Graduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: Jitka Tomášková

Title: Language transfer between Czech and English

Length: 52 pages

Text Length: 44 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	
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 shows familiarity with the major topics in language transfer. She addresses a number of topics yet they are not explored in depth. More secondary sources could have been used to strengthen the arguments, especially in the area of language transfer. For example, the author mostly refers to one key source – Odlin when discussing transfer in language learning.*
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	*It seems to me that the author touches on a variety of transfer related topics yet each question is very general and doesn't provide deep insights into the learners' views and processes associated with language transfer. Furthermore, the author herself admits few times that the participants' understanding of the questions could have been influenced by their lack of familiarity with CEFR etc.*
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	*Although the quality of the data remains questionable, the author manages to analyze her findings effectively.*
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	
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

In this thesis, Ms. Tomášková brings together her two areas of study – Czech and English and shows her ability to choose a topic, identify and review relevant literature, and conduct research that would provide her with insights into language learning processes. The thesis does bear some limitations and due to the scope and depth of the research, it may be in question to what extend the presented research is of benefit to a broader audience. But it is for sure that it has helped Ms. Tomášková to develop a better understanding of the role of learners' mother tongue in language teaching.

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

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: May 5, 2014

Signature: