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[Speaker 2]

Good afternoon, my name is Nicolás and today I am going to interview you on the topic of academic organization. I would like you to please first give me your permission to record this interview. Yes, I give you permission.

Perfect, thank you. And please introduce yourself, tell me what you do and what your name is.

[Speaker 1]

Well, my name is Samuel Goncalves and I am an Engineering student at Universidad de Los Andes.

[Speaker 2]

Can you describe how you currently manage your academic tasks and schedules?

[Speaker 1]

Generally what I use is a calendar where I write down all the activities I have. And for the academic plan of the whole career, it's not really optimal, but what I use is just like printing it and crossing out the subjects and so on.

[Speaker 2]

Well, in my opinion it's not really optimal. So what challenges do you face in managing your academic responsibilities in this way?

[Speaker 1]

The main challenge is that every semester I usually have to redo the management because I don't know, I lose the paper or I don't know, I forget something. I mean, is not like everything is unified, it's like everything is very... I mean, there is not something very formal for that.

[Speaker 2]

Ok. You told me that you use printed calendars to get organized. Do you have any other tools or methods?

[Speaker 1]

No, currently I mainly use that. I don't know of any other tools for that sort of thing.

[Speaker 2]

Ok. And in the calendar do you keep track of your homework or exam due dates?

[Speaker 1]

Yes, I mainly keep track of deliveries, exams, classes, in general, my schedule in general. And in general I have been doing very well.

I haven't had as much trouble with it on that part.

[Speaker 2]

So how do you decide which applications or tools you use to get organized?

[Speaker 1]

The truth is not something that I think a lot, but I use the ones that are easiest for me at that moment, to add the activities, that is, the one that I have the easiest access to and the one that offers me the minimum that I need. Ok.

[Speaker 2]

How do you store and access your academic notes and materials?

[Speaker 1]

To access my grades and academic materials, I do it through the university platform. I mainly search for the subject that I am interested in knowing the grade, the notifications and I just log in. And the material, yes, it is generally the same way.

I enter the university's platform and simply access the subject or the class and then I browse through the content that is uploaded on the platform.

[Speaker 2]

Ok, perfect. Changing the subject a little bit towards study sessions, I would like to ask you how you coordinate free periods or those study sessions when you go to study with your friends.

[Speaker 1]

Ready, so for the organization of the study sessions, the way to organize it is to first have organized all the deliveries or exams I have and from there I do the planning. I mean, I do it in my head, I mean, it is not something that is automatic, but depending on the amount of deliveries and exams I have, I plan it. I mean, I don't use any tool, I just do what I think I have to do.

[Speaker 2]

Ok, and how do you manage it or coordinate it when you are going to study with more people.

[Speaker 1]

Well, in general it is a bit complicated because I write a message or call and the person may say no, I can't right now, I am busy, I have class. So, no, if you can at such and such a time, no, I can't at that time. So, I don't know, I end up studying very late.

So, sometimes, in some cases these situations occur, but there are other cases in which it is easy. I mean, it depends a lot on the academic load, on the academic week I am in.

[Speaker 2]

Ok, perfect. And what do you think is missing from your organization system?

[Speaker 1]

But, in other words, to organize what specifically?

[Speaker 2]

To organize these study sessions on your own or with your friends?

[Speaker 1]

I feel that it would be a very good tool. I mean, I think that what it lacks is that, I mean, like that automation, so to speak, like it is organized automatically, like those study sessions, without me having to think about it or discuss it with my friends. So, for example, I would like my sessions, my sessions alone, not to be just, I mean, like me sitting down to see everything, to think, but somehow like, well, these are, I mean, these are the schedules, this is my schedule, the schedules I have free, like automatically, somehow, like that is organized.

And with respect to the group sessions, also taking into account the schedule and the free time of my friends, it is also possible to organize these study meetings in an automatic way or in an easier way.

[Speaker 2]

So, would you be willing to use a platform that can be used to manage all those academic needs we've been talking about?

[Speaker 1]

Yes, the truth is, I mean, I would be very willing to use it, because of what I was telling you before, that sometimes it can be very complicated or not very optimal, the issue of organizing the study sessions, both on my own and mostly with my classmates. I mean, it would be good to have an application that solves that problem, that I simply upload my schedule or my tasks and that it automatically organizes or recommends schedules for my individual study sessions and with my classmates.

[Speaker 2]

Ok, and what functions would you find most useful in such an application?

[Speaker 1]

Ah, well, as I just mentioned, that as a recommendation system for the study sessions, I would also think it is very important to share the schedules of my classmates, that is, that all my friends can share our schedules and all that, for the organization. And also that in this platform we can upload study materials, it would also seem very important to me, that is, to have all the study material, both individually and with my friends, to have an environment, either virtual, in which we can have everything we need to focus and make the study more optimal.

[Speaker 2]

Perfect, I think that's all. Thank you very much, Samuel, for the interview.

[Speaker 1]

Thanks to you, Nicolás.