when it's a verb and /yus/ when it's a noun.

****Note:** There are two pronunciations (and meanings) for this word. Stress on the last syllable is a verb (ref·USE); stress on the first syllable is a noun (REF·use).

CD Three, track 29

Mother: Which university do you think you'll go to in the future?

Son: For me, a university education has no value. I want to learn rock music.

Mother: I refuse to argue with you. But please continue school until you finish 12th grade!

CD Three, track 30

special u pronunciations

silent u	u pronounced as /ʊ/ U	ou pronounced as /ʊ/ U
because	full	could
brought	pull	should
building	push	would
buy	put	
cause	sugar	
country		
daughter		
enough		
guard		

CD Three, track 31

Student 1: I notice you don't put sugar in your coffee anymore.

Student 2: Yeah. That's because my daughter tells me I should lose weight.

Student 1: Hmm. I could lose a few pounds, too. My problem is I don't buy enough fruits and vegetables.

Student 2: Me neither. All the sugars and fats we eat in this country cause a big obesity problem.

CD Three, track 32