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

Thesis Author: **Nikola Volrábová**

Title: *Social classes in Great Britain today*

Length: 45 pages

Text Length: 38 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

The work is well researched and offers a good insight into Britain's class divisions – an issue which, in spite of New Labour's wishful thinking under Tony Blair (mentioned on p. 32), remains topical to this day. The theoretical background presents several ways in which researchers have sought to categorise the various groups within society; ultimately, though, as the author's questionnaire demonstrates, the division people in Britain can most relate to is the traditional one of "upper class – middle class – working class", possibly with a subdivision of the second item into upper and lower middle.

In section 2.2.4 the author accurately captures the devastation caused by Thatcherite economic policy in the 1980s. One of the consequences was an ever-widening gap between rich and poor, which has only become more accentuated in the three decades following Thatcher's demise. At the time this bachelor work was submitted, Britain was still in the process of tearing itself apart over Brexit, with several commentators noting how the traditional divisions in society (to the social class factor, one may add north v. south, Labour v. Conservative) had been replaced by a straightforward Brexit-Bremain dichotomy. Only time will tell whether, once the problems with the EU have been resolved (regardless of which way), some semblance of normality will be restored and the English in particular will return to their long-standing obsession with class. Somehow, though, one rather imagines this will indeed be the case and in this respect Ms Volrábová's work may serve as a useful indicator of contemporary attitudes.

From a technical perspective the work is logically organised, neatly presented and maintains a high level of language accuracy throughout.

Recommended grade: **výborně**

Supervisor: Andrew Tollet

Date: