

Drei Schwa-Laute im Deutschen

(Bemerkungen)

- [ə] *e* im Wortauslaut; *e* in Vorsilben *ge-* und *be-*;
e+Konsonant im Wortauslaut, wenn der letzte Konsonant nicht syllabisch ist
(*e* at the end of a word; *e* in the prefixes *be-* and *ge-*)
(*e*+consonant in word final position when the final consonant is not syllabic)

[ə] is a mid central vowel.

It is only slightly lower and somewhat further back than the [ɛ] in English *bed* and *set*.

In some dialects the German [ə] is so high that it approaches [ɪ].

English speakers often erroneously produce the German [ə] too low or too far back as in [ɑ] or [ɔ].

Beispiele: *bitte*, *Socke*, *Bote*, *Gebet*, *Befehl*, *gefallen*, *bekommen*, *verbreitet*, *gutem*, *schauen*, *rettet*

- [ʌ] *er* im Wortauslaut; *ern* & *ert* im Wortauslaut
(*er* at the end of a word; *ern* & *ert* at the end of a word)

[ʌ] is a mid-low central-back vowel.

This vowel is lower and farther back than the English vowel [ə] in *cup* and *fun*.

German [ʌ] is also slightly closed.

The vowel [ʌ] only occurs when an *e* combines with *r* at the end of a word.

In other words, the combination *er* at the end of a word becomes a single vowel.

Sometimes the consonants *n* & *t* follow the *er* combination, especially in verbs.

Beispiele: *Wetter*, *Lager*, *Mutter*, *wandern*, *gestern*, *donnert*, *scheitert*

- [ɐ] *Vokal+r* in allen Umgebungen außer [ʌ] (s. oben)
r in Vorsilben *er*, *her*, *ver*, *zer* und Nachsilbe *her*
[ɐ] bildet einen Diphthong mit dem vorangehenden Vokal.
(*vowel+r* in all environments apart from [ʌ] above)
(*r* in prefixes *er*, *ver*, *zer*, *her* and suffix *her*)
([ɐ] forms a diphthong with the preceding vowel.)

[ɐ] is a low back vowel, lower and farther back than English [ɔ] in *cause*, *sought* and *fall*.

[ɐ] is also somewhat closed and slightly rounded.

Beispiele: *wir*, *Uhr*, *Tür*, *sehr*, *Ohr*, *Herr*, *Frisör*, *Paar*, *Teer*

in Vor- und Nachsilben: *erhaben*, *Verstand*, *Verzeihung*, *zerfallen*, *her*, *woher*