Understanding Spoken Grammar: Handouts and Worksheets

Handout: Key Features of Spoken Grammar

1. **Ellipsis:** Omitting words that are understood in context to make speech more natural.
   - Example: 'Going to the store?' instead of 'Are you going to the store?'
2. **Fillers:** Words or sounds used to give the speaker time to think or soften the message.
   - Example: 'um,' 'you know,' 'like.'
3. **Why Use These Features?**
   - To sound more natural and fluent in casual conversations.
   - To connect with others by sounding less formal.

Worksheet: Spoken Grammar Identification

Instructions: Listen to the audio clip provided. Follow the transcript and complete the tasks below:

1. Highlight at least three examples of ellipsis in the transcript.
2. Underline all fillers (e.g., 'um,' 'you know') used by the speakers.
3. For each highlighted example, explain why it was used in the conversation.

Worksheet: Dialogue Completion

Instructions: Complete the dialogues below by adding appropriate fillers and ellipsis to make them sound natural. Then, practice reading the dialogues aloud with a partner.

1. A: '_____ you want to grab lunch?'
   B: 'Sure, _____ I was thinking about pizza.'

2. A: 'I heard you got a new job! _____?'
   B: 'Yeah, _____ it's in marketing.'

Worksheet: Reflection

Instructions: Reflect on your learning and complete the tasks below:

1. Write one strategy you can use to practice spoken grammar outside class.
2. List three examples of fillers or ellipsis you observed in real-life communication.
3. Write a short dialogue using fillers and ellipsis naturally.