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Individual Reflective Report based on the Presentation (Group 5)

Assignment 2

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Description

This report aims to discuss my personal experience over the group project that we had recently and in fact presenting the presentation and its entire creating. Our group contained five members – Georgi, Aleksandar, Emil, our group leader – Veronika and me – Deyvid. We managed to team up and to create something not just informative, but interesting. We worked very hard for getting to the final result, which was exactly what we were hoping for.

Feelings

At the beginning of the project, I felt stressed and a little confused. I do not like fails and something to be missing, so I gave my best and managed to deal with the stress. My team helped me with that because they were feeling the same way. We got over the anxiety and step by step we finished the presentation, and we presented it nicely. My friends and the people who know me can confirm that I like everything to be checked twice. That is why I felt overwhelmed, because of the amount of work we had to, considering the fact that we all are working full time. I learned that in these situations you have to keep calm and to follow the plan.

Evaluation

The experience it was memorable! My team and I had good and bad days. Our time schedules were not always perfect, and we could not meet in person, but this did not stop us to do the necessary and finish our project. We have helped each other a lot. Although it was very hard to combine and do it only online, we managed to successfully fit in this scenario and find the right information, chose the design of the presentation, and do the edit. I consider that I had a good experience working in a team and I feel the same way for my colleagues. Our team leader had the harder task of bringing all pieces together and to help each of us when we needed. We also had some good laugh at times when we were talking online. This project made us closer to each other and this is the experience that we all need.

Analysis

Our presentation was about Barclays bank which made it harder for some of us, because there is a lot of information about this bank and we had to filter the most important one, so we can fit with the time and the slides. The Barclays bank is one of the oldest banks in the world – started in 1690. My colleague that had to talk about its occurrence had difficulties finding the right information and it was not just him. Three of our team members were presenting for the first time, therefore they needed extra help and it was more difficult for them to adapt to this kind of work. We approached the situation with understanding, because we knew that we have big diversity among us, which I consider as a good thing.

‘In the same way that psychological diversity is beneficial to teams, functional differences are also desirable when considering the composition of workgroups.’ (Hüttermann & Boerner, 2011).

Just because we are different does not mean we are less motivated to finish the work. In our group we were all Bulgarians, however we all grew up in different environments and we had diversified lives. Our differences made us close together and more curious about our backgrounds. The project also helped us to find something more about everyone of us and to get to know each other better.

The day of the presentation went well, even though one of our team members had to be missing, because of a personal reason. This made us feel a little bit scared about our group performance. We did not have enough time to divide his slides between us, so I presented them. As I remember, my part was not so bad until his slides. I presented them very shallow, however this thought me a lesson – do not leave things for the last minute!

Our group was one of the last ones to present. We were glad that we were not first, so we could see the others and ease of the gathered tension.

Conclusion

In conclusion I would have to say that it was great learning experience and every other presentation from now on it will be much better than the last one. To be able to lose up, to relax and talk freely in front of audience, with more confidence and passion – this is a skill and it can be learnt. From this project I learned that you need more practice in front of the mirror, you need to believe that everything you say will have and impact on the listener, even small one. Some other things that grabbed my attention are to look people in the eyes, to use a strong body language and presence, to plan the delivery of the information you want to provide, how to say it right. As Chris Anderson says in his TED article: ‘A successful talk is a little miracle—people see the world differently afterward.’

I can say that there is a lot of room for improvements, but on this stage we as a team presented well.

References

1. Gibbs, G. (1988) Learning by Doing: A guide to teaching and learning methods. Further Education Unit, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford.
2. <https://home.barclays/who-we-are/our-history/>
3. Hüttermann & Boerner, 2011
4. Chris Anderson, 2013, How to Give a Killer Presentation, Lessons from TED - <https://hbr.org/2013/06/how-to-give-a-killer-presentation>