

Graduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Petra Weiszová

Title: Effective teaching of speaking skills at lower secondary schools

Length: 43 pages

Text Length: 52 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 author shows familiarity with the major topics in teaching speaking skills.</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	<i>I miss more detailed information on the process of students' assignments via Instagram. Specifically, information presented p. 34 should have been included in the research methodology along with more information on the topics covered in the lessons and the actual assignments.</i>
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	
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	<i>The author critically assesses her findings within the context of her research.</i>

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

Ms. Weiszová's thesis is a grand example of a high quality thesis. Ms. Weiszová stays focused on the topic of her research throughout the whole project, explores it in depth, and using her theoretical knowledge, she designs an experiment verifying the value of carefully designed and scaffolded speaking tasks.

It is without any question that by completing this thesis, Ms. Weiszová developed a lot of expertise regarding teaching speaking skills and supporting language learners in speaking activities. Anybody familiarizing himself/herself with the thesis will gain good understanding of core issues in teaching speaking skills, especially steps supporting language learners in oral production.

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

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: September 1, 2020

Signature