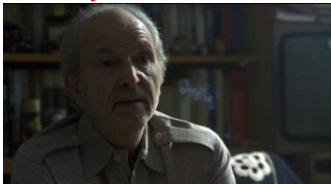


How do the characters in Goodbye Lenin represent different attitudes towards the fall of the DDR?

Character(s)	Filmic device(s)	Attitude towards der Wende
The Kerne's neighbours (the bald old man, Herr Ganske, in particular) 	Herr Ganske is shown as being close to tears during Christiane's birthday celebrations, and this shows that he is reminiscing over the days of the DDR, as the room and themselves are dressed as they used to be, and acting the same as they would have in the DDR. There are also a couple incidences of comic misinterpretation towards Alex, when he sees him looking through the bins for spreewald-gurken jars and looking through the refuse furniture for his mother's money. Herr Ganske appears and reads the situation as indicative of high unemployment and degradation of the East German people	The character of Ganske is indicative of the disaffected older generation who had experienced all 40 years of the DDR, and found a hard time adjusting to the rapid change in economy, culture and apparent appropriation of administrative and political structures of the former DDR from the West. His character would be particularly relatable amongst older viewers who had also lived through the same thing. Assumedly, the ideals and propaganda of socialism had taken much more of a deeper root amongst older people after 40 years of re-education, and Ganske finds it hard to believe that it all could disappear so quickly
Christiane's old boss at the school, Klapprath 	The scene where Klapprath's alcoholism is evident when Alex goes to pick him up for his mother's birthday juxtaposes his outrage and collapse in the darkness of the apartment with the brighter and harshly lit cut-scene to Alex giving Klapprath a forced shower/hair wash, showing his regression into a more childlike and dependant state the staging and setting of Klapprath's apartment is also indicative. The amount of books shows that he is clearly an enthusiastic academic, yet the chaos and disorder is a reflection of his uneasy mental state	Klapprath clearly enjoyed a semi-privileged position before der Wende, and has presumably either retired or been made redundant since. He is fond of Christiane but also hints that she was too much of a reformist for the school 'zu idealitistisch' Klapprath's presence at Christiane's funeral shows that he held her in high esteem and in some ways wants to cling on to the communist past
Ariane Kerner	The scene where Alex	As with most younger people,