

## Schwa shopping game

Level: B1+

Age: 12+

Time needed: min. 20 minutes

Materials needed: “Schwa shopping game” slideshow, “Schwa shopping game” cards

Classroom organisation: mingle

Notes to the teacher:

- Before conducting this game, we recommend teaching the “Stress in English and in Hungarian” and the “Introducing the schwa” activities.
- Make sure that the students know how to pronounce the schwa and that they can recognise both the symbol of the schwa and its pronounced form.

Procedure:

1. Pre-teach the vocabulary items that appear in the game if necessary.
2. Tell the students that you are going to play a shopping game, and their goal is to buy everything on their list.
3. Explain the rules:
  - a. There are six shop assistants (the number of shop assistants does not depend on the size of the group). Each shop assistant sells three items.
  - b. Each shop assistant receives a list of the three items that they sell and a picture of each product (the former has schwa symbols written above the vowel letters denoting a schwa).
  - c. Each customer receives a list containing the items they need to purchase. Their task is to approach the shop assistants in turn and try to buy the items on their shopping list. Use the slideshow to prepare the students for the dialogues they will hold.
  - d. The shop assistants monitor the customers’ pronunciation. If they have the item the customer is looking for, they can only sell it (i.e., give the customer the picture of the product) if the customer pronounces the target word correctly (i.e., with a schwa) – otherwise, they should tell the customer to come back later. To aid them in their judgement, the shop assistants can use their cards to check where schwas needs to be pronounced in the target words.
  - e. The first customer to buy all the items on their shopping list wins.
  - f. The customers can ask a shop assistant only one question at a time, however, they may return after visiting another shop assistant.

4. Assign the role of the shop assistants (6 students) and the customers, and hand out the appropriate cards.
5. Monitor the group and assist the students if needed.