

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric
Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: **Jan Hostaš**
 Title: *The relevance of the British royal family today*
 Length: 47 pages
 Text Length: 35 pages

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	
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	
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	

Final Comments & Questions

For better or worse, the British monarchy continues to make headline news – and not only within the United Kingdom itself. Foreign media can maybe take a more dispassionate view of all the bizarre traditions and practices associated with the royal family; in Britain, TV viewers who rely on the BBC for their daily update on current events can witness the ever-so-sweet smiles of newsreaders and reporters whenever Her Majesty makes a public appearance or a new baby is born into 'The Firm'. However, it is by no means certain whether this media massage is still taken so seriously by HM's more enlightened subjects in the 21st century.

Given such a background, the author of this bachelor thesis has chosen a highly topical issue for analysis and produced a well-researched and neatly presented work. In terms of organisation, the main text contains three sections of approximately equal length. The first of these offers a succinct summary of the British monarchy through the ages from its origins back in Anglo-Saxon times up to the accession of George VI prior to world war two. The second covers the post-war monarchy with all its trials and tribulations, including a reputation not always enhanced by 24-news coverage on networks which are somewhat less sycophantic than the BBC. The third part of the thesis contains the results of the author's own research, conducted by means of an online questionnaire.

As the author states on p. 26, the age profile of respondents shows a heavy bias towards the younger categories, with 47% under the age of 25 and 64% overall under 30. This is no bad thing and offers an opportunity to compare the findings with those of various UK opinion polls in recent years, which suggest that the younger the respondents, the less they likely there are to be bubbling over with enthusiasm for the monarchy as an institution and unqualified blind loyalty to the Queen personally. The author's results do indeed reflect this picture and, in retrospect, it seems a pity that Q13 did not contain an option along the lines of "no significant contribution". As it is, the largest percentage of respondents take the stereotypical view that the monarchy represents *an allurements for tourists to visit the country* (p. 31). No doubt it would be considered unpatriotic of an Englishman to refer to the French experience, which would seem to suggest holiday-makers will still flock to see all the palaces and paraphernalia associated with them long after the original inhabitants have been removed once and for all. On the positive side, though, it is refreshing to note the younger generation's refusal to take a hysterically negative view of Meghan Markle, despite some of the appalling abuse to which she has been subjected by certain shameless sections of the tabloid press in Britain.

From a formal point of view, the author maintains a consistently high standard of language throughout his text and, overall, is to be congratulated on having produced an excellent piece of academic writing.

Recommended grade: **výborně**

Supervisor: Andrew Tollet

Date: 26th August 2022

Signature: