

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

Thesis Author: Daniela Staňková
 Title: Cooperative Learning in English Language Classes
 Length: 71 pages
 Text Length: 50 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	<i>The author writes a very straightforward introduction that provides readers with a clear idea about the focus of the research and the overview of the thesis.</i>
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 thorough review of the relevant literature on the subject matter. She effectively organizes and synthesizes the scholarship on cooperative learning and provides good theoretical background for her research.</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	<i>The presentation of the results is well structured and is easy to follow.</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	<i>The critical and analytical thinking is apparent throughout the whole thesis; however, the author demonstrates this extremely well in the second part of her thesis as she thoroughly examines and discusses her experiment and collected data.</i>

<p>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.</p>	<p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p>	

Final Comments & Questions

Ms. Staňková's thesis is based on a comprehensive review of literature on the topic of cooperative learning. The research presented in the second half of the thesis nicely unveils the circumstances surrounding the implementation of cooperative learning in English classes in Czech schools. Ms. Staňková's work is very inspiring, informative, presents mind stimulating and useful ideas regarding cooperative learning, and effectively encourages its use.

Supervisor: Mgr. Gabriela Klečková, Ph.D.

Date: August 12, 2012

Signature:

