

## **Abstract**

The bachelor thesis will deal with the character of Sherlock Holmes in Arthur Conan Doyle's early novels *A Study in Scarlet* and *The Sign of the Four* and in the short story *The Final Problem*. It will therefore focus on the emergence of the character of Sherlock Holmes and the way it is shaped in the aforementioned novels – his appearance, character, detective work using deductive skills, the environment of his residence, etc. An important theme will be the interaction of Holmes with other characters, especially Dr. Watson and their arch-enemy James Moriarty. The focus of the thesis will be on the interpretation of the novel *A Study in Scarlet*, with the other two works receiving secondary analysis. The thesis will also focus on literary historical context and technical terms. According to the preliminary plan, it will be divided into four parts. The first part will give a brief account of the literary and historical context of the period, Arthur Conan Doyle and the canon of Sherlock Holmes stories. The second part will deal with a description of the various concepts based on theory (including the detective genre, literary character, methods of deduction). The third part will be devoted to individual characters. The fourth part will focus on a brief interpretation of the text based on two novels and one short story. I will use Daniela Hodrová's theory to work on the literary character issue of the thesis.

## **Keywords**

Arthur Conan Doyle – Sherlock Holmes – end of 19th century – English fiction – detective fiction – literary character – *A Study in Scarlet* – James Moriarty – Dr. Watson