

D09 Janina / Germany / Romance Studies

Interaction partner(s): South Korean student
Moment of enquiry: SS 07
Experience of difference: Exchange of contact data

A friend invites Janina, a German student, to come to a student party in her dorm. At the party, Janina gets into a conversation with a South Korean student, who has only been in Germany for a short time. His German is not that good, but they get into an in-depth conversation and understand each other well. Over the course of the night, they decide to stay in touch and exchange business cards. First, the South Korean pulls his card out of a silver case and hands it to Janina. Then Janina starts looking for her cards, which she had printed a while ago for situations like this. She digs them out of her wallet, which she keeps in her back pocket. The card is a little bent, but still legible, as Janina remarks laughing when she hands out the card. The South Korean student, who had been friendly and open-minded, is suddenly very reserved and grows silent. This irritates Janina, she feels that something is wrong, but doesn't know what.

1. Why is it hard for the German student to understand the South Korean's mood change?
2. What irritates the South Korean student so much? Which of his behaviour expectations might have been violated?