

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

**Thesis Author:** Eliška POLÍVKOVÁ

**Title:** LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF LYRICS IN CONTEMPORARY MODERN MUSIC

**Length:** 123

**Text Length:** 33

<i>Assessment Criteria</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<p>1. Introduction is well written, brief, interesting, and compelling. It motivates the work and provides a clear statement of the research question(s) and the aim of the thesis. It presents an overview of the thesis.</p>	<p><b>Excellent</b>            Very good            Acceptable            Somewhat deficient            Very deficient</p>	See the commentary
<p>2. The theoretical part shows the author's appropriate theoretical 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.</p>	<p>Excellent ✓            Very good            Acceptable            Somewhat deficient            Very deficient</p>	See the commentary
<p>3. The Practical Part comprises three main sections:            a) description of the analysed language material/retrieval of corpus,            b) methodology used,            c) results.            The methodology used in data collection and subsequent analysis are described adequately. The analysis itself highlights the relevant issues and covers them in sufficient detail. The results are presented in a clear and logical manner that displays the application of the theoretical concepts.</p>	<p>Excellent ✓            Very good            Acceptable            Somewhat deficient            Very deficient</p>	See the commentary
<p>Conclusion effectively restates the issue. It summarizes the main</p>	<p>Excellent ✓</p>	See the commentary

4.	findings and follows logically from the analysis presented. Moreover, it discusses the potential strengths, weaknesses, and limitations of the research.	Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
5.	The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information. The text is coherent; it is organized in a logical manner, flows naturally and is easy to follow.	Excellent ✓ Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the commentary
6.	The author demonstrates proficient use of language in a way suitable for the discipline and/or genre. This includes standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Transitions, summaries and conclusions exist as appropriate.	Excellent ✓ Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the commentary
7.	The thesis meets the general requirements (formatting, chapters, length, division into sections, etc.). References are cited properly within the text, a complete reference list is provided, and the use of AI acknowledged (if appropriate).	Excellent ✓ Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See the commentary

### Final Comments & Questions

This undergraduate thesis analyzes the lyrics of 25 pop songs which can be considered products of the mainstream within modern pop music. The analysis is focused on searching for potential grammatical, esp. syntactical phenomena that might be considered typical of the style.

Being highly interested in this type of music, the author tried to combine the point of her interest with the subject of her university studies. And, in my opinion, she managed to do so in a very successful way.

The thesis is divided into 4 parts, containing the Introduction, Theoretical background, Analysis and Conclusions. It also includes the extensive appendix of 77 pages, where the detailed analysis of all the texts is available.

In the Introduction the author explains her reasons for choosing the topic, provides a clear lay-out of the work and states five hypotheses, to which she came during her preliminary research. The aim of her work is to test these hypotheses and draw relevant conclusions.

The following theoretical part presents the theoretical basis for the analysis of the lyrics, such as the concept of linguistic norm, standard language, colloquial language. During the explanation of

these items, special attention is paid to the English languages. The author focuses on various qualities of colloquial English, in particular of the English syntax, so she takes into consideration such syntactic constructions as non-sentences, verbless clauses and ellipses. Overall, the author attempts at taking into consideration as many potential phenomena of colloquial or non-standard English as possible, so that she could identify any in the lyrics of the songs analyzed.

At the beginning of the practical part the author provides a very detailed description of the process of choosing individual songs, mainly the criteria which the songs should fulfil, and the principles which she applied in analyzing the lyrics of individual songs.

The chapter Results and Commentary provides a detailed description of the facts resulting from the analysis itself. The author organizes the results according to the frequency of individual phenomena identified in the lyrics. She also uses a number of graphs and tables which allow simple orientation in the large amount of obtained data.

The last chapter Conclusions provides space for drawing conclusions from the results of the analysis. The author is considering individual hypotheses which she mentioned in the Introduction and is comparing them with the obtained data. Her conclusions are relevant, supported by the results of the analysis.

The language used in this thesis is at a very high level, the author proves her excellent knowledge of the principles of academic writing.

The suggested evaluation: "excellent" ("výborně")

**Supervisor/** Reviewer: PhDr. Jarmila Petříková, Ph.D.

**Date:** May 30 2024

**Signature:**