



## POSUDEK OPONENTA BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

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Studijní obor: **Anglický jazyk a literatura (dvouoborové studium)**

Název práce: **Semantic Shift in Plant Names**

Autorka práce: **Iveta Doskočilová**

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Petr Kos, Ph.D.**

Oponentka bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Kamila Žáčková**

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### Short characteristics of the thesis

Iveta Doskočilová's thesis deals with the topic of *Semantic Shift in Plant Names*. The thesis is divided into two parts; theoretical and practical one. In the theoretical part the author presents the possible positions of semantic shift and gives the reader the insight into different sub-categorizations of semantic shift, however, the main focus is on the following categories; metaphor, metonymy, and synecdoche.

In the practical part the author built her own corpus consisting of 448 plant names that were created by the process of semantic shift. Ms Doskočilová also mentions some categories that were dismissed on the grounds of not being motivated by a semantic shift, e.g. calque. Based on the corpus, the author provides a detailed classification of plant names categorizing them according to a particular semantic change that motivated them.

### Overall assessment

I consider the topic of Ms Doskočilová's thesis well chosen as it interconnects her fields of study, Biology and English.

As far as the structure is concerned, the thesis reads well and runs smoothly.

To deal with the topic, Ms Doskočilová made an effort to create her own corpus. It needs to be said that it is very difficult to decide which categories of plant names should be involved in the corpus and which are irrelevant to the study. The author also explains satisfactorily the process of building her new corpus. Moreover, good reasons for dismissing some categories are provided and enough examples are given.

To present the findings, the author uses coloured tables and pie charts, which I do appreciate as it facilitates reader's understanding.

Speaking about references, the author mentions *Bird Names in English: A Linguistic Analysis* by Kos Petr in the list of references, however, it is not referred to in the body of the thesis.

I would like to point out that it is a pity that the author does not provide the Czech equivalents of the plants mentioned and does not compare the Czech and English plant taxonomy explicitly as there are fundamental differences between them.

Given the effort put into this piece of writing, I do recommend the thesis for defence and propose the following grade: excellent (výborně).

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16. 6. 2014

Datum

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Podpis