

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

Thesis Author: *Petra Koteňová*

Title: JFK—American Icon

Length: 41

Text Length: 36

<i>Assessment Criteria</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1. Introduction is well written, brief, interesting, and compelling. It motivates the work and provides a clear statement of the examined issue. It presents and overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The language in the first part of the thesis is not as accurate as later. The author has some difficulty articulating her ideas about icons.
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	It is obvious the author has researched her subject in depth and deserves praise for this.
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	The author worked very hard to move from merely reporting information to judging the subject.
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	I think the conclusion ends stronger than the introduction. It was very good when she compared the approval rate before and after the assignment.
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	The author has a hard time with transition: For instance, "Each icon should go straight to its aim, step by step. Becoming a President was not uttered but a known truth for John Kennedy" (7). This is just awkward and

		is just once example where the author seems to be in a rush or a bit confused about how to martial information.
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	See above. There are problems with spelling and plurals, the use of the word "assassinate" rather than assassin, etc. But the author made deep strides to master the finer point of analysis and academic writing and deserve praise for this improvement.
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	There are still some problems with the format: Misspelling in the Work Cited Page, confusion about whether to use italics or quotations marks in the end notes, discrepancies between with, for example <i>Warren Commission</i> or the <i>Encyclopedia Britannica</i>

Final Comments & Questions

Though the author has struggled with the finer points of critical analysis and occasionally blunders with an imperfect word or a flaw in citation, she has made great strides in the general evolution of her subject. What began as a fact based, almost gossip report has transformed into a serious political evaluation of the one of the Twentieth Century's most interesting political figure. I was also impressed by how the writing seemed to improve toward the end of the thesis and there is a tremendous sense of improvement as one navigates through the diploma work. Also I felt the survey material was finally put to good use. The conclusion and strength of the end more than makes up for the unsure introduction where the author seem to struggle for sure footing.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 21.05.2012

Signature:



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