

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: Marek Firla

Title: English sentence modifiers – the occurrence and form of English disjuncts and their equivalents in Czech

Length: 66

Text Length: 64

<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 <u>Very good</u> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Abstract should have been shorter, giving just a frame – info on the topic, main interests and main results. The introduction chapter is more successful, both in form and organization.
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 <u>Acceptable</u> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The description and theoretical explanation of the matter is fairly good; what is sometimes rather disturbing is a sort of clumsy language and unclear categorization of terms, e.g. 2.2. Adverbs / 2.2.1 Roles of adverbs / 2.3 Semantic roles of adverbs. Also, the marking of the chapters and subchapters is rather uncomfortable, combining numbers and letters, which, in addition are both lower and upper case letters. On the other hand, the graphs displaying the whole hierarchy of adverbials taken from a source is helpful. As the topic of the work is the research of sentence modifiers (disjuncts), I would expect a sort of stronger emphasis on this type in the theoretical background.
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 <u>Somewhat deficient</u> Very deficient	I think that the lists in the analysis should not only contain Czech translations, but also the means of realization of the disjuncts stated and the precise identification of the position as it was perfectly clearly established at the beginning of the research. Instead of real analysis, we get a large number of pages with English sentences and their translations.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good <u>Acceptable</u> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The individual commentaries and conclusions are brief but still acceptable.
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding <u>Very good</u> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	

<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 uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.</p>	<p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p>	<p>There are occasional mistakes, esp. in articles, punctuation, word order and correct terminology (e.g. p. 3: "prepositional clause" instead of <i>prepositional phrase</i>).</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p>	<p>There is a constant tendency in the author's style to use an inverted WO with an effort to place always the rheme at the end; this structure seems to be overused, e.g. p.2: "In this part of thesis will be explained the basic terms..." (better: <i>This part of the thesis presents an explanation of ...</i>); p. 13: "In this chapter are given concrete examples of disjuncts..." (better: <i>This chapter provides particular examples of... or In this chapter we provide...</i>), etc. In addition, in other cases the WO is really wrong, e.g. p15: "Style disjuncts...comment under which condition is the utterance made by the author..." (<i>the utterance is made</i>)</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p>	<p>I do not think that the authentic text analyzed should have been included in the references (I would prefer introducing it separately). Also, perhaps more sources could have been used.</p>

Final Comments & Questions

In my opinion, the thesis is of average quality, but it seems to fulfill the basic requirements.

Supervisor/Reviewer: PhDr. Naděžda Stašková, PhD. (opponent)

Date: 17.5.2013

Signature:

