

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Hana Hrdličková
 Title: Landscape and Nature in the Poetry of William Wordsworth
 Length: 55
 Text Length: 52

<i>Assessment Criteria</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Comments</i>
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	Chapter 1 contains too many long quotes. While it cannot be said that the student is padding the thesis with these (the length of the work is generously beyond the requirements for a BA thesis), nevertheless it is a distinct weakness of the text. The choice of secondary texts is outdated and eccentric. Marek, Chudoba et al., are important for Czech reception of Wordsworth, but hardly good examples of important scholarship on the poet. Moreover, the student refers too frequently to basic introductions to British literature (Gill, Burgess, Thornley and Roberts, and most frequently, Deferarri). What does the student think of Jerome McGann or Peter McDonald, for instance? On a minor issue: patriotism prompts me to demur at the identification of Edmund Burke as an English philosopher and statesman. He could be referred to either as British, or Irish, but not English.
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	There is generous quotation of the poetry throughout, but mainly this is to bolster paraphrase of the narrative content.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and	Outstanding	See point 3 above.

avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	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

It is cheering to encounter a BA thesis on William Wordsworth, a poet who, as the student remarks, is generally overlooked in the Czech context. The work is written with enthusiasm, and in general covers some of the most important poems. Ms Hrdličková has a sure and good grasp of the themes and tones of the English poet's work, and explains these ably. However, because of the reservations noted above I recommend a grade of **2/velmi dobře**.

Reviewer: doc. Justin Quinn Ph.D.

Date: 10 August 2014

Signature:

