



## BA thesis – Examiner Report (Supervisor)

**Author:** Kristýna Sivoková

**Title:** Comparison of translations of English definite noun phrases in Czech and Chinese

**Supervisor:** Joanna Ut-Seong Sio, Ph.D., M.Phil.

Criterion	Grade
<b>Evaluate whether the goals of the thesis are met</b>	<b>A</b>
<p>The goal of the thesis is to see how definite noun phrases containing <i>the</i> in English are translated into Czech and Chinese. The point of interest rests in the typological differences between English on one hand and Chinese and Czech on the other. The former has articles for encoding definiteness and the latter doesn't.</p> <p>The results show that in both Czech and Chinese, more than half of the cases (86% and 70% respectively), <i>the</i>-phrases in English are translated into bare nouns. <i>The</i>-phrases in English are translated as <i>dem</i>-phrases in Czech and Chinese 4% and 13% of the time respectively. There doesn't seem to be a co-relation between the situation under which a definite noun phrase is used and its form in all three languages. The results indicate that Czech and Chinese use different strategies in translation even though both languages do not have articles.</p> <p>The goals of the thesis are met and the thesis brings up some theoretical questions (e.g., how to explain the differences between Czech and Chinese in translation) for future research.</p>	
<b>Thesis structure, methodology, argumentation and analysis</b>	<b>A</b>
<p>The thesis has a sensible structure given its goals. The author starts with a discussion on the notion of definiteness and its manifestation in English, Czech and Chinese before moving onto reporting the translation. The main goal is to gather comparative data and the data are tagged in terms of form and functions, whenever applicable. The tagging is done manually and is thus of high quality.</p>	
<b>Style and formatting</b>	<b>B</b>



The thesis is generally well written in terms of structure and formatting. The thesis is written in English and the style at times is not academic enough, which is understandable given that the author majors in Chinese and might not have a lot of experience in English academic writing.

<b>Use of sources, citations, and bibliography</b>	<b>A</b>
I think the articles in the reference list are appropriate for the thesis, both in terms of content and quantity.	
<b>Overall assessment</b>	<b>A</b>

**Questions for oral defense:**

- (1) In both the Czech and Chinese translations, bare nouns are used a lot more than *dem*-phrases, any idea as to why it is the case?
- (2) Are Chinese demonstratives and Czech demonstratives similar in terms of usages in general (not necessarily in translation context)?
- (3) If you would work further on the topic, what would you do?

Defense date:

Final grade:

Signature of the supervisor: