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

Thesis Author: Jiří LINDA

Title: USING COMICS WITH LOWER-SECONDARY SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Length: 80

Text Length: 49

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	
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	
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

This is a mature and well balances sample of a graduate thesis, worthy of notice for both, its focus and actual execution. Starting with a complex overview of relevant theoretical findings drawn from a representative selection of publications (both, English and Czech sources), it is complemented by an equally thorough class research based on a well planned and justified methodology. I also appreciate the author's critical reflections on the results of the "experiment", which - perhaps surprisingly - did not confirm the expected advantages of using comics in ELT. Despite the limitations of the research mainly due to the low number of participants belonging to one age group only, the results make one ponder both, historical and cultural specifics and changing nature of learners within the global context as well as the ever increasing dominance of technology and media over the printed matter (as the mentioned meme popularity illustrates –p. 33). Last but not least, though not specifically assessed above, the material contained in the appendices should be seen as an integral and equally valuable component of the thesis.
Suggested grade: Excellent

Reviewer: Magdaléna Potočňáková, Ph.D

Date: 3.9.2018

Signature: