

MODULE 4.1
The different
ways to
pronounce the
letter “E” in
French



► MODULE 4.1.

E = [ə]

NOTE:

“Minimal sound” (schwa)

“er.” / “uh.”



NOTE:

Refer to **Module 3.1** for letter combinations creating a new sound and involving the letter “E” (eg. “ein”, “en”, final “-er”, final “-ed”, etc.)

► MODULE 4.1.

1. When there's no accent on the "E"

- "e" = [ə] (schwa)

EXAMPLES: je, me, le

- "e" = **mute** (in most regions of France)

- in final position

EXAMPLES: Louvre, France, Anne



- when unnecessary (word can be pronounced easily)

EXAMPLES: nous appelons, je regarderai, le peloton

► MODULE 4.1.

1. When there's no accent on the "E"

"e" = [ɛ]

➤ Before 2 consonants

EXAMPLES: elle s'appelle Jessica, merci, Versailles

➤ Before the letter "x"

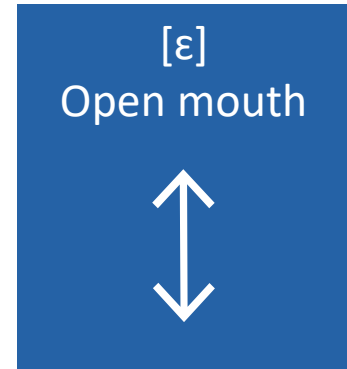
NOTE: "x" is to 2 consonants sounds ("x" = [ks], [gz])

EXAMPLES: circonflexe, exemple

➤ in a short word ended with a sounded consonant

EXAMPLES: mer, bec, set

→ **This is to keep a strong sound.**



► MODULE 4.1.

2. With an *accent aigu* (é)

é = [e]

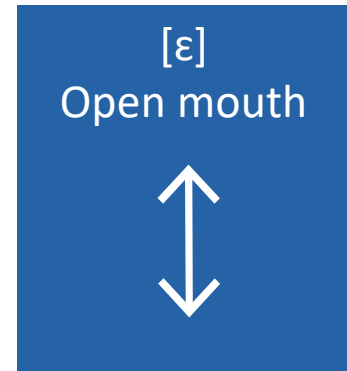
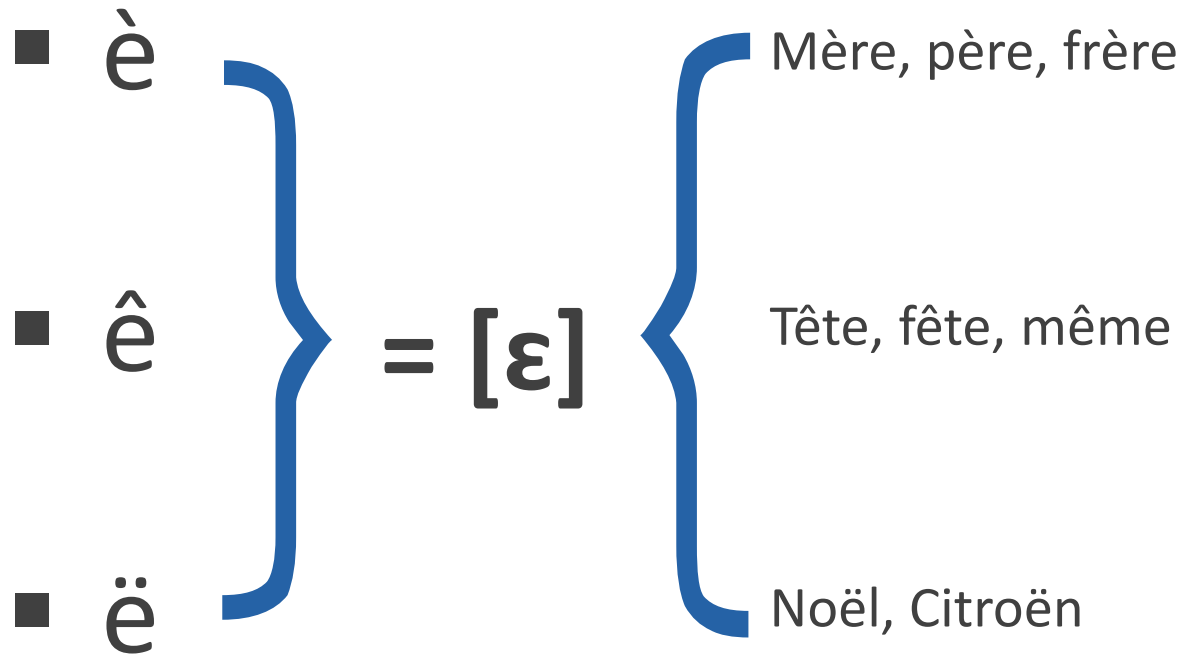
EXAMPLES:

- télévision, téléphone



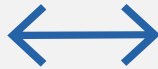
3. Other accents (è, ê, ë)

EXAMPLES:



Summary

SOUND	SPELLINGS
[ə] (or mute)	e → <i>Just there to make the word pronounceable</i>
[e]	é
[ɛ]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• e (+ 2 consonants)• e (+ "x")• short word ended with a sounded consonant• è• ê• ë





END OF MODULE 4.1