

**Graduate Thesis Assessment Rubric** (Methodology, Linguistics)  
**Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia**

Thesis Author: Kateřina Mertová  
 Title: ISSUES OF DESIGNING EFFECTIVE CONVERSATIONAL LESSONS  
 FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS  
 Length: 57pp.  
 Text Length: 42pp.

<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Comments</b>
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.	<b>Outstanding</b>	
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.	<b>Outstanding</b>	
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.	<b>Outstanding</b>	
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.	<b>Outstanding</b>	
5. The thesis shows critical and analytical thinking about the area of study and the author's expertise in this area.	<b>Outstanding</b>	

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.	<b>Somewhat deficient</b>	Typos and grammar errors are to be found in every paragraph. Also, I would recommend English equivalents for terms such as <i>maturita</i> and <i>Masarykovo gymnázium</i> .
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.	<b>Outstanding</b>	

Final Comments & Questions

While the theoretical part presents familiar arguments about the importance of developing speaking skills for language acquisition, the core of the thesis lies in the research and analysis of results gathered from classroom observations. Here the student's appraisals and conclusions are balanced and critical, and she is perceptive and acute at every turn. She assesses the practical difficulties of conducting speaking sessions in the classroom when one does not have the full cooperation of a class, pointing out the ways these can be adjusted and optimized.

I recommend the grade of 1 (**výborně**).

Reviewer: doc. Justin Quinn Ph.D.

Date: 31 July 2013

Signature:

