

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

Thesis Author: Petra Opatrná
 Title: Effective use of teaching assistants in English lessons
 Length: 63 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	<i>The issue of TAs is a new and complex one in the Czech Republic. The author synthesizing relevant information and presenting it in a digestible form.</i>
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	<i>Although the author provides implications of her research to teaching, Chapter 5 in many ways describes findings similarly to Chapter 4. The chapter is also missing strengths, weaknesses, and limitations of the research.</i>
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

Czech schools are facing new challenges associated with the integration of children who need additional assistance to succeed in mainstream classes. I appreciate Ms. Opatrná's interest in the subject matter and motivation to write a thesis on the role of TAs in English classes. The collected data raise a lot of questions regarding training and skills associated with the effective role of TAs in classes. Although the study is very limited and qualitative, it is obvious that there is a lot of unknown for the teachers as well as the TAs. The thesis shows the need to strategically approach the issue and seek ways to make the presence of TAs a value to the particular students as well as the class as a whole. I believe that this project has provided the author with good insights into the issue and positively contributed to her overall professional development.

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

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: September 4, 2017

Signature:

