

Lesson Eight

Her

Strong form: hɜ: ^r; Weak forms: hə^r, ə^r

The strong form / hɜ: ^r/ is used for emphasis, (e.g. 'It was **her** fault') or contrast, (e.g. 'his or **her** bank'). There is weak form / hə^r / which is used at the beginning of sentences, (e.g. '**Her** train was late' / hə 'treɪn wəz ˌleɪt/. / ə / before consonants (e.g. 'Take **her** home' / 'teɪk ə 'həʊm /) / ə^r / before vowels (e.g. 'Take **her** out' / 'teɪk ə r 'aʊt / and elsewhere in slow, careful speech, (e.g. 'I admired **her** skill' / aɪ ədˌmaɪəd hə 'skɪl/). In rapid speech the weak form is likely to be / ə / (e.g. 'Let **her** through', / ˌlet ə 'θru: /).