

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

Thesis Author: Hana Bečvářová
 Title: History of the American Independence and its Influence in the Area of Everyday Life
 Length: 35 pages
 Text Length: 32 pages

<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	
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	
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")
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 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 uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The 'Acceptable' is on the borderline of 'Somewhat deficient': the second paragraph on p.30 may serve as a characteristic example of the various lexical and grammatical shortcomings in this work.

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	
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	Although chapters are numbered in the list of contents, these numbers are absent from the main text; nor is orientation assisted by the author not starting each new chapter on a new page.

Final Comments & Questions

The historical descriptions are basically sound but the authoral voice is sometimes too evident and based more on emotion than objective analysis – as, for example in the following excerpts:

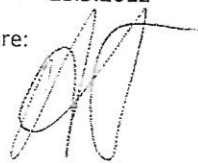
[I]f I were one of the most represented colonists, one of the refugees or beggars, I would feel very bad even if I had a land already. My mental health would still be in a bad condition, because I would live in the colony in a misery and I would have to make my living by very hard work. (p.14)

If anyone of us asks people what they call back after the term of independence, anyone will answer something different, but I think that in those days people will mostly answer to be independent in money [...] My opinion is that money does not mean everything, but it is very important in today's life. (p.25)

Reviewer: Andrew Tollet

Date: 18.5.2012

Signature:



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