



# Coping with Postmodernity

By Martin Villwock

GRIN Verlag Jun 2011, 2011. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 212x149x10 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Examination Thesis from the year 2008 in the subject English - Pedagogy, Didactics, Literature Studies, grade: 1,3, University of Cologne (Englisches Seminar), language: English, abstract: In the following chapter of this paper, an outline of the present ontological crisis in terms of Lyotard's 'postmodern condition' will be given. Throughout the discussion of Coupland's fiction, this concept will be relevant for its influence on the characters' thoughts and emotions. Furthermore, the chapter will analyze the importance and self-referentiality of narrative structures in Coupland's work. The characters in Coupland's novels often come up with a plentitude of more or less successful strategies in order to deal with the semantic void they experience. For this chapter, material will be presented predominantly from the novels All Families are Psychotic, Generation X and Microserfs. The third chapter will focus on the presentation of working life in Coupland's prose. His novels reveal that work today has lost its former function as a source of orientation. In this analysis, the concept of alienation as introduced by Karl Marx will be used in order to...

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