



**Katedra anglického jazyka a literatury**  
**Posudek vedoucí diplomové práce KAJL UHK**

**Autor práce**            **Marek Jech**  
**Studijní obor**            **Učitelství pro 2. stupeň ZŠ – anglický jazyk a literatura**  
                                      **Učitelství pro 2. stupeň ZŠ – německý a literatura**  
**Forma studia**            **prezenční**

**Název práce (česky/anglicky)**  
**Vedoucí práce Prof. PhDr. Bohuslav Mánek, CSc.**  
**Oponent práce**        **Mgr. Františka Schormová, Ph.D.**

<b>Kritéria hodnocení práce</b>	<b>Hodnocení A-F</b>
<b>Obsahová stránka</b>	
Formulace cílů práce	B
Vhodnost využití primárních a sekundárních zdrojů pro podporu argumentace	D
Rozsah a hloubka vlastní analýzy, kritický přístup ke zdrojům	C
Interpretace dat a splnění cílů práce	C
<b>Formální stránka</b>	
Logická struktura práce	C
Úroveň jazykového zpracování	B-
Dodržení bibliografických norem	B
<b>Komentáře k hodnocení</b> Overall, this is a solid thesis that would benefit from one final round of editing of both form and content. The observations are good – unfortunately, they are often not sufficiently supported by proper quotes from the analyzed novels. The author has clearly researched his topic, brought in the perspective of Chinua Achebe, and also quotes some postcolonial scholars such as Edward Said.  My main points of criticism are: Sources: often, sources are missing entirely, or there is a reference only at the end of a long paragraph. There is an extensive quote on p. 51 that takes up almost the entire page. Small mistakes like two different spellings of god (god/God, for example on p.20), wrong capitalization (Ivory), and word order. Interpretation: after a rather long biographical chapter, Conrad's work is interpreted through his life, for example in the following sentences: "By Conrad being intentionally racist and pro-imperialist, he would be turning back on his family and the cause his father strived for. Why would Josef Conrad support a system that irreversibly damaged his family? Conrad found his passion in sailing. The paradox of it is that he found himself employed by a system that the Polish	

intelligentsia strived against.” (p. 17-18) Not only is this speculative, but I also find it problematic, especially because the author promises to analyze “three of Conrad novels and describe how racism, colonialism, and imperialism are portrayed.” (p. 1) Oftentimes, observations lack quotes to support them (p. 20: Conrad describes how colonialism has not changed in centuries, p. 21: Marlow sees similarities between the continents of Africa and Europe). The occasional use of personal judgements such as “I do not think so” on page 22 or, on p.45 “I am convinced that”, or, on p. 55 “The main reason I am interested in this issue is the controversy surrounding Conrad and his beliefs. I initially saw him as an adventurer and I still do.” While these are interesting, they do not belong to academic writing.

This thesis represents an interesting contribution to a timely, relevant, and controversial topic. While it brings many good points and interesting observations, it makes an impression as if there was not enough time for proper editing both in terms of smaller mistakes and some logical inconsistencies. For this reason, I suggest C as the overall grade.

Note:

Work with a similar focus should strive to avoid using the word Africa too generally (Dipo Faloyin: Africa Is Not a Country). A good way to do this is to either name the specific country or, if more countries are meant, talk about, i.e., “various African countries” (or use “the African continent”) to reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the continent. One could also specifically mention that one is working with Conrad’s literary construction of Africa and distinguishing between that and the actual continent.

### ***Otázky k obhajobě***

**What do you think about the current efforts to decolonize museums/ literature/ culture?  
Would you read any of the mentioned novels with your students? Why? Why not? What sort of additional material would you use?**

In Hradec Králové on 21.7.2023 Hodnotitel Mgr. Františka Schormová, Ph.D.