



POSUDEK VEDOUCÍHO BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: **Anglický jazyk a literature – Matematika / vSŠ**

Název práce: **Narrative Unreliability in Agatha Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd***

Autorka práce: **Kateřina Švamberková**

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **Einat Adar, M.A., Ph.D.**

Oponent bakalářské práce: **doc. PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, 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: 3

Demonstrates a good understanding of the literary work(s) discussed: 3

Engages with the subject critically and analytically: 2

Uses relevant scholarship meaningfully: 3

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

The thesis presents the results of a clearly defined research project with convincing results. The scope is rather limited, focusing on a single aspect of a single novel which is a good choice for a B.A. thesis. The interpretation of the novel is lucid, but generally follows the author's intentions without challenging the assumptions and conventions of the genre.

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: 3

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

Written in correct and fluent English (both grammar and vocabulary): 3

Carefully edited with few typos or mistakes: 3

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

The thesis is generally fluent and adheres to academic conventions. It was easy to read and follow the author's logic throughout.



Overall Review and Assessment

The thesis examines the tell-tale signs of the narrator's ambiguity in Agatha Christie's novel *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*. In this unusual novel, the narrator is revealed to have been the murderer and the thesis applies a close reading of the text in order to highlight the ambiguities and lapses in the narrator's account that point to his complicity in the events of the novel. Such clue include reactions that would be exaggerated for an occasional observer, the use of phrases which have double-meaning depending on your knowledge of the doctor's involvement, and a small inconsistency in the timing of his account.

As the supervisor I must commend Kateřina for her clarity of thought and methodical development of the project. She worked independently and required little feedback beyond the clarification of academic conventions and the occasional need for further explanation of her thinking. I especially enjoyed her ability to identify and analyse instances of textual ambiguity which demonstrate her attention to the particular language employed by the narrator and analytical skills.

The main limitation of the thesis is its scope which include a very specific aspect of the novel, without addressing the cultural importance of detective fiction, or wider contexts for the particular work discussed. This is still suitable for a bachelor's thesis but does not seem to open up many avenues for further research.

Questions for Defence

1. Why do you think the 'whodunnit' has the specific rules you discuss in the first chapter? Could a detective novel be successful without adhering to them?
2. If you were to continue this research, what would you add to your project?

Práci **doporučuji** k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: **výborně**

18. 8. 2023

Datum

Podpis