

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

Thesis Author: Zuzana Jenčíková

Title: Developing autonomy in secondary school language learners

Length: 59 pages

Text Length: 52 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	
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	<i>The author provides a very complex summary of the background information on autonomy, learning styles, and strategies. She touches upon many different ideas related to the topics and presents lots of categories and definitions. The section might be hard for readers to process due to the amount of topics presented.</i>
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	
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	
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	<i>The critical and analytical thinking is apparent well in the second part of her thesis as the author thoroughly examines the collected data and comments on the findings.</i>

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	<i>The text flow improves throughout the thesis. The practical part of the thesis flows much more naturally and is much easier to follow than the theoretical part.</i>
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

The thesis examines a cluster of issues that evolve around learner autonomy and are important to recognize in language teaching. At the same time, it could be argued that a more narrow and focused research study could have provided the author with even more valuable knowledge and experience. In any case, I am strongly convinced that the interaction with the eight learners through the semi-structured interview provided Ms. Jenčíková with valuable understanding of how young adult learners think and feel about English. It is for sure that through her research, Ms. Jenčíková gained a lot of expertise and experience regarding learner autonomy, learning styles and learning strategies in language teaching, which, without any doubt, has helped her to develop as an English language teacher.

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:

