* Question 1: What are your weak points and strong points in group work?  
  Communication, decision-making, scheduling, conflict resolution, etc...

I’m mostly the “lazy” creative guy in the group. I come up with ideas and break problems up to make them easier for step-by-step problem-solving. Also, I set lazy in quotation marks earlier because once I set my mind to something I can work quickly and thoroughly. Sometimes this goes too fast for others, and they get behind.

* Question 2: What do you hope to learn as a group during the project?  
  Communication skills, time-management, conflict-resolution skills, …

As a group I think we mainly want to learn about applying the different NLP-models. We will also see if a group contract is something that is effective. We’ve been skeptical while making it as we don’t want to inhibit each other’s workstyle. In previous projects I’ve found group-contracts to be ineffective.

* Question 3: What do you think the assignment is asking you to do?

The assignment is an introduction to models used in NLP by creating an n-gram model. To fully understand the model, we create it in Python from scratch and evaluate the results.

* Question 4: What role do you hope to fulfill during the group project?

Just like my strong points, I hope to problem-solve our way to answers. So, I think the devil’s advocate may be the closest to my description. I also like to encourage people and make sure everybody is heard (arbitrator role) but I’m generally more of a realist and not an optimist once I set my mind to the project, so this role might be something I cannot stick with.

* Question 5: Which part of the group assignment do you want to take the lead on?

Mostly the coding of the models. I’ve heard more often that I’m good at coding and making the model requires this skill the most.

* Question 6: What are your goals for the project?

As I’m not in a very good place of mind right now, I just want to finish the subject. Still, I’m a curios person and I express that through ambition. But for now, I don’t think I have enough energy to be ambitious (things are slowly getting better though). Instead, I’ll do my best to learn to cooperate so that we can divide the time spend on the assignment more. This division of work is also a good goal for myself as I’ve had quite often that I did most of the work (which is why I’m low on energy now).

* Question 7: What type of worker are you?

I’m mainly a logical thinker and can think outside the box. I also work hard to get my ambitions realized and learn a lot of extra skills through this process. However, I can be a mess, especially at the beginning of projects/assignments. Once I get going in the project I can work (too) fast (for others) and can make detailed products. Still, as I am ambitious, deadlines can keep being an issue. Maybe I should set the ambitious goal of completing an assignment a week in advance?

* Question 8: What personal development goal do you have for this group project?

Changing my cooperation style. Cooperation has been an issue for me during all collaboration in my studies as I feel like just doing what is asked is boring (I just realized this). Working on a project that I find boring can become unbearably difficult for me. I need to have some creative expression in our work to make it fun (this expression is also the fruit of my ambitions). It doesn’t have to be my creative expression: I think it’s also fun to work on someone else’s creative expression.

Thus, I need to find a way in which group-members will collaborate for (some) creative expression. As a start, and to put this into a somewhat more concrete goal, I think it is a good idea to learn how to extract ideas from group-members. Quite a lot of people are shy to share ideas and/or think their ideas don’t work. So, the question becomes how can I make people feel comfortable/atease/enthusiastic/… enough so they feel like sharing their ideas? (This question also pertains to social skills I’m trying to learn like the similar question: how do I let others open themselves up during conversation?)

* Question 9: Are you a more Type A or Type B person?

Never heard of these two “types” before but they have fun qualities to discuss. Right now, I’m a mix between both and I aim to become more of a Type B person. All the requirements and expectations from school and later university have made me more of a Type A person as the Type B version of myself doesn’t get enough done. However, the Type A version of myself doesn’t feel right and has given me a lot of stress. So, I’m trying to become more laid-back and lessen the stress of this Type A personality. Meanwhile, some stuff does need to get done and I’m looking for different ways of being productive. Still, I would say I resonate slightly with the Type A personality.