

D34 Amélie / France / Romance Studies

Interaction partner(s): German students
Moment of enquiry: WS 09/10
Experience of difference: Dialogue phases and turn-taking

Amélie is studying French Literature at a German university. She has been living in Germany for a while and speaks German very well. She has also made a lot of German friends and loves discussing politics with her German fellow students. These discussions are usually very lively and Amélie participates passionately in the discussions. However, it annoys her when one of the German students insists that she let him finish his sentence and not interrupt him. For Amélie, what makes a discussion interesting is when everyone participates, and all challenge each other with interjections and fast and clever quips. It's not at all like a formal public discussion with a list of speakers!

1. What are the French student's ideas of a successful discussion?
2. Why does the German student insist on finishing his sentence?