

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

Thesis Author: **Lenka HROCHOVÁ**

Title: Relationship between Learner Autonomy and Language Proficiency

Length: 52

Text Length: 46

Assessment Criteria	Scale	Comments
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	Clear, easy to follow chapter, proves the author's ability to lead the reader in the area discussed and give a clear overview of the thesis. The main focus of the research is given.
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 academic sources are exploited thoroughly; a detailed theoretical background is presented. I appreciate the variety of relevant resources she uses and interesting comparisons between English and Czech authors' views. The reader gets an exact idea of the topic and the contents.
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 provides clear background information on her research and explains when, where and how the research was carried out, and who its subjects were. Excellent help is provided by graphs concerning the participants. Is there any reason of mentioning the teacher's name?
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	The author presents her findings in an organized manner using visual support such as tables and graphs to supplement her text. The chapter is well organized and the summaries of the major findings at the end of each section give readers better awareness of the results.
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	This is demonstrated in the theoretical background chapter and mainly in the implication section of the thesis in which the author comments on her findings.

<p>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.</p>	<p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p>	<p>In general, the work is logically organised, well sign-posted and clearly written. I particularly like the way in which, at the beginning of each chapter, there is a guide as to the chapter's contents. The chapters are on the whole rounded off as well.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p>	<p>Technically speaking, the work conforms to the format required.</p>

Final Comments & Questions

This thesis provides useful theoretical and practical insights into the relationship between learners' autonomy and their language proficiency. It shows both the author's researching abilities as well as her willingness to follow-up on an area of research that interests her personally. In my opinion this thesis represents an excellent piece of academic writing based on the author's profound knowledge of the area concerned.

QUESTIONS:

What have you gained personally from doing this research?

Were there any obstacles you had to overcome? If so, which were the most difficult ones?

Reviewer: Mgr. Danuše Hurtová

Date: 13 August, 2012

Signature:

