

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

Thesis Author: Filip Viták

Title: WAYS OF EXPRESSING GENERAL AGENT IN CZECH AND ENGLISH

Length: 53

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<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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the final comment
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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the final comment
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.	<b>Outstanding</b> Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the final comment
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the final comment
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the final comment
6. The text is organized in a logical manner. It flows naturally and is easy to follow. Transitions,	Outstanding Very good <b>Acceptable</b>	See the final comment

summaries and conclusions exist as appropriate. The author uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the final comment
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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the final comment

#### Final Comments & Questions

The topic of this undergraduate thesis deals with the ways of conveying a general human agent in English and its equivalents in Czech, which can be looked upon as a purely linguistic topic; nevertheless, it provides a wonderful comparison of the means of the expression of an extra-linguistic reality used in the above mentioned languages. Structures containing a general human agent (mainly in the function of the subject of a sentence) are among frequent ways of the speaker's or writer's commenting on events and situations in which people may find themselves.

The Introduction provides the lay-out of the thesis - the brief description of individual chapters, so the reader can get a clear idea of the logical organization of the work. Unfortunately, it does not contain an introduction into the topic itself, nor the author's explanation for being interested in this subject matter. The same reproach is addressed to the beginning of the theoretical chapter - the author could have mentioned the social status of sentences containing general human agent and should have highlighted their relevance in language. Nevertheless, from the point of view of technical information, the theoretical chapter shows that the author is knowledgeable about the issue.

The chapter Analysis proves the author's ability to make his way through a complex and rather intricate content. He provides a clear guide through the whole chapter; his analysis of individual means of the expression, as well as his comments on the Czech equivalents are relevant. The results are organized in individual tables which are very easy to follow and provide a wonderful starting point for the following conclusions. All the excerpts are summarized in Appendix I.

The chapter Conclusion summarizes the whole issue and provides relevant and clear conclusions drawn from the results of the analysis.

The language of the thesis is at a good level; what seems a bit of trouble is the grammar - in most cases it is the use (or rather non-use) of determiners, sometimes the S - FV concord in simple present 3<sup>rd</sup> ps. sg. This has been taken into consideration in the final evaluation of the work.

To conclude, the work definitely meets all the requirements of the piece of academic writing.  
The suggested evaluation: "very good"

Supervisor: PhDr. Jarmila Petrlíková, Ph.D.

Date: April 29 2015

Signature: 