

A29 Dandu / Kenya / Mathematics

Interaction partner(s): German student
Moment of enquiry: SS 09
Experience of difference: Social conduct among students

Dandu, a student from Kenya, studies mathematics at a German university. Since he does not have the notes from the last lecture, he is happy to see the notes on the student's desk next to him. He asks his fellow student to borrow his binder so he can make a copy of the notes. The German student gives him a quizzical look and asks: "Do we know each other?" When the Kenyan student denies this, the German student shrugs his shoulders and says: "Then, I'm sorry." Dandu is dumbfounded. A while ago, something similar happened to him. He cannot understand why the German student would not let him use his documents; he misses his home country, where students help each other even if they don't know each other.

1. How does Dandu interpret the German student's behaviour?
2. What could be the reason for the German student's behaviour?