

Graduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Michaela Ficencová

Title: Using cooperative learning in primary school English classes

Length: 47 pages

Text Length: 56 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 chapter is well focused and provides a firm base for the author's research. I only question whether a bit more could have been discussed about the role of cooperative learning in L2 classes.</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>The author presents and discusses her findings in a clear and organized manner. The graphs are effectively used and support the author's text. The author could have linked her findings to the ideas presented in the background chapter more explicitly.</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	Outstanding Very good	

to follow. Transitions, summaries and conclusions exist as appropriate. The author demonstrates high quality writing skills and uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	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	<i>The author doesn't include an English version of her abstract. Also, the author numbers her pages from the first page of the thesis rather than the first page of its text part.</i>

Final Comments & Questions

Ms. Ficencová writes a clearly focused thesis on collaborative learning. The research allowed the author to closely look at whats and hows of collaborative learning with fourth grade English language learners and identify issues to focus on when implementing collaborative tasks successfully. I believe that this project has provided the author with good insights into collaborative learning practices and positively contributed to her overall professional development that is so needed for successful classroom instruction.

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

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

