

Graduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Gabriela Klimendová

Title: CZECH TEEN'S ATTITUDES TOWARD AND VIEWS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Length: 58

Text Length: 69

<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 problem. It places the problem in context. It presents and overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Rather brief – the author did not place the issue into a broader context but rather listed the chapters. Moreover, explaining the motivation for the thesis and its research would also be relevant.
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	The chapter on recent studies in the field complements the theoretical part of the thesis providing insight into the current situation.
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	The author describes the selected data collection tool as a semi-structured interview, as a qualitative method. Nevertheless, the method employed is very close to a structured interview (or a sort of oral survey) – containing several Likert scales, closed items and several open-ended items. The data gathered from Likert scales and closed items are thus presented quantitatively. It seems thus close to a mixed approach. Moreover, the open-ended items were not analysed qualitatively (i.e. coding, categorising or thematic analysis) – the data was described and summarised.
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	As described above.

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

The thesis deals with the broad issue of language attitudes regarding the context of ELT. In particular, the author focuses on Czech teenagers – i.e. the 6th and 9th graders from a Czech basic school in Pilsen - and examines their attitudes to the English language and English language learning to compare these attitudes and draw several conclusions in compliance with the research results. The author presents topics relevant to the selected issue in the theoretical part. The practical part describes and explains the research aim and selected methodology. As mentioned above, the data from the open-ended items of the selected research instrument were not coded and categorised but rather summarised, which does not correspond to the required data analysis procedure. Moreover, the research design was realised as a mixed approach, whereas the text describes the qualitative method only. On the other hand, the author provided a very detailed data description and draw valid conclusions. The thesis thus represents a useful insight into the selected field of language attitudes.

Suggested grade: 1 – 2

1. In your thesis, you did not specifically comment on the relation between the data gathered and one of the topics explored in the theoretical part – the issue of English as a global language and learners' attitudes to English. Following the results, most of the 6th and 9th graders thought of English in relation to English-speaking countries. Could you comment on this finding and expand possible interpretations of this aspect?

Reviewer: PhDr. Eva Skopečková, Ph.D.

Date: 5. 6. 2023

Signature:

