



POSUDEK OPONENTKY DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: **AJL-D/uSŠ**

Název práce: **The Semantics of English nominal deverbal derivatives in -er**

Autorka práce: **Bc. Aneta Šmídová**

Vedoucí diplomové práce: **Mgr. Petr Kos, Ph.D.**

Oponentka diplomové práce: **Mgr. Jana Kozubíková Šandová, Ph.D.**

Quality of Research

1) Please rate the following statements about the thesis on a scale of 1 (insufficient) to 3 (excellent)

1. The topic of the thesis is suitable for the scope and well defined: 3
2. Sets clear goals or questions for research: 3
3. Delivers significant research findings: 3
4. Demonstrates conceptual clarity and accuracy: 1
5. Demonstrates a good understanding of the linguistic work(s) discussed: 1
6. Demonstrates a good understanding of the critical field: 1
7. Engages with sufficient scholarship in a meaningful way: 2
8. Shows independent thinking and originality: 2

2) Comment briefly on the quality of the research presented in the thesis:

See below.

Quality of Writing

1) Please rate the following statements about the thesis on a scale of 1 (insufficient) to 3 (excellent)

1. Has a clear and suitable structure: 3
2. Employs appropriate register and academic style: 2
3. Uses correct and relevant terminology: 2
4. Adheres to academic thesis guidelines, format and MLA style guide: 2
5. Written in correct and fluent English (both grammar and vocabulary): 2
6. Carefully edited with few typos or mistakes: 2

2) Comment briefly on the quality of the writing presented in the thesis:

The thesis has a logical structure, starting with the description of word-formation theories important for the research part and proceeding to methodology and the author's own analyses. The terminology used is relevant; however, it is often not sufficiently explained. As regards the level of English and the ability of the author to explain the theories discussed, they are of a lower standard. The result is vague and linguistically inaccurate formulations, e. g. "He wanted to strictly distinguish synchronic and diachronic approaches to make the language more precise" (p. 11), "...dictionary of the language" (p. 15) (in the sense of *vocabulary*), etc.



Overall Review and Assessment

(short description of the thesis and its findings, what has been achieved, and areas for improvement)

The thesis is an interesting contribution to the semantics of English nominal deverbal derivatives ending in *-er*. It is a corpus-based study focusing on a quantitative analysis of a large sample of lexemes with the *V+er* structure, which are nominal derivatives with the *-er* suffix. Even though the thesis brings some original findings, it has its undeniable shortcomings.

My first objection concerns the presentation of word-formation theories in Section 2. All the mentioned theories are undoubtedly relevant for the research aim, but the author should not have just described them, but she should have used these theories in order to demonstrate how the thinking of scientists researching this area of linguistics has evolved. Moreover, the described theories should have been compared with each other and integrated into the research part more. As it is, it is not clear how the theoretical background contributes to the overall understanding of the thesis.

The other reservation relates to the construction schemas described and examined in Section 6. For instance, the author claims that some categories, such as animals, plants, chemicals, etc., have their own construction schemas, but some categories, e. g. devices, do not, even though the author discusses some structures. This is rather confusing and it is not clear how the author in the end understands the construction schemas of these categories.

The quantitative analysis presented in the research part of the thesis is valuable and brings some original findings; however, the results of this analysis are not further explained. It is left implicit what exactly the analysis shows.

To conclude, the present thesis fulfils the general requirements posed on the MA thesis, and therefore, I recommend it for the defence.

Questions for Defence

(please provide two questions for the student to answer during their defence)

Could you explain the results of the quantitative analysis more thoroughly and explicitly state what specific conclusions may be drawn from it?

Práci doporučuji k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace:

dobře

26.5.2023

Datum

Podpis

* Numerical assessments are provided as a guideline for recommending the final grade following an indicative scale:

over 38 "výborně"

32-38 "velmi dobře"

28-32 "dobře"

below 28 points the work is in danger of failing.

The final grade will be determined by the committee following the thesis defence.