

**C16** Alejandro / Spain / Political Sciences

Interaction partner(s): German student  
Moment of enquiry: WS 05/06  
Experience of difference: Discussion styles in project groups

Alejandro plans to get together with his German fellow student Florian to prepare for a joint presentation. He suggests that they work at his home, and the German student agrees. They agree to meet at 2 p.m. the next day, and so Florian shows up on Alejandro's doorstep at 2 p.m. the next day. However, Alejandro is still busy doing other things and is surprised at Florian's punctuality, but when Florian urges him to finally start on the joint project, he puts everything else aside. Work on the presentation proceeds well. To lighten things up a little, Alejandro tries to talk about private matters here and there, but Florian stops him and insists on keeping discussions strictly about the project. After their work is done, Florian immediately says good-bye and leaves. Alejandro is disappointed; he had very different expectations of group work.

1. Why is Alejandro disappointed by the way group work with the German student turned out? How did he probably envision the meeting?
2. How might the German student's behaviour be explained?