



POSUDEK VEDOUcíHO BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

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

Název práce: **Being a gentleman in Dickens's *Great Expectations***

Autorka práce: **Magdalena Mikulášová**

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Ph.D. et Th.D.**

Short characteristics of the B.A. thesis

Magdalena Mikulášová's thesis deals with the concept of gentlemanliness in Victorian England and its reflection in Charles Dickens's novel *Great Expectations* (1861). The text is divided into 2 parts (Part One and Two), the first focusing on the historical, social and cultural contexts of the period and the second on the thematical analysis of the novel, dealing the typology of the key characters, the ideals they embody and, finally, the "gentlemanly transformation" of the main character, Pip.

Overall assessment

The text is presented in a clear format and in readable English, starting with the theoretical background of the thesis and progressing onto the actual analysis. The two parts are linked meaningfully, with the analytical part often referring to the theoretical foundations laid in Part One.

To a certain degree, the first part of the thesis suffers from a (partially understandable) simplification, in which some of the issues could have been discussed in more detail and especially the references to secondary literature should have been presented in a more orderly manner. Obviously, we can hardly expect a B.A. student to be equally knowledgeable in all the relevant fields, but at least the formal aspects of the thesis should follow the established format. In fact, some of the issues were discussed in the period prior to the completion of the thesis and I notified the author to make some of the changes in the text.

On the other hand, the analytical part seems to be done with enthusiasm and passion and its final shape is much better. The conclusion summarizes the key points of the analysis and links the crucial Dickensian idea of "democratic" nobility to the novel discussed.

Although some parts of the thesis would have benefited from a deeper penetration into the historical and social problems of the day, the literary part helps redeem the deficiencies of theoretical one. I especially value Magdalena's close reading skills and her focus on some of the minor details of the novel. In that sense, the thesis proves the student has mastered the key techniques for a successful decoding of a complex literary text such as Dickens's *Great Expectations*.



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I **do** recommend the thesis for defence.

Suggested classification: **very good (velmi dobře)**

7. 6. 2017

Datum

Podpis