

THESIS REVIEWER'S OPINION						
Student's full name	Vendula Kociánová					
Thesis title	Stephen Fry's Making History: Another Adolf Hitler					
Reviewer's name	Jeffrey Keith Parrott, Ph.D.					
Degree course	English for Business Administration					
Mode of study	Full-time					
Thesis evaluation criteria	Classification grade according to ECTS					
Structure						
Outline and division	A	B	C	D	E	F
Language level	A	B	C	D	E	F
Formatting (citations, presentation)	A	B	C	D	E	F
Content						
Thesis statement formulation	A	B	C	D	E	F
Sources and their utilization	A	B	C	D	E	F
Methods of processing the research problem	A	B	C	D	E	F
Level of analytical and interpretive components	A	B	C	D	E	F
Formulation of conclusions and meeting the objectives	A	B	C	D	E	F
Originality and vocational contribution	A	B	C	D	E	F
Evaluation justification (strengths and weaknesses of thesis):						
<p>The thesis is well written and organized (I appreciated that the author cut Parts I and II from the template, since these are unnecessary for the four-chapter structure here). The formatting is also good, with an exception in the Bibliography section: a reference is inappropriately given to Good Reads, when only the published version should be cited. The topic of the thesis is very interesting, in particular the discussion of the similarities and differences between alternative history, science fiction, and speculative fiction.</p> <p>My only real criticism is that, as is often the case at this level, there is no clear research question; the thesis is "about" something but does not make arguments for or against any proposition. Even so, it's quite astonishing to read far-reaching, unsupported, and frankly implausible claims like the following on page 10:</p> <p>"Based on [White's] assumption, there are distinct formal characteristics in the works written by different historians, and historians, therefore, write in various styles. This proves that history is a constructed narrative. It follows that all facts are shaped in a way."</p> <p>Besides the vague hedging (repeated in the Conclusion) of "in a way", such relativism undercuts the thesis itself: if history and facts are constructed and shaped ("in a way"), what is the purpose of writing about the "actual" history of how Hitler and the Nazis persuaded some of the German population with their "propaganda"?</p>						
Questions to be answered by student:						
<p>1. Could you please summarize, in one or two sentences, the main argument that you are making in the thesis? What evidence confirms or disconfirms the position you are taking?</p> <p>2. Regarding the question of whether "history" should be regarded as "a science", what are the opinions of natural scientists on the matter? Should they matter? Since science is a method of inquiry, couldn't we say that history is as scientific, or not, as it is practiced according to a</p>						

scientific methodology?						
Overall mark*	A	B	C	D	E	F
Date: 27/5/2022	Signature:					

* Overall mark is not a mathematical average of individual marks.