

POSUDEK BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE
KATEDRA ANGLICKÉHO JAZYKA A LITERATURY PedF UK

Autor práce: Marie Vejberová

Název práce: The Themes of Change and Development in The Tenant of Wildfell Hall and Wuthering Heights

Vedoucí práce: Bernadette Higgins MA

Rok odevzdání: 2016

Rozsah práce: 38 stran, bez příloh

Posudek: Vedoucího práce

Autor posudku: Bernadette Higgins MA

Posuzovaná oblast	Zvažovaná kritéria	Body (0-5)¹	
1.	Celková charakteristika	Splnění zásad zpracování práce, adekvátnost titulu práce, naplnění stanoveného cíle, logická struktura práce, vyváženost a propojenost teoretické a praktické části	4
2.	Teoretická část	Stanovení a splnění cílů, prezentace různých teoretických přístupů k řešení problému, jejich kritické posouzení a zvolení relevantní teoretické základny pro realizaci praktické části	4
3.	Praktická část	Vhodnost a aplikace zvolené metodologie, jasnost formulace hypotéz, relevantní a srozumitelná argumentace a interpretace získaných výsledků, jasnost formulace závěrů práce	3
4.	Jazyková úroveň	Gramatická správnost a komplexnost, slovní zásoba, koheze a koherence textu, interpunkce a stylistické aspekty, celková úroveň jazykového projevu	4
5.	Struktura a forma	Přehlednost struktury, členění, řazení a proporčnost kapitol a oddílů, konzistentnost úpravy práce, odpovídající rozsah práce, adekvátnost a provedení příloh	4
6.	Práce s odbornou literaturou	Kvalita, množství a relevance odborných zdrojů, kritický přístup ke zdrojům, odpovídající úroveň	3

Celkové zhodnocení práce (včetně kritických výhrad):

This thesis is an interesting and original analysis of two novels, Anne Bronte's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* and Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*, that focuses on the theme of change and development. The author has chosen to use this rather abstract theme to focus on structural development in terms of the narrative structure of the novels themselves and also in terms of the societal structures of the time and the possibilities they allowed for change. This elastic concept of 'development' is at times stretched to a degree that depletes it of meaning e.g. "Point of view is the most powerful of the author's means of developing the story for it controls and influences how the reader perceives and evaluates all aspects of the book, especially the development of characters." (p.10) but on the whole the author manages to keep her plates spinning and the thesis has a basic coherence and is generally expressed clearly.

Though there are many simplifications (e.g. that all of Charlottes novels have happy endings) and arguable claims made in it, the theoretical part of the thesis is perhaps the most admirable one as the author attempts to engage genuinely and originally with the various theoretical sources she has chosen for her analysis, in particular (perhaps, seminal though the work is, this source is relied on too heavily) Scholes and Kellogg.

The style of the author is very fluent with frequent felicities of expression, though there are occasional examples of this fluency leading to a slickness of expression and thought, e.g. she claims that Scholes and Kellogg (p. 20) attribute a passivity to Medea so that she can contrast her with Helen, though contemplation and dilemma is not anathema to action, as Medea's activities indicate and as her source makes clear, and writes, "She, however, without any deus ex machina entity's prodding, decides to act"(p. 21).

The author's central comparison of the two novels is based on biographical information about the authors (unbending Emily and reforming Anne) and also on a distinction made between Emily's novel as being predominantly Romantic, and therefore containing characters who develop little and Anne's novel as being Realistic in terms of its depiction of an unhappy marriage and abusive husband. She also finds similarities, e.g. the generational cycle, though curiously sees this as representing something negative in the case of *Wuthering Heights*. But despite the search for similarities, it seems that the author was more set on seeking binary oppositions, which tends to lead to an over-simplification at times. On the whole, however, this thesis shows much evidence of independent and innovative thought and the author marshals a great deal of critical material extremely well indeed and I do not hesitate to recommend it for acceptance and hope that the author will continue her research into these authors.

Témata a náměty k diskusi při obhajobě:

The author suggests that the ending of *Wuthering Heights* is a restoration of the old order (p. 35) rather than a progression or development – can she expand on this?

The author is intensely critical of Heathcliff, suggesting his character is unchanged, "He remains the same manipulative, selfish, cruel person he has always been." (p. 27) Doesn't Bronte, by showing us the brutality to which he was subjected as a small boy, invite a more sympathetic interpretation of his character?

Práci tímto - doporučuji

Datum: 14.1.2017

Podpis: Bernadette Higgins

