

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 77 • BROAD A AS IN "ALL" **BROAD A**

Wheeler's Elementary Speller — Page 43

“Give the sound which *a* has in these words: *all, tall, walk, salt*. This open, deep vowel is called the **broad sound**, and is marked in spelling with a dot below: **ă** (/ɔ:/).”

CONCEPT

1 Phonogram Family Classification — Study the 16 words with broad *ă* and trace each under its pattern:

FAMILY -ALL

all, ball, call, fall, tall, wall, stall, small

FAMILY -ALK

talk, walk, stalk, chalk (silent l)

FAMILY -ALT

salt, halt

INFLUENCED BY W

want, warm

2 Silent Letter Detective — Cross out the silent *l* in each word and write its phonetic pronunciation:

walk

talk

chalk

stalk

3 Sentence Composition — Compose original sentences using words with broad *ă*:

Sentence 1 (Use *walk* and *chalk*):

Sentence 2 (Use *warm* and *small*):

BROAD A (Ă) ORTHOGRAPHY RULES:

1. The Diacritic Mark for Broad A: In American lexicography (Webster & Wheeler), the broad sound of *a* is marked with one dot beneath: **ă**.

2. Silent L before K: When *l* precedes *k* after broad *a* (*walk, talk, chalk, stalk*), the *l* is completely silent (/wɔ:k/, /tɔ:k/).

3. Influence of Initial W: The labial consonant *w* rounds the lips and changes short *a* into broad *ă* in words like *want* and *warm*.

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Lesson 77 • Broad A Sound as in "All" (ă = /ɔ:/)

Page 1 of 2 (Student Worksheet)

LESSON 77 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

BROAD A ORTHOEPIY

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WORD PATTERN	TARGET WORDS	PHONETIC TRANSCRIPTION	PEDAGOGICAL & ORTHOGRAPHIC NOTES
-all family	all, ball, call, fall, tall, wall	/ɔ:l/	Double ll — a followed by double l always takes broad sound /ɔ:/.
-alk family	talk, walk, stalk, chalk	/ɔ:k/	Silent l — historical dark l vocalized, lengthening vowel to /ɔ:/.
-alt family	salt, halt	/sɔ:lt/, /hɔ:lt/	Voiced l — in -alt, the letter l is distinctly sounded.
w- influence	want, warm	/wɒnt/, /wɔ:rm/	W-rounding — initial w broadens vowel a.

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

EX. 1 & 2 SOLUTIONS

- Silent l Detection:** In *walk, talk, chalk, stalk*, cancel letter **l**.
- Phonetic forms:** /wɔ:k/, /tɔ:k/, /tʃɔ:k/, /stɔ:k/.

EX. 3 EXEMPLARY SENTENCES

- Sentence 1: "We took a quiet **walk** and wrote our spelling words with white **chalk**."
- Sentence 2: "The **small** robin found a **warm** nest safe beneath the cottage roof."

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Silent l in Walk:** Ask: 'Do we say wahl-k with an l sound? No, we say wawk! Why is the l there?' (It shows history and broadens the al).
- Salt vs Walk:** Have students contrast *salt* (where l is heard) with *talk* (where l is silent).
- Broad A Diacritic:** Show students how to draw the dot cleanly under the letter: **ȧ**.

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

- "The children played with a red **ball** beside the garden **wall**."
- "Do not **talk** while the teacher is writing with the **chalk**."
- "Put a little pinch of **salt** into the boiling soup."
- "The spring sun was very **warm**, and **all** the ice began to melt."