

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

Thesis Author: **Daniel Pichert**

Title: *The Status and the Occurrence of the Subjunctive Mood in the Contemporary English*

Length: 60 pages

Text Length: 34 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 examined issue. It presents an 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	
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	
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	

The work is an excellently written account of a linguistic phenomenon which, while not always receiving a large amount of space in standard English grammars, is still not without academic interest. One must also appreciate the way in which the author manages elegantly to incorporate use of the subjunctive construction into his own writing.

Questions

1. On pp. 3-7 the author provides a brief overview of the subjunctive with reference to Latin, Greek, the Romance languages, then Old and Middle English. But would not German have merited slightly more space in this context than the single sentence at the top of p. 13, especially as it has been suggested that the more frequent use of the subjunctive in American English (when compared to British) may be, at least in part, the result of the large influx of German immigrants to the US?
2. The analysis is based on extracts from four works of fiction and, as Mr Pichert himself admits on p. 25, the results may be more a guide to the individual predilections of the authors concerned than a reliable pointer to subjunctive usage in the language generally. So the obvious question is: Why were literary texts selected for analysis in the first place? An alternative approach might have been to use pieces from a wider variety of authors from, say, the serious press in the UK and USA.

Recommended grade: **výborně**

Reviewer: Andrew Tollet

Date: 12th May 2014

Signature:

