

Module 2/ Control sheet for Worksheet 2: Tanks at Checkpoint Charlie

Tasks

1. Watch the scene "October 25, 1961" together in the AR app Cold War Berlin. Why are U.S. tanks driving up Friedrichstrasse? Write down the reasons provided:

GDR border guards demand that members of the Western Allies in

in civilian dress show their IDs

Restrictions are placed on their occupation rights at the Berlin Wall

Americans want to send a stronger message after armed jeeps fail to make

a lasting impact.

2. Take a close look at the following film clips in the app on the subpage of the "October 25, 1961" scene:
 - "Summary of events from the point of view of the GDR," GDR newsreel "The Eyewitness."
 - "Summary of events from the West German point of view" West German "UFA Weekly News"

a) What is the central message of each film clip?

UFA Weekly News	GDR newsreel "The Eyewitness"
<p><i>The Americans won't let their right to freedom of movement in Berlin be further curtailed! !</i></p>	<p><i>West Berlin "frontline politicians" and the press want to stage a provocation with the help of the Americans. East German police don't let themselves to be provoked and negotiate skillfully.. "Result: On GDR soil we are in charge."</i></p>

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b) Compare the two film clips using the questions in the table.

	UFA Weekly News	GDR newsreel "The Eyewitness"
a)	<p>Describe</p> <p>The pictures: Who or what is shown? <i>Tanks driving up to the border</i></p> <p><i>Crowds on the street</i></p>	<p>Describe</p> <p>The pictures: Who or what is shown? <i>Journalists</i> <i>Allied jeep escorts</i> <i>Negotiations between border guards and the Allies</i></p>
b)	<p>The choice of words: What biased terms are used? <i>The war of nerves</i></p>	<p>The choice of words: What biased terms are used? <i>lurking</i> <i>provocation</i> <i>American occupiers</i> <i>The level-headed action of our people's policemen</i> <i>military actions vs. factual negotiations</i></p>
c)	<p>The music: What mood is created by the music? <i>dramatic</i></p>	<p>The music: What mood is created by the music? <i>excitement</i></p>
d)	<p>The effect: How does the film clip affect you? <i>informative, convincing, threatening, engaging, objective, outrageous, aggressive, powerful</i></p>	<p>The effect: How does the film clip affect you? <i>pretentious, calming, convincing, captivating, outrageous, reconciliatory, powerful</i></p>

* **Tips for differentiation:** **Information Sheet 4** provides adjectives to help you describe the effect.

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3. Discuss in class:

How are the newsreel reports from that time different from today's news reports? Do you find the reports credible? Give reasons for your answer.