

The differences between working virtually with classmates and colleagues from other cultures and with classmates and colleagues from our own culture

	Our culture	Other cultures
Speed of making decisions	It is way faster to make decisions when speaking to people who speak your native language. The ideas and points of view get through way easier and the effort is minimal.	Depending on your proficiency in the common language that is used between the speakers, for some people it might be easy to convey ideas, meanwhile others might struggle. We would say that it is slower to discuss and make decisions with colleagues from other cultures, because of the language barrier.
Feeling comfortable in the meetings	We find that there is almost no reason to feel uncomfortable while speaking to people from your own culture. It is often that people who come from the same cultural background get along fine.	Some people might find interacting with people from other cultures a bit awkward because of the language barrier.
Quality of output	More efficient. It is quick and easy to convey to people who speak your language and share the same culture.	More effective. Because of the cultural diversity, people take more time to explain or demand more information when talking to each other, in order to better understand their points, therefore the quality of the result is better.

How to optimise the variation :

- People should see diversity as an asset, not an obstacle
- Set goals that the team should achieve
- Make the team achievements visible outside of the team
- Celebrate success and solve conflicts face to face

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