



**FAKULTA
HUMANITNÍCH STUDIÍ**
Univerzita Karlova

Zadání přijímací zkoušky – 23. 4. 2016 odpoledne

Text k překladu:

M. W. MacCallum: *Shakespeare's Roman Plays and their Background.*

Shakespeare's Treatment of History

There is no doubt that it was patriotic enthusiasm that called into existence the Chronicle Histories so numerous in Elizabeth's reign, of which the best in Shakespeare's series are only the consummate flower. The pride in the present and confidence in the future of England found vent, too, in occupation with England's past, and since the general appetite could not be satisfied by the histories of every sort and size that issued from the press, the vigorous young drama seized the opportunity of extending its operations, and stepped in to supply the demand. Probably with a more definite theory of its aims, methods, and sphere there might have been less readiness to undertake the new department. But in the popular conception the play was little else than a narrative presented in scenes. The only requirement was that it should interest the spectators, and few troubled themselves about classic rule and precedent, or even about connected structure and arrangement. And when by and by the Elizabethan Tragedy and Comedy became more organic and vertebrate, the Historic Play had secured recognition, and was able to persist in what was dramatically a more rudimentary phase and develop without regard to more exacting standards. Shakespeare's later Histories, precisely the superlative specimens of the whole species, illustrate this with conspicuous force...

In proportion then as Shakespeare realised the requirements of the Chronicle History, and succeeded in producing his masterpieces in this domain, he deviated from the course that he pursued in his other plays.

Otázky k textu:

1. Co vyústilo podle autora v zájem o minulost Anglie?
2. Jaké bylo v dané době lidové pojetí divadelní hry?
3. K čemu by vedlo vypracovanější teoretické vymezení cílů, metod a oblasti zájmu mladého dramatu?