

Graduate Thesis Assessment Rubric
Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: Miroslava Voláková

Title: Design issues in language testing materials

Length: 72 pages

Text Length: 45 pages

Assessment Criteria	Scale	Comments
1. Introduction is well written, brief, interesting, and compelling. It motivates the work and provides a clear statement of the problem. It places the problem in context. It presents and overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The author writes a very engaging introduction that provides readers with a clear idea about the focus of the thesis.
2. Literature review is comprehensive and complete. It synthesizes a variety of sources and provides context for the research. It shows the author's understanding of the most relevant literature on the subject matter.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Due to the focus of the research, the author reviews literature in three different areas: design, usability testing, ELT testing. In my opinion, the author sometimes goes into too much detail in discussing some of the topics (e.g. reliability and validity) and on the other hand is rather brief about aspects of design. However, the author presents all the necessary background information on the subject matter to ground her research in and also be later able to discuss the findings in contrast with theory.
3. The methodology chapter provides clear and thorough description of the research methodology. It discusses why and what methods were chosen for research. The research methodology is appropriate for the identified research questions.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
4. The results/data are analyzed and interpreted effectively. The chapter ties the theory with the findings. It addresses the applications and implications of the research. It discusses strengths, weaknesses, and limitations of the research.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The chapter offers a detailed analysis of the usability test and the author makes very valid comments about the design issues of the state exam.
5. The thesis shows critical and analytical	Outstanding	The critical and analytical thinking is

thinking about the area of study and the author's expertise in this area.	Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	apparent throughout the whole thesis; however, the author demonstrates this extremely well in the research section of her thesis as she thoroughly analyzes the results of the usability testing and makes sound remarks regarding the findings.
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 demonstrates high quality writing skills and uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
7. 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 Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	

Final Comments & Questions

Ms. Voláková writes a clearly focused thesis on an unusual yet important topic. She arrives at valid findings about the visual design of the national exam and discovers some inconsistencies in its visual language. Ms. Voláková's work is very informative and presents mind stimulating and useful ideas and considerations regarding the visual design of assessment tools.

I suggest that the author is awarded the grade "excellent" for her thesis project.

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: August 11, 2022

Signature: 