



POSUDEK OPONENTA BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: **Anglický jazyk a literatura - Bohemistika**

Název práce: **The Position of Men and Women in Relationships in 19th-century British Literature**

Autorka práce: **Kateřina Madarová**

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

Oponent bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Ph.D. et Th.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:	2
Sets clear goals or questions for research:	2
Demonstrates conceptual clarity and accuracy:	2
Demonstrates a good understanding of the literary work(s) discussed:	2
Engages with the subject critically and analytically:	2
Uses relevant scholarship meaningfully:	2

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

Kateřina's thesis discusses the gender issue in Victorian novels, focusing specifically on Dickens's *Great Expectations* (1860-1861) and Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* (1891). The first chapter "Defining the Victorian Period" briefly – and rather sketchily – introduces the main issues of the Victorian era, in the remaining parts the findings are applied onto the works themselves. Kateřina bases her discussions on relevant secondary literature; at times, however, these analyses tend to be mechanistic, without deeper engagement with the dynamic and sometimes paradoxical problems of the age.

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:	2
Employs appropriate register and academic style:	2
Uses correct and relevant terminology:	2
Adheres to academic thesis guidelines, format and MLA style guide:	2
Written in correct and fluent English (both grammar and vocabulary):	2
Carefully edited with few typos or mistakes:	2

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

On the whole, the thesis is written in decent English, although more careful editing would have eliminated some language issues (grammar, syntax, lexical problems).



Overall Review and Assessment

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

Generally speaking, the text fulfils the main requirements for a B.A. thesis. However, more intense and more personal engagement with the novels and deeper insight into the social and cultural landscape of the period would have made it a more enjoyable read. The statements about the Victorian era are too general to allow any detailed discussions of the key authors (e.g., it is not clear how the discussion of Victorian poetry connects to the rest of the work, some authors are basically just listed without any commentary whatsoever). The analysis of the novels tends to be schematic, based on a more or less straightforward application of a particular concept onto the work itself.

Had Kateřina invested more time into a more detailed and truly “engaged” reading of the work, the outcome could have been much more interesting and stimulating.

Questions for Defence

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

How do you think literary works enhance our understanding of a particular period?
How do you see the relation between a *story* told in a novel and a *history* reflected by historians?

Práci **doporučuji** k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: **velmi dobře**

15.8.2023

Datum

Podpis