Lesson Thirty-seven
Was

Strong form: wɒz; weak forms: wəz, wz

The strong form is used in contrastive contexts (e.g. 'I don't know whether it **was** or it **wasn't**'), and for emphasis (e.g. 'I **was** right!'). The strong form is also used in final position (e.g. 'that's where it **was**'). The weak forms are used elsewhere, (e.g. 'He **was** here a minute ago' / hi wəz ˈhɪər ə ˈmɪnɪt əˈɡəʊ /), the form / wz / is found only in rapid, casual speech.