Short O /a/

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work. —Thomas Edison

To make this sound: Open your mouth and keep your tongue on the bottom of your mouth. This is the sound you make when a doctor asks you to open your mouth and say “ah.”

Words:

1. blonde
2. block
3. box
4. Chicago
5. column
6. common
7. compound
8. doctor
9. drop
10. father
11. follow
12. God
13. got
14. hot
15. job
16. knock
17. modern
18. molecule
19. object
20. octopus
21. products
22. rock
23. top
24. volume
25. want

Practice Sentences:

1. The blonde doctor wrote a weekly column for the newspaper.
2. Drop your donations in the box by the door.
3. It is common to live inside a compound in some countries.
4. The baby knocked over the blocks on the floor.
5. Those who follow Christianity call God their father.
6. He got hot working in his outdoor job in the summer.
7. Modern scientists experiment with molecules.
8. The **octopus** picked up the shiny **object**.

9. Our new **products** were at the **top** in sales **volume** this month.

10. I want to sit and **rock** in my **rocking** chair all day.

11. We had a **conference** in **Chicago** last week.

Tongue Twisters:

1. It’s not the cough that carries you off,  
   it’s the coffin they carry you off in!

2. A proper cup of **coffee** from a proper copper coffee pot.

3. Bob’s pop-up blocker blocks Bob’s pop-ups.

4. To sit in solemn silence in a dull, dark dock,  
   In a pestilential prison, with a life-long lock,  
   Awaiting the sensation of a short, sharp shock,  
   From a cheap and chippy chopper on a big black block!  
   A dull, dark dock, a life-long lock,  
   A short, sharp shock, a big black block!  
   —W.S. Gilbert of Gilbert and Sullivan from *The Mikado*

5. If you stick a stock of liquor in your locker  
   it is slick to stick a lock upon your stock  
   or some joker who is slicker  
   is going to trick you of your liquor  
   if you fail to lock your liquor with a lock.

6. Give me the gift of a grip-top sock,  
   A clip drape shipshape tip top sock.  
   Not your spinslick slapstick slipshod stock,  
   But a plastic, elastic grip-top sock.  
   None of your fantastic slack swap slop  
   From a slap dash flash cash haberdash shop.  
   Not a knick knack knitlock knockneed knickerbocker sock  
   With a mock-shot blob-mottled trick-ticker top clock.  
   Not a supersheet seersucker rucksack sock,
Not a spot-speckled frog-freckled cheap sheik’s sock
Off a hodge-podge moss-blotched scotch-botched block.
Nothing slipshod drip drop flip flop or glip glop
Tip me to a tip top grip top sock.

7. Mr Knott and Mr Watt on the Phone

Hello?
Who’s calling?
Watt.
What’s your name?
Watt’s my name.
Yes, what is your name?
My name is John Watt.
John what?
Yes.

... I’ll call on you this afternoon.

All right, are you Jones?
No, I’m Knott.
Will you tell me your name, then?
Will Knott.
Why not?
My name is Knott.
Not what?
Not Watt. Knott.
What?