

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

Thesis Author: TEREZA GOLČÁKOVÁ

Title: COMPETITION OF THE INFINITIVE AND GERUND IN AN ENGLISH SENTENCE

Length: 64

Text Length: 25

<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 ◀ 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	Outstanding Very good ◀	see final comments down the page

easy to follow. Transitions, summaries and conclusions exist as appropriate. The author uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Acceptable 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 ◀ 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

The above assessed work deals with a wonderful, purely grammatical topic – the syntactic description and analysis of the two non-finite verb forms, so typical of English – infinitive and gerund and their competition as the heads of dependent non-finite clauses with respect to their superordinate verb in the matrix clause.

In the theoretical part of her thesis, the author provides the description the non-finite verb forms themselves from the point of view of their form and from the syntactic point of view. Here she focuses on individual syntactic functions of the gerund and infinitives and delimits the semantic types of the superordinate verbs combining with them. This particular part of the theoretical background is really excellent. Nevertheless, the author does not pay enough attention to the description of morphological qualities of the infinitive and gerund within the frame of the category of non-finite verb forms and phrases. The combination of their morphological and syntactic qualities actually provides a perfect basis for the phenomenon, so typical of English – syntactic condensation. The author does mention it, but in my opinion not to a sufficient extent.

On the other hand, her analysis of the verbs combining with the infinitive and the gerund, is excellent. The whole issue is very confusing, but she was able to keep her way through the “jungle” of individual verbs and their various semantic features which influence the choice between the infinitive and gerund. She also did very well in summarizing the results of the analysis as well as in drawing conclusions based on the results.

The language of the work is at a very good level (regardless of a rather chaotic spelling of the verb *to analyse/to analyze* in the Abstract and the Introduction and the overuse of existential constructions with “*there*” through-out the thesis); the the formal lay-out is outstanding.

In my opinion, this work is decent piece of academic writing.

The suggested evaluation: “výborně” (outstanding).

Supervisor/ Reviewer: PhDr. Jarmila Petrlíková, Ph.D. (supervisor)

Date: June 2 2020

Signature:

