

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Eva Zítková

Title: VYJADŘOVÁNÍ VIDU V ANGLIČTINĚ A JEHO SROVNÁNÍ S ČEŠTINOU

Length: 49

Text Length: 45

Assessment Criteria	Scale	Comments
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	Good, clear organization, but there are certain inaccuracies or obscurities in the formulations: The author is interested in the extra-linguistic reality? Also the first research question is rather confusing: "Is there any difference in the expression of Czech perfect and imperfect aspect in English?" The assertive pronoun "some" in the second question should be rather replaced by a non-assertive "any".
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	From the very beginning of the chapter (explanation of the concept of <i>aspect</i>), it is not very clear whether the author fully understands the logical connection between individual facts, e.g. p.3 – there is no explanation why the verb <i>platit</i> is understood as a finished action in the sentence "Včera jsme platili elektřinu", there is only a remark that the past tense is not the reason why it is expected that the action was finished; p. 4: the explanation of the opposition of perfect and imperfect verbs in Czech – the formulations are not unified (the examples of phase verbs are in English while they should be given in Czech – then the use of <i>finish</i> is very unclear <i>začít psát</i> – *skončit psát"?) Otherwise, the chapter is quite well-organized, especially in the part about the English concept of aspect. It gives an impression that the English structure is much easier for the author to describe and comment on than the Czech one.
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	I think that often the author was extremely influenced by the Czech translations of the sentences analyzed when identifying the English forms, e.g.: p. 37: Czech: "Hermiona se zhrzila tak, že o krok uskočila." Both forms correctly identified as perfect; English: "Hermione recoiled, looking horrified." Both forms described as telic while "looking horrible" is rather atelic. Here the Czech influence is evident. On the other hand, p. 38: Czech: "Stále ještě byl šedý a obličej se mu leskl potem." identified correctly as imperfect; English: "He was still grey and his face glistened with sweat."

		described correctly as atelic, which is the same case as "looking horrified" above. There are some other inaccuracies in other excerpts, e.g. p. 38: "Nemohl jsem se zbavit vzpomínek" identified as imperfect but it is perfect; p. 37: "jenže právě podle toho poznali..." perfect; "...but that's how they knew..." identified as telic, but it is basically atelic. – again the direct influence of the Czech translation.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	I miss a commentary on the description of the excerpts where the connection between the Czech and English language means which express the same meaning would be presented.
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	The results then appear as a mere statistics separate for Czech and English and not a real analysis which would prove the comparative character of the work.
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 work seems to be fairly well-organized as far as the logical fluency of individual chapters is concerned. The beginning of the theoretical chapter is weaker in acceptability and understandability.
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	There are not many mistakes. Some examples: P. 1: "In the end of this chapter" (<i>at the end of...</i>); P 15:"... few notes ... follow" (<i>a few notes</i>); Formal disunity in the titles: 4.1 Analysis of Individual Excerpts X 4.2 Results of the analysis (Capitals vs. lower case)
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	

Final Comments & Questions

The assessment recommended: very good – acceptable (depending on the oral defense).

Supervisor/Reviewer: Mgr. Naděžda Stašková

Date: 18.5.2012

Signature:



Západočeská univerzita v Plzni
Fakulta pedagogická
katedra anglického jazyka