



An Animated and Narrated Glossary of
Terms used in Linguistics
presents

Schwa



schwa

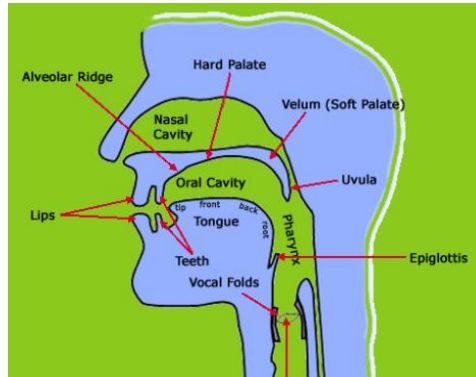
[ə]

This is the symbol called the “**schwa**”,
pronounced “sh..wa” as one syllable.

It is often used as a phonetic symbol.

The schwa sound

As a phonetic symbol, [ə] is a vowel articulated with the tongue body in a **neutral position**.



The tongue body is **neither retracted, nor fronted, nor raised, nor lowered**.

Slide 3 

The End

Wee, Lian-Hee and Winnie H.Y. Cheung (2009)
An animated and narrated glossary of terms used in Linguistics.
Hong Kong Baptist University.

