What is one aspect we have learned about group work?  
  
One thing that we have learnt collectively as a group is that clear and regular communication is an absolutely necessity. With well-structured and consistent lines of communication it is easy to achieve goals and deadlines among the group, when this is not achieved it can create confusion and directly impact the work being done.  
  
Regular check ins, whether it is just to confirm that you’re are on track or need some help, are vital to the teams success. If other team members are unsure of your situations or progress it can create unease and apprehension about the intended result. On the other hand, if the team mates are made aware of someone’s inability to complete a task, or even difficulty with one, they would be able to assist and even guide you in the right direction.  
It is up to everyone individually to make sure that they communicate often and effectively, being an online course, others cannot force your hand or hold you personally accountable.  
It becomes a matter of guesses and assumptions if somebody does not communicate effectively.  
  
Ineffective, or in one case, complete lack of communication almost made this assignment a disaster. It was the clear and effective communication of the team members willing to utilise the tools at our disposal that was able to save it. The group members who were actively communicating were able to pull together and delegate tasks to make up for where the members who were not contributing were letting us down.  
If it wasn’t for the communicated recognition of something being amiss the assignment would not have been completed in the manner it was, which goes to show how important communication really is.   
  
Moving forward for future group work, a clearer direction of how much communication is required to be successful needs to be established and agreed upon from the outset. This makes it fair for those that are willing to engage regularly and creates a work environment where you can hold somebody accountable for not meeting these requirements.