UNIT 6 QUIZ B AUDIO SCRIPT

Listening 1 Exercise A

And now, just before we finish, we come to a strange case of a young man in Germany who became an internet sensation, almost overnight. Thomas Neuer, a seventeen-year-old student from Berlin, was given a homework assignment in which he had to record a video and evaluate how well he and his group members had successfully completed a collaborative project. He was supposed to weigh up the pros and cons of the project itself, working in a group, and then say what he would do differently next time.

Well, Thomas started in a reasonably calm manner. He described the project, while giving a few pieces of constructive criticism about how it was set up. However, when he came to talk about how well the group had worked together, things took a turn for the worse. He first explained how he had done most of the work, since some of his classmates were too lazy to contribute. Thomas became more and more irritated as he complained about this. He described how, if he had gotten a bad grade on the project, it would have seriously affected his college application. His group members didn't necessarily care about college, which is why Thomas felt the need to do most of the work himself. As the video goes on, you can see that Thomas has completely forgotten about the objectives of making the video, and is just complaining, in quite a funny way it must be said!

When Thomas played his video in class, his classmates thought it was so funny that they encouraged him to upload it to the internet. He wasn't sure but did it anyway. Well, Thomas is now an internet sensation and has gained thousands of followers. Comments on the video suggest that people are drawn to how relatable Thomas is. After all, most of us have felt like this at some point when working with other people!

Thomas says that he's glad his video is entertaining, but it was never his intention to seek fame, and that he's sure people will forget about him soon!