

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Zora Válová

Title: Historical Development of the Labour Party

Length: 42

Text Length: 32

| <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 | As the author writes the intro., the thesis itself "describes" but academic work is suppose to make arguments and judgments. |
| 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 | |
| 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 | Ideas are richly developed but as stated before there is little analysis. |
| 4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information. | Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient | The thesis is not simplistic but summary seems its major objective. |
| 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 | Again, the conclusion is mainly summary. |
| 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 | Only one minor problem with the References page, the 2 nd line of the entries should be indented. |

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|---|---|--|
| 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 | |
| 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 author is to be congratulated on her hard work and the depth of her research. The only major fault I can find with the thesis is that it is simply descriptive in nature rather than argumentative. For instance, does the questionnaire issued at the end of the diploma support or contradict the argumentative thesis of the work. It is hard to tell because there is not really an argument to support or reconsider. Still the author is an excellent writer and the depth of her research is impressive. I would suggest the score of 1 or 2 depending on whether or not the author can tell us in the defense which issues are worth further analyses and judgment. For instance, how does the one judge the legacy of Tony Blair. Simply put, was he an effective PM or did he sellout his liberal/socialist values as many have accused him by cooperating with the Americans in the invasion of Iraq? Can you separate his foreign and domestic effectiveness? We need the author not simply to report history, but to tell us how to interpret it. Otherwise, the writing and format of the diploma is excellent.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 20.05.2013

Signature:

