

Příloha k protokolu o SZZ č.....  
Vysoká škola: PF JU Čes.Budějovice  
Katedra:anglistiky  
Datum odevzdání posudku diplomové práce:  
18.5.2009

Diplomant: Kristýna Dvořáková

Aprobace: AJ-NJ/ZŠ

Recenzent\*)

~~Vedoucí\*)~~ diplomové práce  
Regina Helal,M.A.

## POSUDEK DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

### Goethe's *Götz von Berlichingen* and Sir Walter Scott's *Ivanhoe*: A Comparative Study

(téma)

#### The goals

The main goal of this thesis was to compare and contrast two well-known literary works by two well-known authors: Germany's Johann Wolfgang Goethe and Scotland's Walter Scott. The author proceeded by reading and analyzing both primary and secondary literary texts; her interpretation is organized around several themes common to both works. In my opinion, this was obviously an ambitious project requiring in-depth knowledge of two different worlds: unified and strong Great Britain on the one hand; the splintered Germany on the other. Kristyna tackles the topic with enthusiasm and confidence, but does not fully succeed in drawing up a solid analysis in the end.

#### Contents and structuring

The first chapter lays the groundwork to understanding the German socio-political situation in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. More specifically, it seeks to describe the Sturm und Drang literary movement, running counter to the prevalent Enlightenment philosophy. before presenting Goethe's biography and the plot of the chosen German drama. Further, Scott's biography and the plot of *Ivanhoe* are presented, but very little is said about the British situation. We are then reminded that both Goethe and Scott romanticized history, often altering historical facts and re-interpreting historical characters. Subsequently, a rather short chapter deals with the characters' dissatisfaction with the present and their often pessimistic visions of the future; two short chapters compare two sets of characters, one large chapter deals with the theme of *love*; chapter number six deals with the idea of the *outlaw*; and finally one more chapter is devoted to the theme of *religion*.

#### Notes

- The organization of the chapters is sometimes confusing: it might have been better to unite all the characters' comparisons into one chapter, for instance. The topic of Religion could have been incorporated more upfront, or joined with Love and Outlaw.
- The theme of Love is handled very well indeed.

- The British historical background is practically omitted, as are any specific references to Scotland, a country which had gone through separate development from England. Since Scott had translated Götz von Berlichingen into English, was he active in promoting other German works and ideas?
- Last but not least, a final conclusive analysis seems to be lacking

**The presentation:**

In general, this work is well-organized and labeled.

**Overall evaluation**

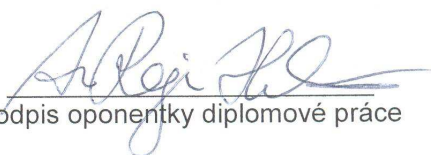
Despite the reservations expressed above, I feel that Kristyna has read the texts carefully and understands them very well. She should be able to explain and defend her work very well. Her work is therefore assessed as a weak A.

**Questions:**

- The plot of Götz von Berlichingen is described on two pages, the plot of Ivanhoe on eight pages. Why?
- Scott translated into English not only Götz von Berlichingen but also scores of German ballads. In what way was he inspired by this undertaking?
- What about the themes of loyalty and friendship?
- Vision of future: Goethe and Scott both “knew” the future as their works were set in the distant past. As the characters have rather dismal visions, do you think the writers are indirectly criticizing the political situation of their days?

- výborně -

Návrh na klasifikaci diplomové práce: .....

  
podpis oponentky diplomové práce

18.5.

V Českých Budějovicích dne ..... 2009.....

Stupeň kvalifikace	výborně	velmi dobře	dobře	nevyhověl
--------------------	---------	-------------	-------	-----------