

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

Thesis Author: Ondřej Kačán

Title: Second language acquisition

Length: 64 pages

Text Length: 58 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 field of SLA is very large and offers a lot of observations about language learning processes. It seems that the author struggled a bit with identifying a manageable amount of information with respect to the size of the project.</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	<i>The process of the design of the questionnaire could have been discussed in more detail as well as its English version could have been included in the Appendix.</i>
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	<i>I consider the implication part of the practical part of the thesis the strongest. The author makes sound connections between the findings and their implications for language teaching. On the other hand, the limitations of research and suggestion for further research could have been developed some more.</i>
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	

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	<i>The thesis shows some inconsistencies in quoting longer texts (e.g. use of quotation marks) and some other little formatting occur throughout (e.g. a text of a publication in the table of contents).</i>

Final Comments & Questions

Mr. Kačán conducted a useful and interesting research into the awareness of principles of second language acquisition among secondary school language learners. The subject of second language acquisition is not an easy one to explore for it offers complex, nonlinear and interrelated views of language learning. Even though the thesis bears some limitations as pointed out above, the work has, without any question, positively contributed to Mr. Kačán's understanding of the subject matter and presents a good body of knowledge. I suggest that the author is awarded the grade "very good" for his thesis project.

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: May 5, 2014

Signature:

