



POSUDEK OPONENTKY BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: **AJL - SJL**

Název práce: **Negative prefixes in contemporary English**

Autor práce: **Jaromír Pelikán**

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

Oponentka bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Jana Kozubíková Šandová, Ph.D.**

Quality of Research

1) Please rate the following statements about the thesis on a scale of 1 (insufficient) to 3 (excellent)

The topic of the thesis is suitable for the scope and well defined: 3

Sets clear goals or questions for research: 3

Demonstrates conceptual clarity and accuracy: 2

Demonstrates a good understanding of the linguistic work(s) discussed: 2

Engages with the subject critically and analytically: 2

Uses relevant scholarship meaningfully: 2

2) Comment briefly on the quality of the research presented in the thesis:

See below.

Quality of Writing

1) Please rate the following statements about the thesis on a scale of 1 (insufficient) to 3 (excellent)

Has a clear and suitable structure: 3

Employs appropriate register and academic style: 3

Uses correct and relevant terminology: 2

Adheres to academic thesis guidelines, format and MLA style guide: 3

Written in correct and fluent English (both grammar and vocabulary): 2

Carefully edited with few typos or mistakes: 3

2) Comment briefly on the quality of the writing presented in the thesis:

The thesis has a logical and clear structure. The author uses appropriate academic style spiced up with frequent thought-provoking questions. The terminology employed throughout the thesis is correct, but, for instance, the term "scale extension" (p. 13), is used a bit vaguely and is not explained explicitly. The thesis is written in good English with only occasional mistakes in grammar.

Overall Review and Assessment

(short description of the thesis and its findings, what has been achieved, and areas for improvement)

The present thesis is an interesting contribution to the discussion about affixal negation in present-day English. The author starts his study explaining philosophical foundations of negation, since he is very well aware of the fact that it does not belong to linguistic



phenomena only, but that it is a concept which should be approached from a wider perspective. However, this philosophical background should have been explained more clearly, especially the Square of opposition, and how exactly it is related to negation. Section 2.2 may also seem rather confusing to the readers who are not familiar with the topic that much.

Section 2.3 explains what affixal negation is and at the end of this part Joshi's semantic classification is described. As this classification provides the basis for the research part of the thesis, it could have been explained more thoroughly and accompanied with illustrative examples.

Section 4 is, in my opinion, the most valuable part of the thesis, even though I do not always agree with the semantic categories of prefixes proposed in the classification. The author gradually examines the individual negative prefixes focusing on their morphological properties. The analysis is quite comprehensive, because the author takes more aspects into account, namely the kind of base the particular prefixes are attached to, preferred suffixes of these words, word classes, etc. The fact that the analysis does not consist merely in a mechanical categorization of suffixes is shown by the author's detailed consideration of various borderline or exceptional cases throughout this section.

The conclusion of the thesis is also very well-done and can serve as a practical guide for English users who need to create a word with a negative prefix and are not sure how to do it.

To conclude, this thesis is a welcome contribution to the morphology of negative prefixes in English. It meets the BA thesis requirements and, therefore, I recommend it for defence.

Questions for Defence

(please provide two questions for the student to answer during their defence)

How important a role does etymology play in the process of adding negative prefixes?
Could you explain the importance of the Square of oppositions for the concept of negation?

Práci doporučuji k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: **velmi dobře**

26.5.2023

Datum

Podpis

* Numerical assessments are provided as a guideline for recommending the final grade following an indicative scale:

over 32 "výborně"

28 - 32 "velmi dobře"

24-28 "dobře"

below 24 points the work is in danger of failing.

The final grade will be determined by the committee following the thesis defence.