#### **Common Filler Words**

A filler word is a word or phrase that doesn't add much meaning to a sentence but is often used in speech to fill pauses, give the speaker time to think, or make the conversation sound more natural.

#### 1. Uh / Um

- Definition: Sounds people make when pausing to think or collect their thoughts.
- o **Example:** "Uh, I think we should leave now."

### 2. Ah / Oh

- o **Definition**: Used to express realization or to fill a pause in speech.
- Example: "Ah, that's where I left my keys."

### 3. **Like**

- Definition: Frequently used to introduce examples, comparisons, or as a hesitation marker.
- o **Example**: "It was, like, the best day ever."

### 4. You Know

- **Definition**: Used to seek affirmation or to fill a pause while explaining something.
- Example: "She's so creative, you know?"

#### 5. Well

- Definition: A word that buys time while thinking or introducing a statement.
- o **Example:** "Well, I guess we could try that."

### 6. **So**

- o **Definition**: Used to connect ideas or fill pauses, often as a transition word.
- Example: "So, what are we doing next?"

# 7. I Mean

- Definition: Used to clarify or emphasize a point.
- Example: "I mean, it's not like I didn't warn you."

### 8. Actually

- Definition: Often used to correct, clarify, or add emphasis.
- Example: "Actually, I think it's a great idea."

# 9. Basically

o **Definition**: Used to summarize or simplify a statement.

o **Example:** "Basically, we just need to follow the instructions."

# 10. Literally

- o **Definition**: Often used for emphasis, though sometimes incorrectly used figuratively.
- o **Example**: "I was literally about to call you."

#### 11. Sort of / Kind of

- o **Definition**: Used to soften a statement or convey approximation.
- o **Example**: "I'm kind of nervous about the interview."

### 12. Alright

- o **Definition**: A transitional word to fill pauses or conclude a thought.
- o **Example**: "Alright, let's get started."

# 13. **Yeah / Yep**

- o **Definition**: Informal affirmations often used to maintain the flow of conversation.
- o **Example:** "Yeah, I agree with that."

# 14. Totally

- Definition: Used for agreement or emphasis.
- Example: "That's totally what I was thinking!"

### 15. **Just**

- o **Definition**: Used to minimize or soften the impact of a statement.
- Example: "I just wanted to say thanks."

# 16. Okay / OK

- o **Definition**: Used to transition, acknowledge, or fill pauses.
- o Example: "Okay, what's next?"

#### 17. Like I said

- o **Definition**: A phrase that buys time or reiterates a point.
- o **Example:** "Like I said, we'll need more supplies."

### 18. **Anyway**

- Definition: A conversational pivot or filler when changing the subject.
- o **Example**: "Anyway, let's get back to the topic."

# 19. **Right**

o **Definition**: Used to seek agreement or to fill a pause.

Example: "It was a great movie, right?"

# 20. Or Something

- o **Definition**: Used to suggest a possible alternative or to sound less assertive.
- o **Example:** "We could go to the park or something."

#### 21. Stuff

- o **Definition**: A vague term used when specifics are unclear or unnecessary.
- o **Example:** "I've got to do some stuff before dinner."

### 22. Things Like That

- Definition: Used to generalize or imply other similar examples.
- Example: "She loves art, painting, and things like that."

### 23. Whatever

- o **Definition**: A dismissive filler word or a way to imply indifference.
- o **Example**: "You can choose the movie, whatever."

# 24. **Okay So**

- o **Definition**: Used to start or transition a new idea, often for clarification.
- o **Example:** "Okay so, here's what we're going to do."

# 25. **Let's Say**

- o **Definition**: Used to introduce a hypothetical example or scenario.
- Example: "Let's say we arrive early—then what?"

# 26. To Be Honest (TBH)

- o **Definition**: Used to preface honesty or an opinion, often unnecessary.
- o **Example**: "To be honest, I didn't enjoy the meal."

### 27. At the End of the Day

- o **Definition**: Used to summarize or emphasize a final point.
- o **Example**: "At the end of the day, it's all about teamwork."

#### 28. Like I Mean

- Definition: Combines hesitation and clarification phrases.
- Example: "Like I mean, it's not that complicated."

# 29. By the Way (BTW)

o **Definition**: Used to introduce a tangential or additional point.

o **Example:** "By the way, have you seen my notebook?"

# 30. Know What I Mean?

- o **Definition**: A question to confirm understanding or agreement.
- o **Example**: "It was a tough call, know what I mean?"