

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

Thesis Author: Stanislav Rychtařík

Title: Designing criteria to assess speaking skills

Length: 56 pages

Text Length: 43 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 straightforward introduction that provides readers with a clear idea about the focus of the research and the overview 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	The author successfully balances out the various concepts of the subject matter and shows the complexities involved in the assessment processes of speaking skills.
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 presentation of the findings is clear, well organized and effectively supported with graphs.
5. The thesis shows critical and analytical thinking about the area of study and the author's expertise in this area.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	

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	The author shows a high level of academic writing proficiency.
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

Mr. Rychtařík writes a scholarly thesis based on a comprehensive review of literature on assessment in general and assessment of speaking skills. He presents a useful and interesting survey of teachers' assessment practices and unveils some differences in how teachers approach assessment of their students' oral production. These findings show some limitations in teachers' knowledge about the subject matter and show direction for further teacher education. It is without any doubt that by completing this thesis, Mr. Rychtařík developed a lot of expertise in assessment of speaking skills in English classes and gained valuable insights into effective assessment procedures. Anybody familiarizing himself/herself with the thesis will gain good understanding of effective assessment strategies, especially assessment strategies of speaking skills.

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

Note: During the defense, among other things, I would like the author to discuss the implications of the findings to his second research question.

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: July 5, 2014

Signature:

