

Materials by Aalto psychologists, 2021. Study psychologist Alli Mattila alli.mattila@aalto.fi 10.11.2021

Agenda for today

- Beginner's guide: how to complicate cooperation
- What makes a group?
- Stages of a group
- Own teamwork experiences
- BREAK
- What makes a great group?/Small group discussions
- Communication in a group
- What brings us closer together? (/How to make friends or build relationships)
- Take home messages?

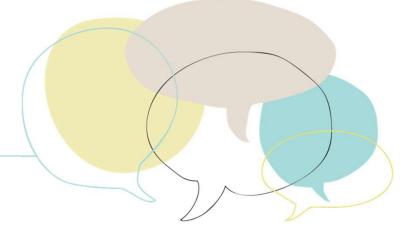


Beginner's guide to complicating cooperation...

You have 10 minutes to talk & write down in Flinga:

Flinga - Beginners guide cooperation

How to cause as much stress as possible for your group?



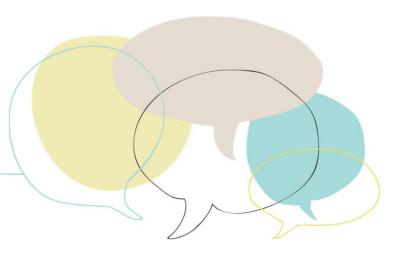


What makes a group?

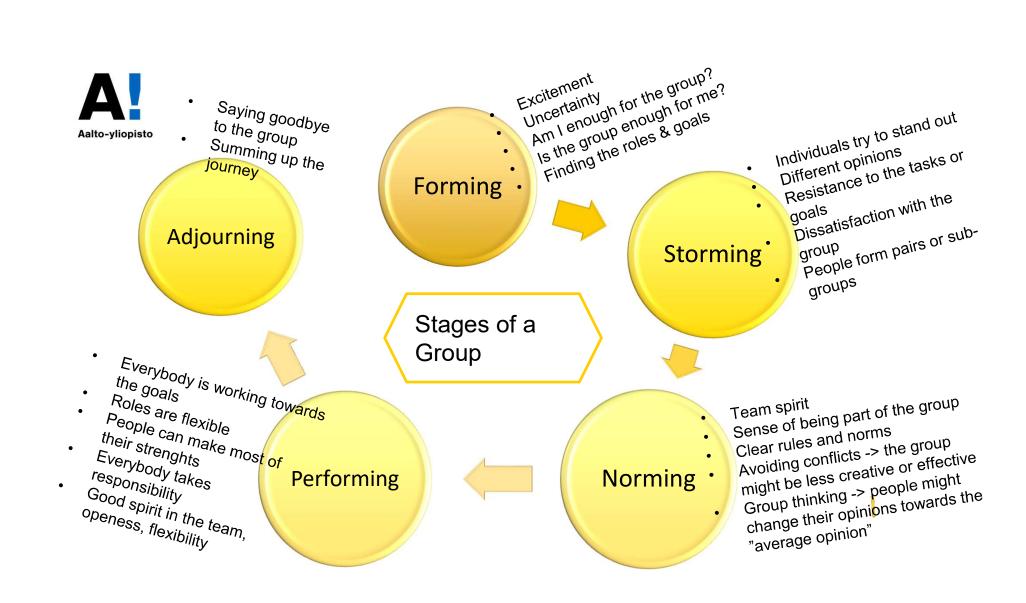
- Interaction
- Feeling of belongingness
- Interdependence
- Shared goals
- a group fulfills participants' needs
- Roles and norms
- Participants have an impact on each other

(Johnsson & Johnsson, 1987)









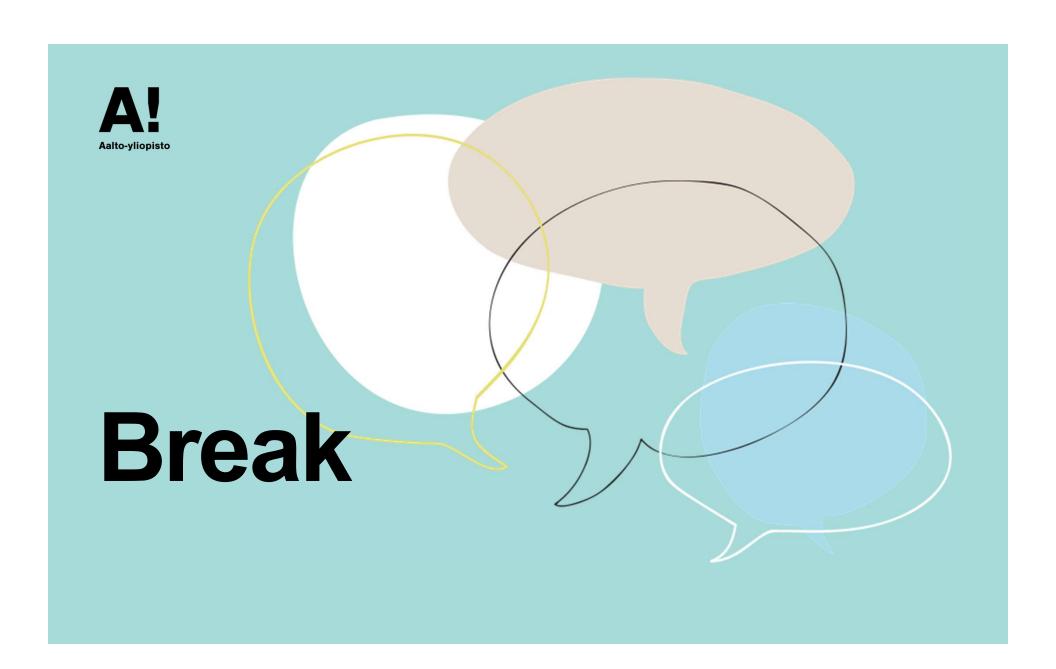
"I really liked being part of that group"

Think about the best teamwork/cooperation experience that you have had in your past.

Write about it for 10 minutes:

- What was the purpose of the group?
- How did the group communicate?
- What type of roles were there in the group?
- What made the group effective?
- What type of feelings do you remember having?



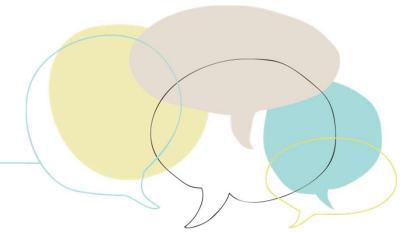


Small group discussions

Share your thoughts about the writing and Flinga exercises.

Try to figure out together what makes a great group?

Prepare to share your top 5 keywords via chat.





What makes an effective group?

Shared and accepted goals

Roles and tasks clearly defined

Interaction, communication

Resources, schedule



Communication in a Group

Task-oriented Skills:

- Communicating thoughts clearly
- Defining and analyzing problems
- Asking for specifications and reasons
- Finding and evaluating options

People-oriented Skills:

- Listening
- Showing empathy and support
- Creating good team spirit
- Encouraging others
- Solving conflicts





We all want to belong & fit in

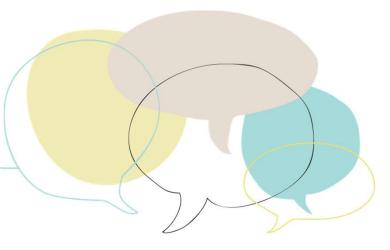


What brings us closer to each other? 1/3

- Positive interaction:
 - We evaluate other person's reactions towards our opinions and try to find mutual interests
 -> feeling of control
 - Acceptance and warmth -> feeling of belongingness
 - Repetitive interaction -> feeling of familiarity

(Smith & Mackie, 1995)





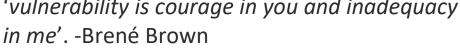


What brings us closer to each other? 2/3

Openness:

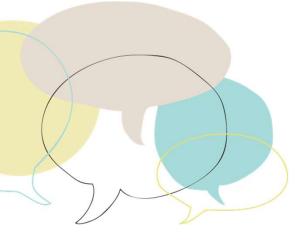
- (a) People who engage in intimate disclosures tend to be liked more than people who disclose at lower levels. They are also seen as trustworthy, friendly and warm.
- (b) people disclose more to those whom they initially like
- (c) people like others as a result of having disclosed to them. (Collins & Miller, 1994)

'vulnerability is courage in you and inadequacy in me'. -Brené Brown









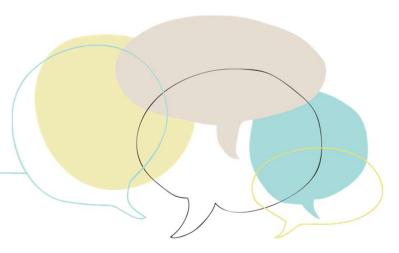
What brings us closer to each other? 3/3

Asking for help/advice

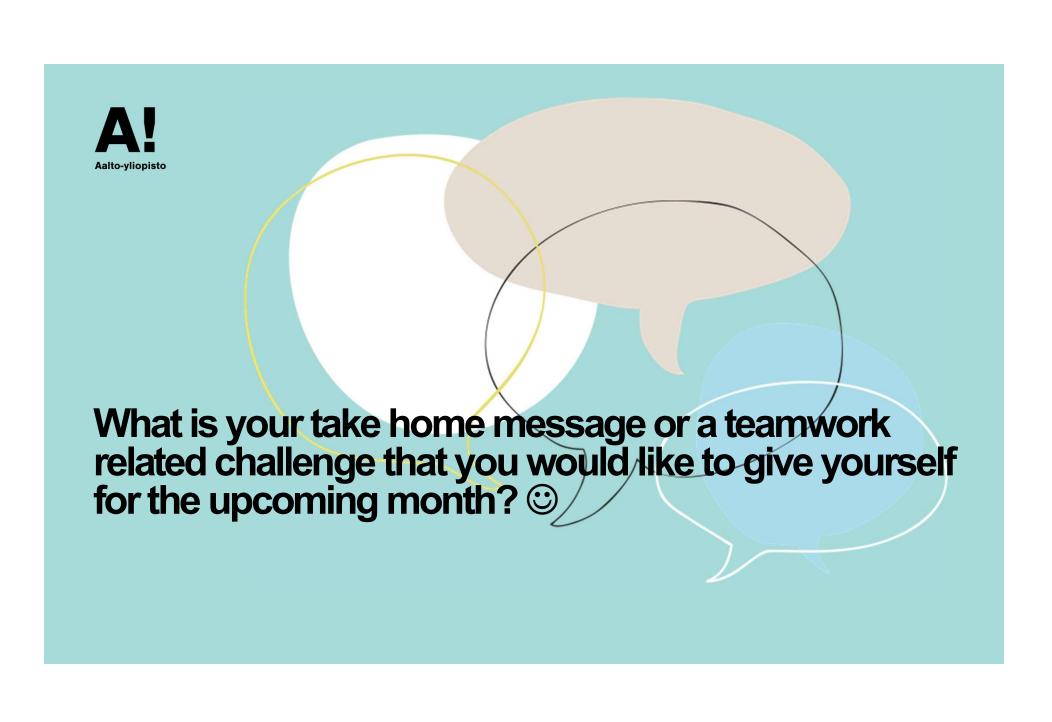
- Improves resilience
- Gives the helper a chance to feel themselves important
- Benevolence can be seen as one of our core needs

(Martela & Ryan, 2015).







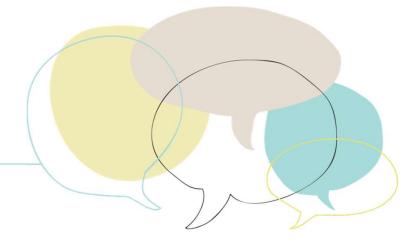




Further knowledge:

How to give feedback in a team:

I like I wish | A Facilitated Team Feedback Session Method





Some Guidelines for Good Interaction

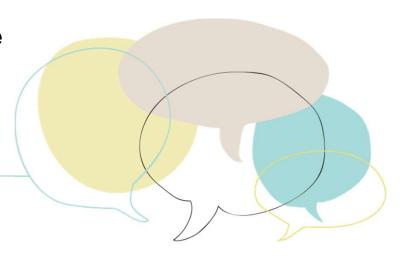
Trusting

- Sharing information
- Giving away control
- Inclusive language

Solving conflicts

- Looking at the problem from different angles may be useful
- Talk about facts, avoid blaming anyone
- Figure out everyone's needs and goals
- Look for a win-win situation





Some Guidelines for Good Interaction

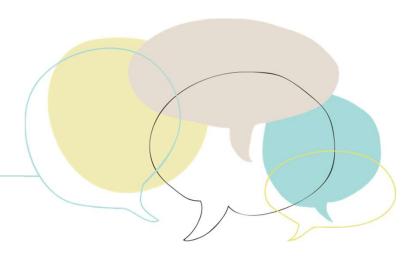
Respectful Engagement

- Conveying presence
- Being genuine
- Communicating affirmation, expressing recognition
- Effective listening
- Supportive communication: specific and descriptive communication, requests rather than demands

Task Enabling

- Teaching & helping others
- Altering the process, timing or substance





Constructive interaction a key factor in remote teams seeking solutions to societal problems

- Successful remote teams verbalize their thoughts and soften one's own message using interactive means that others can easily join.
- The teams also made sure that nobody is sidelined in a discussion.
- Strong expertise for the future is more than deep knowledge of one's own field, it is also an ability to have a conversation with other experts and participants.
- For the team to advance to a concrete conclusion in the allotted time, an individual member of the team would occasionally need to let go of their own idea and point of view.

(Rekonen & Jalonen, 2021)



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Mitä yksinäisyys on? | HelsinkiMissio

Smith, E. & Mackie, D. M. Social psychology. 2 ed. Psychology press, Philadelphia 2000.

The Five Stages of Project Team Development Archived 2010-05-18 at the Wayback Machine, Gina Abudi – Retrieved May 18th 2010

Why it's good to ask for help (innerdrive.co.uk)

Kohti viheliäisten ongelmisen ratkaisemista – ongelman monipuolinen ymmärrys ja yhteinen suunta monialaisissa tiimeissä - Sitra

