

## Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

---

Thesis Author: *Gabriela Kašpárková*

Title: Nature, *Jane Eyre*—Aspects of Feminist and Postcolonial Criticism in the Novel

Length: 32

Text Length: 35

<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Comments</b>
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 <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Rather short. It doesn't bring much context to the project nor does it give the reader a clear thesis statement.
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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	They author seems to know the novel <i>Jane Eyre</i> quite well as well as a variety of secondary 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 Very good <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	There are several good observations and details in the diploma, but it is hard to understand what the author is trying to communicate on a macro level.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Again, the author has a good eyes for detail but observations are presented in chapters that a full of mostly plot summary.
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	Even shorter than the intro. The conclusion is mostly a summary of a summary.
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 <b>Acceptable</b> 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 <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	The author's writing is often confusing as a result of ambiguous pronouns, poor syntax (i.e. prepositional phrases) and a general lack of direction or purpose.
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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	

Final Comments & Questions

The author should be congratulated on her hard work and depth of knowledge. It is clear she is intimately familiar with *Jane Eyre*, has read the novel closely, and has delved into numerous secondary sources as well. Unfortunately, the author never gives a clear picture of what she wants to communicate. The introduction never announces an overall purpose for the diploma in the form of an argumentative thesis. I was surprised that the author wrote about both feminism and postcolonialism, as postcolonialism was created largely out of feminist ideology (along with Marxism). Wouldn't it have been simpler to have concentrated on postcolonialism from a feminist perspective? It seems like the project of placing *Jane Eyre* in a postcolonial context as well as comparing it to *The Wide Sargasso Sea* would have been more appropriate project for a whole diploma rather than just the last 5 pages. As it is now the postcolonial elements feel merely tacked on.

The prose in the diploma feels desultory and vague. Part of this comes from a lack of purpose and part of this is an undisciplined grasp of syntax. For example, when comparing *Vanity Fair* with *Jane Eyre* the author writes, "Becky was displayed as a smart, humorous, intelligent and accomplished lady, who was quite early married a man who loved her—actually, she did not love him neither her own child, just herself" (14). This is a run-on sentence and clearly the author is trying to pack too much information into one unit of sense, and as a result winds up contradicting herself. On the next page, in regards to the position of governess, the author writes, "According to Hughes, servants perceived them as they were nothing more than they but not fit among them either" (15). It is ambiguous whether "they" refers to servants or governesses and the final "them" seems to refer to governess rather than servants as it did in the subject of the sentence. The author should write more slowly. Spend more time proofreading. And read her composition aloud to prevent these kind of contradictions and confusions. Still the author's use of the classic text *The Madwoman in the Attic* by Gilbert and Guber was rather good. Again her observations and her eye for detail should be praised. I only wish the author were capable of a more panoramic vision. Recommendation: *dobře*, but depending on the student's performance during the defense and the assessment of the director I feel the committee should be open to grade upwards.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 21.8.2019

Signature: