



POSUDEK OPONENTA DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: **Učitelství anglického jazyka a literatury**

Název práce: **Verbal aggression in Facebook comments**

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Short characteristics of the thesis

The goal of the thesis is presented as the description of verbal aggression in Facebook comments and the differences in its expression between women and men. It provides a general description of social media, the type of discourse used in this type of communication, the use of language in connection to gender, and verbal aggression in online communication. This theoretical description is then followed by an analysis of comments gathered from 36 Facebook posts.

Overall assessment

In my evaluation I will restrict myself to some overall comments connected with the work.

Firstly, as the title suggests, the thesis is aimed at dealing with verbal aggression in online communication, but the author devotes most of the space to general issues related to the internet and the language, and the focus on verbal aggression is clear only from p. 42 onwards. I would expect that focus on the questions of verbal aggression would be incorporated even the previous chapters. It would show the relevance of the discussed topics in a clearer way (e.g., is user's anonymity somehow related to verbal aggression?, p. 26).

Secondly, some chapters overlap in the description of certain topics, such as the level of formality (p. 25 and p. 29) or the differences between the spoken and written language (p. 14 and p. 30). This overlap is most likely caused by the fact that the author describes the social media language and computer mediated communication in two separate chapters even though she does not clearly state what the distinction between them lies in.

Thirdly, some claims in the thesis are stated without evidence or otherwise illustrated. For instance, at p. 20 in the part dealing with emoticons, the author provides a table of positive and negative connotations of certain emoticons, but it is not clear on what data this is based on. We may assume that the situation is not "black and white" that the use of these emoticons differs in different posts, e.g., in the case of "winking emoticon" she states that it has also gained a negative connotation, but it appears as "+" in the table. Also, is the "thumb up" emoticon used only negatively? Moreover, there is not evaluation of the table and how it is related to aggression.

However, despite what has been said above, the author has provided a cohesive thesis dealing with the language used in Facebook communication and the differences in use between women and men. It substantially covers all the areas related to this topic,



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the author shows a clear understanding of the discussed issues, so requirements for a successful thesis have been met.

Práci doporučuji k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: velmi dobře

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Datum

Podpis