

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: *Kateřina Přebáňová*

Title: Nature, Jane Austen's Social Criticism

Length: 30

Text Length: 33

Assessment Criteria	Scale	Comments
1. Introduction is well written, brief, interesting, and compelling. It motivates the work and provides a clear statement of the examined issue. It presents and overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The intro was more awkward than the rest of the thesis.
2. The thesis shows the author's appropriate knowledge of the subject matter through the background/review of literature. The author presents information from a variety of quality electronic and print sources. Sources are relevant, balanced and include critical readings relating to the thesis or problem. Primary sources are included (if appropriate).	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
3. The author carefully analyzed the information collected and drew appropriate and inventive conclusions supported by evidence. Ideas are richly supported with accurate details that develop the main point. The author's voice is evident.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
6. The text is organized in a logical manner. It flows naturally and is easy to follow. Transitions, summaries and conclusions exist as appropriate. The author uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Some of the long quotes are under 40 words and should be quoted in the short fashion. There were minor problems with titles and a few other irregularities.

7. The language use is precise. The student makes proficient use of language in a way that is appropriate for the discipline and/or genre in which the student is writing.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
8. The thesis meets the general requirements (formatting, chapters, length, division into sections, etc.). References are cited properly within the text and a complete reference list is provided.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Many of the pull out quotations were too short. There were minor problems with the punctuation of titles. Sometimes the author forgets to italicize.

Final Comments & Questions

This is an excellent diploma work and I would recommend a 1. The author is to be congratulated on her hard work and the depth of her knowledge. But I think we could use greater clarification to what extent Austen can be called a "Romantic". There were a few passages in the text that seemed contradictory concerning the era of romanticism verses the values of romanticism. I found it interesting the way satire was define in terms of Wordsworth's definition of poetry--"recollected in tranquility." Perhaps this confusion/irony is evidence of a deeper tension in the work not yet fully articulated. It seems to me that this issue could be important to reading Austen as a feminist as well, as it seem that men have the luxury of being subjective romantics, while women are bound in a world of pragmatics, and are forced to be hyperrational for their very survival, even if patriarchal culture is determined to construct them irrational and frivolous.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 18.08.2014

Signature: