

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

Thesis Author: Kateřina Benešová
 Title: Visual arts in English language teaching materials
 Length: 56 pages
 Text Length: 50 pages

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	The author briefly outlines the sections and contents of her thesis but fails to fully contextualize her research in the introduction. For example, the author could have used her introductory notes from the Background Chapter (p. 2 – short history of fine art) to strengthen the introduction, provide context for her research etc.
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	
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 research methodology is outlined successfully; however, the author doesn't clearly state her research questions/goals.
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 findings are well organized providing readers with a nice picture of how art is incorporated into language textbooks.
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	The critical and analytical thinking is apparent throughout the whole thesis; however, the author demonstrates this extremely well in the discussion section of her thesis as she makes sound remarks regarding the findings

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

Ms. Benešová successfully brings together her two areas of studies – English and Art – and conducts an interesting analysis of language teaching materials. The data raise awareness of how art is presented in recently published textbooks and what purpose it serves. The thesis also raises mind stimulating questions about the shifting role of art in instructional materials and how it can impact general knowledge of art among student populations etc. The originality of the research focus makes the thesis an enjoyable piece to read.

I suggest that the author is awarded the grade “excellent” for her thesis project.

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: August 10, 2013

Signature: 