**Deutschland 83 – Episode 1 analysis - Link what you watch to the following theorists**

Compare your answers with page 2

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| **TODOROV: ‘NARRATOLOGY’ – 3 PART NARRATIVE** |  |
| **BARTHES: CODES, CONNOTATIONS VISUAL SIGNIFIERS** |  |
| **GERBNER: CULTIVATION THEORY & MEAN WORLD SYNDROME** |  |
| **HALL: ENCODING/DECODING****+ 3 AUDIENCE READINGS,** |  |
| **NEALE: REP & DIFF** |  |
| **GILROY: POSTCOLONIALISM** |  |
| **GAUNTLETT: FLUID & MULTIPLE IDENTITIES** |  |
| **VAN ZOONEN: PATRIARCHY, OBJECTIFICATION****+ BUTLER: PERFORMATIVITY** |  |
| **TODOROV: ‘NARRATOLOGY’ – 3 PART NARRATIVE** | Excellent example of Todorov's 3 part structure- the narrative starts on a high, happy note with Martin's visit home for his mother's birthday. As with many equilibrium phases, however there are hints of conflict and tragedy top come. The disruption phase starts after his 'interview' by the 2 HVA agents and his transfer to West Germany. |
| **BARTHES: CODES, CONNOTATIONS VISUAL SIGNIFIERS** | The best example of signification is the title sequence. The graphics connote East-West conflict, US-Russian tensions and the threat of nuclear war. The maps show the vulnerable geographical position of Germany as the possible battlefield of a war between the two superpowers. Look also for signifiers of the differences between the two Germanys |
| **GERBNER: CULTIVATION THEORY & MEAN WORLD SYNDROME** | The series shows the tensions between the US and Russia, played out on German soil. There is an insecurity based on the threat of war but also uncertainty around other issues and enigma codes: will Martin be exposed as a spy, will General Edel crack under the personal strain he's under, will Martin lose his girlfriend Annett |
| **HALL: ENCODING/DECODING****+ 3 AUDIENCE READINGS,** | The success of the series depends on audiences' knowledge of the background historical events but also on the way narrative arcs and storylines are established quickly in Episode One. The producers and writers cleverly encode suspense and questions about the various storylines are set up skilfully.  |
| **NEALE: REP & DIFF** | This is far more than just a spy drama. There is romance, historical drama, action, adventure and even some comedy e.g. Martin's stern loyal border-guard persona which is a bit of an act; his confusion faced with the bewildering choice in the W German supermarket, his fumbling attempts to hand over secret filmed documents.  |
| **GILROY: POSTCOLONIALISM** | The series is about a real post WW2 colonial-type situation. E Germany was occupied by Russia and controlled every aspect of E German life (social, economic, political, cultural contexts). W Germany was occupied by The US and other Western allies. Although control was less strict, the military stand-off was a direct result of the rivalry between the two superpowers and the presence of US & Russian nuclear weapons on German soil..  |
| **GAUNTLETT: FLUID & MULTIPLE IDENTITIES** | The spy genre is a perfect way to explore the idea of false identities, pretence and ambiguity. Martin Rauch becomes Moritz Stamm, a W German officer, and he is surrounded by E German agents such as Prof Tischbein who are pretending to be loyal citizens of the West.  |
| **VAN ZOONEN: PATRIARCHY, OBJECTIFICATION****+ BUTLER: PERFORMATIVITY** | Women in D83 generally conform to traditional gender roles but Aunt Lenora, his mother's sister, is a countertype: cold, cruel and ruthless. Generally the men are tough, military or spy professionals but there are some exceptions- General Edel's son Alex is gay, rebellious and disagrees with his father, despite being in the W German army. The casting of General Jackson as black adds an extra layer of representational interest, perhaps showing the more progressive, pluralist liberal nature of the US.  |