

C20 Alberta / Italy / Law

Interaction partner(s): German student
Moment of enquiry: WS 01/02
Experience of difference: Time planning when working in groups or with a partner

Alberta, a law student from Italy, is working together with a German student in a so-called “language tandem” programme. She is teaching the German student Italian, while the German student teaches her German. Alberta arrives about 30 minutes later than agreed to the first meeting. The German student asks what the matter was and whether anything had happened. It appears that she had seriously worried about Alberta. The Italian student is stunned!

1. How does the German student’s apparent worry come across to Alberta?
2. How might the German student’s behaviour be explained?