

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

Thesis Author: Julie Pomahačová
 Title: Developing language teaching materials: A usability testing study
 Length: 58 pages
 Text Length: 49 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	The author shows great familiarity with the major issues in using L1 in ELT and the chapter provides a good overview of the area. At the same time, considering the focus of the research, the parts beyond the teachers' use of L1 (e.g. students use) could have been left out.
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	The chapter offers a detailed analysis of L1 use by the two observed teachers. Then the author discusses interviews she carried out with them (pp. 38-39). It might have been more interesting to compare the observed data with a particular teacher.
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	The critical and analytical thinking is apparent throughout the whole thesis; however, the author demonstrates this extremely well in lit background section of her thesis as she thoroughly analyzes secondary sources on the topic.

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	Introductory and summary paragraphs in the background chapter would have strengthened its flow.
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

Ms. Pomahačová writes a clearly focused thesis with a clear research goal. Her thorough literature overview provides a good foundation for her research. Furthermore, she successfully carries out her research despite COVID-19 circumstances. Although the research is limited in a few ways due to the online format of the observed classes, it provides useful insights into teachers' practices of L1 use. It is without any doubt that by completing this thesis, Ms. Pomahačová developed a lot of expertise in the subject matter of her thesis and gained valuable insights into the role of L1 in ELT.

I would like to the author to address these questions during the defense:

What advice (based on your observations and the lit review) would you give to Teacher A and Teacher B regarding L1 use?

What is your specific takeaway from the research you have completed?

I suggest that the author is awarded the grade "excellent" for her thesis project.

Reviewer: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.
 Date: September 1, 2021
 Signature: