

## Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Kateřina Rybářová

Title: London in the Fiction of Charles Dickens

Length: 34

Text Length: 30

<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.	<b>Outstanding</b> 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).	<b>Outstanding</b> 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.	<b>Outstanding</b> Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	<b>Outstanding</b> <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	<b>Outstanding</b> <b>Very good</b> 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,	<b>Outstanding</b> Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	

grammar, and punctuation.		
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.	<b>Outstanding</b> <b>Very good</b> 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.	<b>Outstanding</b> Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	

#### Final Comments & Questions

This is an excellent thesis and I recommend the grade of **1 (výborně)**. For an analysis of Dickens's London, the student draws mainly on three novels – *Oliver Twist*, *Little Dorrit* and, to a lesser extent, *Bleak House*. Of course, many other novels could be added to the list, however, these are representative of Dickens's preoccupation with the city. The student draws on a wide range of historical and cultural works (perhaps too heavily on Peter Ackroyd), in order to discuss aspects of crime, punishment and sanitation. While most of this is carried out well, I was surprised on p. 7 to see a remark by Ackroyd quoted approvingly: "As a heap of rubbish will ferment, so surely will a number of unvirtuous women." In the same paragraph, the motivations male customers of these women are explained sympathetically, as though they had no other choice, while the women are morally condemned. However, this is a minor point in a thesis that is written with insight and intelligence.

Reviewer: doc. Justin Quinn Ph.D.

Date: 15 August 2017

Signature:

