

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 147 • THE SOUND OF O AS IN DOVE (ô = ǔ = /ʌ/) DÔVE • LÔVE • CÔME = /ʌ/

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Page 77

Historical Orthoepic Clinic • Norman French Scribal Minim Rule

In Wheeler's orthoepic system, the letter **o** marked with a single dot above (**ô**) represents the short /ʌ/ sound (ô = ǔ as in *dove, love, come, some*).

CONCEPT

Historical Scribal Minim Law: Medieval Norman scribes replaced the letter *u* with *o* when written next to *m, n, v, w* (letters made of vertical strokes called 'minims') to prevent visual confusion and make handwriting legible.

1

16 Core ô = ǔ Words • 26px Standard Handwriting Track

Copy the 16 words neatly. Place a dot above each o (ô) to show it sounds like short u:

dôve lôve glôve shôve côme sôme

dône nône sôn tòn wòn ône frônt

2

Phonic Contrast • Short O (/ɒ/) vs. Dot O (ô = /ʌ/)

Observe how ô differs completely in sound from standard short o:

Standard Short O (/ɒ/): dôg, lôt, fôx, pôt, hôt, clôck

Dot O (ô = /ʌ/): dôve, lôve, côme, sôn, wòn, mônk, mônth

3

Contextual Sentences • Application

Fill each blank with the correct ô word:

1. A gentle white _____ flew softly over the garden wall.

2. We shall _____ home before the cold _____ of November ends.

WHEELER'S ORTHOEPIC RULES • THE DOT O (ô = ǔ)

1. 1. The Dot Above Diacritic (ô): The diacritical mark of a single dot above o (ô) indicates the short /ʌ/ sound of u in *sun*. In modern dictionaries, this is written /ʌ/.

2. 2. Norman Scribal Minim Rule: Scribes replaced u with o near *m, n, v* because in medieval Gothic script, *u, m, n* were strings of identical vertical lines ('minims'), causing misreading.

3. 3. Silent Final E in Dove and Love: English words never terminate with the letter *v*. A silent *e* is always appended (*dove, love, glove, shove*), even though the vowel sound is short.

LESSON 147 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

ORTHOEPEY • SCRIBAL MINIM RULE • ETYMOLOGY

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WORD	IPA	SCRIBAL MINIM CONTEXT	TEACHING PRESCRIPTION
dove	/dʌv/	Adjacent to v	Old English <i>dūfe</i> . Silent e prevents terminal v. Dot over o.
love	/lʌv/	Adjacent to v	Old English <i>lufu</i> . Norman scribes replaced u with o before v.
come	/kʌm/	Adjacent to m	Old English <i>cuman</i> . Replaced u with o before minims of m.
some	/sʌm/	Adjacent to m	Old English <i>sum</i> . Identical scribal replacement rule.
son	/sʌn/	Adjacent to n	Old English <i>sunu</i> . Replaced u with o before n. Homophone with <i>sun</i> .
month	/mʌnθ/	Adjacent to m & n	Old English <i>mōnab</i> . Preceded and followed by nasal minims.

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 1 16 Core Words:
dove, love, glove, shove, come, some, done, none, son, ton, won, one, front, monk, month, monkey.
All 16 feature the short /ʌ/ sound written with o.

Exercise 3 Solutions:
1. **dove** (gentle bird).
2. **come / month** (action / calendar unit).
Historical Insight: Explain to children that words like *love* and *come* were spelled *lve* and *cume* before scribes changed them to make them easier to read!

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Listen: 'cup' and 'dove'. Do they have the same vowel sound? What letter is used in 'dove'?
- Why do words like 'dove', 'love', and 'glove' have an 'e' at the end if the vowel isn't long?
- Can you think of a word that sounds exactly like 'son' but is spelled with a 'u'?

DICTATION & ORAL APPLICATION SENTENCES (READ SLOWLY AT NORMAL SPEAKING PACE):

- A gentle white dove flew softly into the green garden.
- Love one another with kind hearts and loving words.
- Mother bought a warm pair of gloves for the winter month.
- The wise monk welcomed his son with open arms.