

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric (Methodology, Linguistics)
Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: Jakub Hlaváček
Title: Transferred Meanings in the Quotes by Famous People
Length: 63
Text Length: 62

<i>Assessment Criteria</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1. Introduction is well written, brief, interesting, and compelling. It motivates the work and provides a clear statement of the examined issue. It presents and overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see below
2. The thesis shows the author's appropriate knowledge of the subject matter through the background/review of literature. The author presents information from a variety of quality electronic and print sources. Sources are relevant, balanced and include critical readings relating to the thesis or problem. Primary sources are included (if appropriate).	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see below
3. The author carefully analyzed the information collected and drew appropriate and inventive conclusions supported by evidence. Ideas are richly supported with accurate details that develop the main point. The author's voice is evident.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see below
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see below
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see below
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 uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see below

7. The language use is precise. The student makes proficient use of language in a way that is appropriate for the discipline and/or genre in which the student is writing.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see below
8. 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	see below

Final Comments & Questions

The Introduction chapter is a very good opening to this thesis – in an interesting way, the author describes his reasons for the choice of topic, including a provocative example of quotation by B. Mussolini. The structure of the thesis is introduced clearly chapter after chapter; I would only expect a more transparent presentation of the research task.

In the theoretical part the author offers a plenty of concepts involved in the present research topic. His language is brief and factual, which may be sometimes an advantage. On the other hand, in my opinion, some parts would deserve a deeper insight. This, e.g., regards the subchapter on semiotic triangle, where, in addition, I would prefer a different particular form of triangle that would illustrate the ideas more clearly. The description and exemplification is not very fortunate, nor very transparent. The survey of both paradigmatic and syntagmatic sense relations is very good, it is rich in examples and clearly organized. The author devotes a considerable space to the most relevant area – the area of meaning. He submits a survey of types of meaning transfer together with illustrative examples. Just one note: synecdoche may also occur as the name of a whole referring to just a part, e.g.: “The faculty made an announcement about the quarantine”. I appreciate the large number of figures introduced in the chapter as well as the way they are ordered. The alphabetical order here makes sense and seems to be the best / simplest approach. The theoretical part provides the reader with sufficient knowledge to be able to get through the practical part easily. The chapter is well concluded and a smooth transition to the following text is ensured.

The author then clearly describes his methodological procedure of the research and the way of presenting the items found in the material. The organization of the individual findings is transparent and understandable; I appreciate the linguistic as well as extra-linguistic commentary on each unit, which makes the description much more effective. The content is interesting and the chapter is pleasant to read. I like the special attention to the translated units – this shows the interesting linguistic relations of the two languages, e.g. “sugarcoat” translated as “lakovat na rúžovo” where the original connection to food has been lost (p. 54).

The whole work is concluded in the Conclusion chapter (where the main aim of the research stated clearly than at the beginning). It summarises the main findings in the examined material and adds some further comments on interesting examples. I would only suggest to make the chapter itself better concluded, as it is the very end of the whole work.

As for the correctness of language, there are occasional mistakes / typing errors, which sometimes result in certain confusion (e.g. the first paragraph of Abstract at the very beginning of the work). The style is appropriate and acceptable, even if the language is fairly simple. The overall impression is that the author is really involved in linguistics, especially in the work with the meaning relations of words.

Despite some shortcomings described above, I recommend the evaluation “very good” (velmi dobře), as I think that this thesis a decent piece of academic work.

Supervisor: PhDr. Naděžda Stašková, PhD.

Date: 9.6.2020

Signature: