

## Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Markéta Vaňourková

Title: Landscape and Nature in the Poetry of English Romantics

Length: 47

Text Length: 42

| <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<br><b>Very good</b><br>Acceptable<br>Somewhat deficient<br>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<br>Very good<br><b>Acceptable</b><br>Somewhat deficient<br>Very deficient | The thesis manifests that the student is familiar with a range of relevant secondary material, but, unfortunately, it does not always link up to the argument and the primary sources.                   |
| 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<br>Very good<br><b>Acceptable</b><br>Somewhat deficient<br>Very deficient | The thesis often attempts to provide an in-depth analysis of selected poems, but too often then resorts to generalizations, vague statements or mere descriptions and paraphrases, sometimes repetitive. |
| 4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.  | Outstanding<br>Very good<br>Acceptable<br><b>Somewhat deficient</b><br>Very deficient | See above.   |
| 5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.  | Outstanding<br><b>Very good</b><br>Acceptable<br>Somewhat deficient<br>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<br>Very good<br><b>Acceptable</b><br>Somewhat deficient<br>Very deficient |  |

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| 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<br>Very good<br><b>Acceptable</b><br>Somewhat deficient<br>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<br>Very good<br>Acceptable<br><b>Somewhat deficient</b><br>Very deficient | The thesis does not strictly adhere to the recommended APA format – formatting of verse, use of italics, inappropriate use of inverted commas, references, etc. |

#### Final Comments & Questions

While the student's research aim is a commendable one, there is, unfortunately, a lot of potential left unfulfilled. With ample material and sources on her hand, the author unfortunately underestimated the time-consuming process of assembling, writing, and re-writing her notes into a coherent whole. She did manage to find essential similarities and differences in the treatment of Nature/Landscape in the selected poems or passages by the three discussed poets, but her conclusions often sound rather vague and unconvincing. There seem to be quite a few loose threads, which would deserve further research and explication. Since the author, insisted on submitting the thesis for the current defense term, it was (despite her diligence and responsiveness in the final phase of writing) too late to incorporate major changes in structure, scale and depth of the thesis. Still, with respect to the complexity of the topic, the grade good (dobře) is well deserved.

Questions/ topics for discussion: On page 32, the word Imagination is used almost 10 times. It is a crucial concept for the Romantics. How was this term defined by Wordsworth's fellow Lake Poet Coleridge? (although he is not a part of the thesis).

Keat's poem *To my brother George* is mentioned briefly – could it be compared with the latter part of *Tintern Abbey*?

Reviewer: Magdaléna Potočnáková, Ph.D.

Date: 4.6.2018

Signature:

