

Group Assessments: Teamwork.

Whatever your subject, you could be set assignments that require you to work in groups. One of the reasons for this is that employers look for effective team members.

This handout first gives an overview of groupwork. It then provides a table giving a description of what how groups might work, how this feels, and what its effectiveness. After that, it highlights potential pitfalls when moving from a group to a team, and what you can do to avoid them from the start. The suggestions can be revisited if problems arise later. Finally, it shows how you could set up your group to be a successful team.

are confident in a group is worth noting one dominant individual who assumes leadership can create tension and block the flow of ideas from the others. The individual contributions, if managed well in a group, are what can make the opportunities of team-based research greater than from independent study. The social interaction skills of collaboration need to be adapted to your specific group. The skill of moving between independent and interdependent research is an essential part of teamwork which a tutor may consider part of the marking criteria.

Table of group types and their effects:

Description

These scenarios are developed from Katzenbach and Smith's 'typology' of group and team characteristics. They set good goals for improving social skills to help you to make a group of friends and/or strangers into a team. Why does this not happen every time?

Pitfalls an