Digital Artifact Spring 2023, GRMN 3101 (Professor Ward)

"[My partner] was always very open and gave interesting answers to all of my questions, many of which could be as loaded as "what is Germany's biggest problem?" It was with questions like those that the generational gap in perspectives that I had assumed we had was, in fact, not all too wide. We agreed on most things, and I could tell that even if we hadn't, we would have found some common ground."

"There were also many valuable life lessons that I learned with my partner. In our second discussion, we talked about how his high school reunion was approaching, and he told me about how he has stayed very close with his college and high school friends. He told me that with the people he loved and whose company he enjoyed, it was easy to stay in touch…. He is dynamic and independent, and I was constantly impressed by those exhibited qualities."

"I was really excited to find out early on in the semester that I would actually be able to chat with the same person that I had partnered with before in Intermediate German 1! Being able to pick up where I left off with my previous partner ended up being a really lovely experience…I found myself after our conversations reflecting on our differing perspectives and analyzing some of the generational experiences that informed our opinions."

"My partner went above and beyond to introduce me to others that she thought I'd have shared interests with, research activities for an upcoming trip I'm going on and [write] me post cards!... Needless to say, I've genuinely come to adore my partner… I'm already planning on future post-cards that I'm going to send."

"This S-L exchange went well because I was able to improve my German and immerse myself in a challenging and helpful conversation…My partner told me about their early life and how they got to this point. It gave me clarity and a bit of comfort to know that I do not need to know everything right now in order to get to a point in life that they are in right now."