

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

Thesis Author: Soňa Krausová.

Title: Identifying Students' Strengths and Weaknesses to the Lower Level of Maturita: Developing Writing Skills

Length: 44

Text Length: 60

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	
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	It seem like there should be more sources for a Mag. Thesis. The most prominent voices were Brown and Ur.
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 diploma work is very organized and well-thought out.
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 thesis seems dedicated to striking the right balance between theory and practice, and even goes so far as to ask how theory should be incorporated into the classroom.
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	

<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>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>	

Final Comments & Questions

The student is to be congratulated on her hard work and dedication to the project. I was very interested in issues of process verses product as well as audience awareness. Alternative assignments such as the "Christmas card" assignment to motivate the students toward some real world practice as opposed to just "pleasing the teacher" seem pertinent, as keeping motivation high is really the our largest obstacle as educators. This brings us to the issue of error and correction, as it seems an important question--how much correction is actually beneficial? Too much correction demotivates the student, while practice without feedback does not promote growth either. The diploma helps the reader strike a balance. This thesis is well constructed on both the macro and micro level as well as raising issues of both practice and theory.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 18.05.2013

Signature: 