

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

Thesis Author: **Marek Firla**

Title: **ENGLISH SENTENCE MODIFIERS – THE OCCURRENCE AND FORM OF  
ENGLISH DISJUNCTS AND THEIR EQUIVALENTS IN CZECH**

Length: 70

Text Length: 62

<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 an overview of the thesis.	<b>Outstanding</b> 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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	In the paragraph dealing with the means of realization, mentioning non-finite clause, more detailed classification is missing (not only part participle, but also present participle and gerundial constructions function as means of realization of Adv)
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 <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Some of the excerpts (mainly those included among style-disjuncts) seem to be misinterpreted, e.g. p. 14 exx 1, 3, 7
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good <b>Acceptable</b> 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 <b>Very good</b> 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 <b>Very good</b> 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 <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Occasional grammatical mistakes (wrong word-order p. 59, inappropriate use of the auxiliary "do" p 5 <i>which role does the adverb convey depends ....</i> ) and mistypes (p. 53 <i>Content disjuncts covers,</i>
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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See final comments down the page.

### Final Comments & Questions

This undergraduate thesis focuses on a particular group of adverbials – disjuncts - which are considered very difficult to deal with from the grammatical point of view and that's is why they are intentionally put on the periphery of grammatical description by teachers and learners of English, but which are extremely important from the pragmatic and communicative point of view as they convey the speaker's attitude towards, or evaluation of what is being said as well as his/her commentary on the style and form of what is being said.

The author 's intention was to collect a certain number of examples of adverbials conveying any of these functions (over 300 excerpts) and analyze them from formal, semantic and pragmatic point of view.

In order to be able to identify and analyzed the disjuncts, the author was supposed to provide a theoretical basis, which he did, though in my opinion, he could have paid more attention to some of its parts (see point 2 above).

The actual analysis makes it clear that the author should have been more particular in studying the theoretical sources (see point 3 above) because some of the adjuncts are misinterpreted in their function. Nevertheless, the bulk of excerpts under analysis are being considered in a correct way.

The results (including several graphs; one of them being misplaced page 62 graph 4!) and following conclusions are presented in an easy-to-follow way and are relevant.

From the formal point of view, the work is laid-out well, there occasional mistakes (see point 7 above).

To sum up, in spite of some shortcomings mentioned above, the work meets the requirements put on a piece of academic work and deserves, in my opinion, the evaluation: "velmi dobře".

Supervisor/Reviewer: PhDr. Jarmila Petrlíková, Ph.D.

Date: May 6 2013

Signature:

