

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

Thesis Author: Gabriela Marková

Title: WEAK AND STRONG FORMS IN ENGLISH DEPENDING ON THE
 CONTEXT AND SITUATION

Length: 65

Text Length: 48

<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 an overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good ◀ Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See final comments down the page.
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	See final comments down the page.
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	See final comments down the page.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good ◀ Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See final comments down the page.
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	See final comments down the page.

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	See final comments down the page.
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 final comments down the page.
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	See final comments down the page.

Final Comments & Questions

This undergraduate thesis deals with a very interesting topic from the area of phonetics and phonology, which, as the author rightly emphasizes, deserves much more attention by English teachers than it is given; it is the issue of the distinction of strong and weak forms in English depending on the context and situation.

The introduction presents the reasons of the author's interest in this subject matter and introduces the lay-out of the work to the reader.

In the following Theoretical background chapter the author deals with relevant theoretical information and results of the research in this field of linguistics and thus provides a sufficient starting point for her following analysis of real recordings of Czech students of the English language.

The practical part includes the description of the method of the actual research, the analysis of all the speeches by the students with relevant commentaries. The analysis and the description of the results are provided in a very detailed way.

The chapter dealing with pedagogical implications derived from the research is useful, nevertheless is not necessary at this level of study.

As for the conclusions drawn from the analysis, they seem to have more the character of pedagogical implications rather than conclusions which could and should have been drawn from such a detailed analysis of spoken speech.

The language of the work is at a good level; nevertheless, I have noticed quite a few mistypes and cases of inaccurate determination of nouns and grammar (e.g. already in Abstract, p. 34, 46, 48,... missing word at page 8 "*Vowels are exclusively produced with no to partial obstruction of the vocal tract....*").

To sum up, this undergraduate thesis is a very good piece of academic writing, meeting all the general requirements. Owing to the above mentioned shortcomings the suggested evaluation is "very good" (velmi dobrý).

Reviewer: PhDr. Jarmila Petrlíková, Ph.D.

Date: July 12 2018

Signature:

