

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

Thesis Author: Adéla Čuláková

Title: 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 | |
| 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 | |

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| <p>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.</p> | <p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p> | |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient</p> | |

Final Comments & Questions

This is a wonderful thesis that explores the implications of the students' years of study for the teaching of English in Czech classroom, with emphasis on literature and New Englishes. I was convinced by the thesis at every turn: from the excellent overview of theoretical writing, to the formulation of the research questions, and the student's reflection on the results and the limitations of the research. I appreciated the post-reading task in which the students wrote a comic that cast themselves as the protagonist. This focalizes larger theoretical issues in concrete situations, and also encourages students' creativity.

At some points (e.g., 35), I wondered whether the student wasn't setting up a zero-sum game between Inner Circle Englishes and ELF. Students may think that abandoning, say, British or US English means learning another particular variety (that is less prestigious), or several of these, which they naturally resist. The majority disagree with the statement "I would on different varieties on English in lessons." From classroom interactions with the student, I'm aware that she sees the issue in more a complex manner. This could have been rephrased as, say: "I would like to focus on varieties of English that are used in Europe." European ELF seems to be emerging as a new variety, and this will be used by most the students in the future.

Overall, I read this thesis with great interest, and it would be of great use if more research like this was carried out.

One small issue: is "basic" the best translation for "základní" in education? Would not "primary" be better? (I'm aware that some Czech framework documents use "basic".)

I recommend the grade of **1/výborně** for this thesis.

Reviewer: doc. Justin Quinn Ph.D.

Date: 10 August 2023

Signature: