

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

Thesis Author: Juraj Štefaničik

Title: iPad in English language classes

Length: 61 pages

Text Length: 58 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 theoretical background section is rather shallow (not comprehensive). The author covers an extremely large range of topics without going into depth. In other words, there are too many ideas that aren't developed. For example, the author only dedicates a page to the SAMIR model that the later uses a key thing in his data analysis. The review doesn't focus on the value and use of iPads in ELT explicitly. The contents on pp. 9-24 is of a very general nature without much relevance for the actual research carried out later. Overall, the chapter provides introduction into the issues of iPads in education for public, but it doesn't provide a good and thorough theoretical framework for any research study.
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	The author mentions a number of contradictory statements which makes one question the origin of the research. For example, the author says that two school were selected for the research (p.25). Later, the author mentions three schools were a part of the research (p.26); however, he doesn't provide any information about the third school. The author says that he was interested in determining whether iPads were used in teaching yet later on the very same page (p.25) he claims that he identified two schools that use iPads.

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 author draws conclusions about teacher's practices that, in my opinion, cannot be drawn based on the generally written questions in the survey. One would need to observe tasks with iPads or have a detailed description of these tasks to be able to say how the tasks correspond to the SAMIR model and what digital literacies are developed. Even if a teacher claims that a creative app is used in a lesson, it cannot be assumed that the task is of a redefinition type (respondent #6).
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	The author fails to label graphics. There are unjustified parts of empty space on various pages (especially in the theoretical part of the thesis). The author doesn't use APA properly in references (e.g. use of capital letters, italics.).

Final Comments & Questions

Mr. Štefaničik shows a lot of enthusiasm about the topic of his thesis. There is no doubt that Mr. Štefaničik has a lot of expert knowledge about iPads and how they could be used in education. At the same time, this expertise seems to be an obstacle in allowing Mr. Štefaničik to go beyond his existing knowledge and examine credible academic sources to expand his expertise, develop a strong theoretical framework for his research, and consequently carry out an insightful research study. Subsequently, the thesis only discusses the topic of iPad use on the surface and in a very general way.

The second submitted version of the author's thesis still bears lots of limitations as pointed out above. On the other hand, the author has made observable improvements to it in comparison with his first submitted version. I suggest that the thesis is awarded a passing grade.

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: July 26, 2015

Signature: 