Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budějovicích University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

POSUDEK VEDOUCÍHO BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: Anglický jazyk a literatura—Estetika

Název práce: The Portrayal of the Roaring Twenties in Francis Scott Fitzgerald's Novel

The Great Gatsby

Autorka práce: Dariia Baula

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: doc. PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, Ph.D.

Oponentka bakalářské práce: Einat Adar, M.A., Ph.D.

Short characteristics of the thesis

The thesis examines the historical background to the novel *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and attempts to identify reflections of historical realities in the novel. Special attention is paid to social and economic development, especially the boom of American economy and culture in the early twentieth century, class differences and their impact on personal lives and to the question of status in society. A range of topics is covered from sport to fashion to politics.

Overall assessment

First and foremost it needs to be said that the thesis was written under extremely difficult circumstances with no access to libraries and no possibility of individual consultation. In fact, we did not have a single personal meeting over the course of Dariia's writing. Consequently, Dariia had to work in a very independent manner which she indeed did and it was a pleasure to work with her. She submitted the parts in timely manner and on agreed schedule and proved to be very diligent in her research.

As far as the content of the thesis is concerned first it needs to be stressed that it contains a large volume of historical information and, overall, the author presents a very convincing background to the novel. This proves especially helpful when Dariia discusses class differences and their role in the society, as these are pretty visible in the background.

In terms of evaluation there are several aspects to consider. The aim of a bachelor thesis is to prove that the student is capable of independent scholarly work, that is, mainly, to research relevant material and provide a summary of what has been studied. In this, Dariia has done an excellent job indeed, especially in regard to the circumstances mentioned above. I have two reservations though. The first is structural and the second formal: in my view the thesis would have benefited from a deeper literary analysis of the novel which would interlink the novel and the background more closely. On the formal level I think the text suffers from uneven quality of English. I do recommend the thesis for defence and suggest that it be marked very good.

Práci doporučuji k obhajobě.



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