Lesson Twenty-three Some

Strong form: sAm; weak forms: səm, sm

There are two grammatical functions for this word, one being the determiner, as in 'some apples, some bananas,' etc. where a weak form is used, the other being a quantifier, as in 'some were tired and some were hungry', where the strong form is usual. In final position, the strong form is used, (e.g. 'I want some' 'I've got some'). This word is also used before uncountable nouns (meaning 'an unspecified amount of') and before other nouns in the plural (meaning 'an unspecified number of). In such uses, it has the weak form /səm / (e.g. 'Have some more tea' / 'hæv səm 'mɔ: 'ti: /.) When it occurs before a countable noun, meaning 'an unknown individual', it has the strong form (e.g. 'I think some animal broke it' / aɪ 'θıŋk sʌm ə'nıml 'brəʊk It /).