

Graduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Bc. Adéla Čuláková

Title: Představení *New Englishes* skrze literaturu v hodinách anglického jazyka/*Exploring New Englishes Through Literature in the EFL Classroom*

Length: 71

Text Length: 51

<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 problem. It places the problem in context. It presents and overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
2. Literature review is comprehensive and complete. It synthesizes a variety of sources and provides context for the research. It shows the author's understanding of the most relevant literature on the subject matter.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
3. The methodology chapter provides clear and thorough description of the research methodology. It discusses why and what methods were chosen for research. The research methodology is appropriate for the identified research questions.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	Employing the action research (AR) format, the author explains the importance of reflecting on the action performed during the research – the author provides these reflections, though does not specifically mention how these were recorded, e.g. using a reflective teacher's journal, for instance, or how the author processed these aspects of AR.
4. The results/data are analyzed and interpreted effectively. The chapter ties the theory with the findings. It addresses the applications and implications of the research. It discusses strengths, weaknesses, and limitations of the research.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
5. The thesis shows critical and analytical thinking about the area of study and the author's expertise in this area.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient	

	Very deficient	
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 demonstrates high quality writing skills and uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
7. 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 present thesis focuses on the broad and often marginalised topic of New Englishes, placing it in the educational context of ELT at Czech lower-secondary schools and poses the question of whether introducing New Englishes (NE) to basic school learners through literature is a feasible scheme. The author thus explores three dimensions: New Englishes, ELT in a selected context of Czech lower-secondary schools and the use of literature in language education (i.e. graphic novel). The theoretical part corresponds to these three fields. The practical part employs the action research format to answer the research question. The research results confirmed the relevance of the topic that – though the curricular documents offer space for its realisation, seems neglected. Moreover, learners showed interest in the topic, and similarly, the selected format of literature (i.e. graphic novel) proved suitable. Nevertheless, certain aspects were revealed as well – the topic is a complex one requiring further research and further exploration – yet it belongs in the authentic language classroom (and not only there). Moreover, each of the selected aspects, literature and NE, NE and ELT, Literature and ELT, offer new perspectives and options for the most suitable topic exploration.

Suggested grade: 1

1. You mentioned the significance of emphasising the language and cultural aspects of the topic of NE in the language class – to make learners more focused on these issues. Could you suggest a possible lesson plan for such a lesson goal? What literature genre would you use and how?

Supervisor/Reviewer: PhDr. Eva Skopečková, Ph.D.