



## POSUDEK VEDOUCÍHO DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

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Studijní obor: **Překladařství anglického jazyka**

Název práce: **From text analysis to discourse interpretation of Donald J. Trump's Tweets**

Autorka práce: **Bc. Nela Kratochvílová**

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Helena Lohrová, Ph.D.**

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

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### Short characteristics of the thesis

Nela Kratochvílová's MA thesis undertakes a textual analysis to describe and interpret linguistic strategies employed in the tweets published by the former American President Donald J. Trump during his presidential campaign in 2020. The analysis combines a microanalysis (close examination of lexical cohesion) with the use of Czech National Corpus tools, namely the application KWords. The overlay to translation work is highlighted in illustrating the importance of both textual analysis and discourse interpretation in the understanding of the communicative function of a text without which achieving a quality translation into the target language would not be possible.

### Overall assessment

Without a potential bias of a supervisor, I would like to express my compliments on the quality of the work achieved.

This is an original MA thesis the production of which had been driven exclusively by the initiative and research interest of the author who has carefully considered its scope, focus and relevance to the study programme pursued. The thesis design and structure have been achieved with a high degree of relevance and balance. The section attending to the genre of twitter and tweeting strategies is highly appropriate. The comparative analysis of Donald Trump's presidential tweets with those of Barack Obama is also informative. The analysis is thorough, drawing on numerous data samples. The findings arrived at are persuasive and through the analysis it is genuinely striking to be able to follow the fine threads of Donald Trump's tweeting strategy.

I particularly appreciate that the author did not reduce the analysis to the often tempting, yet myopic, close inspection of single phenomena, which in the wider social context is then subsequently impossible to interpret in any applied sense. Instead, Nela has at all times striven to interpret the findings of the textual analysis undertaken in the light of both the pragmatic and purposeful use of tweets and the social reality of political discourse.

This comprehensive and clearly more informative perspective has also been achieved linguistically. Whilst in setting out the theoretical frame the author draws on an iconic study *Cohesion in English* by Halliday and Hasan (1976), the analysis repeatedly indicates the close relationship - if not interdependence - between grammatical and lexical forms of language in their constitution of meaning. The thesis thus expands the understanding



of how local, at the time seemingly innocent or insignificant cohesive ties, assist in the constitution of more global meanings that the sentences/utterances we produce are designed to perform, i.e., coherence. In this sense, the thesis directly contributes to the current debate on cohesion and coherence in English (e.g., as reviewed by Dontcheva-Navratilova, 2017).

The overall level of writing and expression is very high. It is particularly the ability of the author to interpret the data, to formulate research-based observations into analytically-informed assessments and to articulate these clearly in the context of Donald Trump's tweeting strategy that must be appreciated.

Finally, as part of the overall academic assessment, I would like to state that Nela's attitude to completing this task has been at all times superior in manner, with a high degree of autonomy, self-direction, openness to discussion, responsiveness to feedback, and always honouring deadlines. These I believe are assets that cannot be marked as part of her MA thesis assessment but will prove invaluable in her future career.

I do recommend the thesis for defence and I propose the evaluation "excellent" (výborně).

Práci **doporučuji** k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: **výborně**

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

Datum

Podpis