

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Phonics: Schwa Sound (Within Word)

**Directions:** The **schwa sound** is an indistinct vowel sound heard in unstressed syllables. For example, the **a** in **ago**, the **o** in **complete**, and the **e** in **agent** are all schwa sounds. Read each sentence. Say each underlined word aloud. Write each underlined word on the line and circle the syllable that has the **schwa sound**.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In most cultures, people compete in races.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. For today's race, there are more runners than usual.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Before the race, runners stretch and exercise their legs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. They know that it isn't wise to run on a full stomach.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Many runners feel nervous before a big race.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. One athlete wiped her face with her lucky handkerchief.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. She was hoping for a big victory.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. But, in order to win, she must overcome her fears.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. She knows she has a difficult race ahead of her.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Many people identify with the runner's fears.

**Directions:** Each word below has two **schwa sounds**. Circle the **schwa sounds** in each word.

- |                    |               |               |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 11. different      | 16. emigrant  | 21. orchestra |
| 12. tolerance      | 17. gelatin   | 22. passable  |
| 13. confident      | 18. imitation | 23. president |
| 14. together       | 19. literally | 24. consider  |
| 15. responsibility | 20. nitrogen  | 25. singular  |



**Notes for Home:** Your child identified the schwa sound. **Home Activity:** Read an article with your child. Ask your child to write down words that might have the schwa sound. Check the words in a dictionary. The symbol for the schwa sound looks like an upside-down e.