

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric
Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: Pavel Šebesta
 Title: Motifs of Four Elements in T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*
 Length: 33pp.
 Text Length: 32pp.

Assessment Criteria	Scale	Comments
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	
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	I was particularly pained to see Spark Notes used repeatedly as an authority. The error is all the worse given the large amount of secondary works on Eliot's poem.
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	I was disappointed that the author did not stick to his stated topic throughout the thesis, i.e., the elements in Eliot's poem. Instead he was distracted repeatedly by biographical readings, especially connected with the figure of Jean Verdenal. These are undoubtedly important, but used as they are here, they make the work less focussed. Also, research on the matter of Starnbergersee (p. 9 and elsewhere) seems to me irrelevant. The student spends a good deal of time discussing a political assassination without any evidence that Eliot had this in mind.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient	Viz., point 3 above, I would have to liked to read the thesis described in the introduction and conclusion and was sorry to see that this plan wasn't

	Very deficient	adhered to.
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	
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	The thesis is marred throughout by careless mistakes in spelling, grammar and articles.
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	Punctuation around references is incorrect throughout the thesis.

Final Comments & Questions

Despite the many reservations described above, the author should be commended for taking on such an ambitious and demanding work. I admired the way that he critically dealt with a wide range of materials. Had it not been for the carelessness of execution and the distraction of biographical readings, I would have recommended the grade of 2, but given these I have no option but to recommend 3 (**dobře**).

Supervisor/Reviewer: doc. Justin Quinn Ph.D.

Date: 20 July 2012

Signature:

