4

Defusing a communication problem

Maïka, an allistic employee, arrives at work. Saël, her autistic colleague, greets her but Maïka doesn't answer him. Saël wonders what is going on:

Maybe I did something wrong...

An open and honest dialogue, without overinterpretation, allows to defuse the communication problem. Being aware that communication problems are often rooted in neuronormative interpretations, Maïka took the initiative to clarify the situation. Later in the afternoon, Maïka notices that Saël is acting differently. After reflection, she asks him:

Have I done something that made you uncomfortable?

Oh no, not at all. In fact, it's just that I was preoccupied this morning. I wasn't paying attention; I didn't see you.

I'm sorry if that gave you the impression that I was angry. Thank you for telling me.

Saël uses his mobile device to write his response, which is then read by the speech synthesizer:

This morning, I greeted you, but you didn't respond.

Are you angry with me?







