Zfu – Zeit für uns (i.e. Time for us)

I – A short presentation of what it is (done by German students)

II – In three international groups: each group has got a specific topic to discuss.

The students from Spain, Corsica and Greece can choose the topic that they like best. But there should **not** be more than three students with the same foreign nationality in one group.

If it turns out to be more convenient to discuss another topic the group can decide with a simple majority (more than 50%) to change the topic.

**Topic 1:** ***What effect do media have on our brain?*** *Especially since we are in the so-called age of digitisation, in which everything is being done to integrate media into our everyday lives as much as possible, and everyone is asking for the digitisation of schools and even kindergartens, one might think that there would be predominantly positive effects, and the few negative ones that exist would be negligible.*

**Topic 2:** ***Getting depressive through Facebook?*** *(In January 2012, Facebook manipulated the news feeds of over half a million users so that some users saw a large number of positive posts in their feed, while others got a lorge number of negative posts. The Facebook researchers found that users who saw more positive posts, such as images of people embracing, posted more positive messages themselves. Those who saw more negative posts, such as complaints about service in a restaurant, created more negative posts on their wall.)*

**Topic 3:** ***Do you believe in ratings?*** *Sean Taylor, who received his PhD from NYU and now works for Facebook, has studied how existing ratings and comments influence subsequent ratings. He found that if you manipulate the ratings so that the first rating is glowing, the liklihood of other positive reviews increases by 32 percent and the final rating is enhanced by 25 percent!*

III – First take five minutes to find at least one question or one statement that you would say in the discussion. Write the question ort he statment down on a piece of paper.

IV – The German students start the discussion and are supposed to involve as many foreign students as possible.

IV – All students are allowed to use their smartphone (if possible) to search words they need. It is more valuable though to ask their group members to help them.

V – One student in each group is responsible for the documentation, another one for the feedback, a third one for respectful behaviour in the discussion. These roles are to be given to foreign students that the group chooses at the beginning.

VI – At the end of the allowed time the three groups report to all students what they have discussed about and how they got along in the discussion.

VII – To finish the activity, the national groups write an article for our online magazine about the activity including a short description, the feedback and an evaluation from their national point of view.