

Lesson Twenty-two

As

Strong form: æz; weak form: əz

The strong form / æz / is used in contrastive or coordinative constructions (e.g. ‘**as** and when it’s ready’), and in sentence-final position (e.g. ‘That’s what I bought it **as**’). Quite frequently the strong form is found when the word occurs in initial position in a sentence if the following word is not stressed (e.g. ‘**As** I was saying...’ / ,æz aɪ wəz ‘seɪɪŋ /). The weak form is / əz / (e.g. ‘**As** much **as** possible’ / əz ‘mʌtʃ əz ‘pɒsɪbl /; ‘**as** good **as** gold’ / əz ,gʊd əz gəʊld /).