

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

**Thesis Author:**            **Barbora BEROUŠKOVÁ**

**Title:** **THE COMPETITION OF ROOT AND EPISTEMIC MODALITY OF THE MODAL AUXILIARY MAY WITH RESPECT TO CZECH**

**Length:** 49

**Text Length:** 32

<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 final comments down the page
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 final comments down the page
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 final comments down the page
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding ◀ Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	see final comments down the page
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 final comments down the page

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 final comments down the page
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 final comments down the page
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 final comments down the page

### Final Comments & Questions

This bachelor's thesis focuses on a grammatical topic which can be found in most grammar books in a more or less detailed way. Modal verbs represent an extremely important part of morphology – they are irreplaceable means of language expression.

The chapter Introduction explain the principles and organization of the thesis in a brief and clear way. In the following chapter Theoretical background the author provides a number of individual explanations and descriptions of the term “modality”. This step is very important from the point of view of the concept of the work and the author's attitude towards the issue. She mentions individual grammarians' opinions and their justification of their attitudes. She clearly states which of the viewpoints she will use in her research and explains why.

The main part of Theoretical background presents the role of modal auxiliary “may”, which is the focus of her work (she briefly mentions its perfective form “might”, but does not pay attention to it, since it represents an individual issue).

In the practical part – analysis, the author mentions the resource of her excerpts as well as the Czech translation. The analysis itself (to be found in Appendix) provides a detailed evaluation of the function of the verb phrases containing “may” from the description of their formal verbal categories to the main point – telling the type of modality suggested by them. The author also analyzed the possibilities of Czech translation of individual verb phrases (by means of the Czech equivalent modal, adverbs or other means of translation). The analysis is very precise and detailed. It shows the author's interest in the given topic and the care with which she approached the work.

The conclusions presented in the chapter of the same name are relevant, based on the results obtained from the analysis and supported by clear and understandable graphs.

From the point of view of the language, the work is at a very good level.

To sum up, this thesis fully meets all the requirements set for a bachelor's thesis. I consider it an excellent piece of academic writing.

The suggested evaluation: EXCELLENT (VÝBORNĚ)

**Supervisor/ Reviewer :** PhDr. Jarmila Petříková, Ph.D.

**Date:** May 25 2023

**Signature:**