

D28 Javier / Spain / Course of studies unknown

Interaction partner(s): German students
Moment of enquiry: SS 08
Experience of difference: Invitations to a restaurant or café

A group of German friends has decided to get together in a pub at the weekend. While the friends are ordering their drinks, Stefan realises that he has forgotten to invite Javier, a Spanish fellow student. After the German friends have ordered a round of beer, Stefan grabs his cell phone and calls Javier. Javier happens to be near the pub, and he is delighted that Stefan thought of him. He immediately goes to join them. When he gets to the pub, he is greeted by everyone; he then chooses the seat next to Stefan. When the waiter arrives, he orders a beer like everyone else. They keep talking for a while and then decide to leave the pub in order to go to the cinema. When the waiter arrives with the bill, Javier is puzzled: All the German students pull out their wallets, and everyone pays for their own drink. Then it is his turn. He pays but is outraged, for he took Stefan's call as an invitation and finds it peculiar that Stefan does not pay for him or that one of the students doesn't pay for everybody, for that matter.

1. What ideas of a get-together in a pub are behind Javier's expectations?
2. Why doesn't it even occur to Stefan to pay for Javier?