Term paper evaluation

for _____, student no. _____

Your term-paper has been graded according to the criteria below.

Theoretical section:

Range, depth and quality of literature research on your topic: 10% *)

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 |

1	The author has integrated a variety of key pieces of literature on the topic, representing the current state of research as well as covering various view points.
3	The author has integrated some of the key pieces of literature on the topic but focuses too much on one particular author or view point.
5	No independent literature research has been carried out. The author exclusively refers to pieces of literature that have been assigned as course readings.

Correctness of theoretical part: 15% *)

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 |

1	The content of the individual pieces of literature is represented correctly, reflecting the relevance of the individual pieces of literature, and giving them appropriate prominence.
3	The contents of the individual pieces of literature is largely represented correctly, although the student may give too much prominence to individual pieces and does not always correctly assess the relevance of an individual piece.
5	The literature review reveals that the student has not fully understood large parts of the literature. The content of the theoretical part is, as a result, incorrect to a considerable degree.

Presentation of literature review and development of argument: 10%

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

1	The student has represented the views of prominent scholars on the topic and has developed critical arguments in support of or against the literature represented. Her/his literature review is focussed on the research question and relevant to it.
3	The student presents the current state of research concerning the topic at hand to a satisfactory extent but concentrates too much on one particular viewpoint. OR: Parts of the student's literature review does not focus on the research question and not well linked to the empirical part.
5	The literature review shows a lack of focus. The author presents bits and pieces that are loosely related to the topic at hand and/or discusses aspects that have no or little relevance to the empirical part. The author mentions results of previous studies only in passing or fails to mention these at all.

Empirical work:

Quality of analyses: 15% *)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

1	The student's empirical analyses serve to answer the research question and are methodologically sound enough for the BA level. The author argues convincingly why s/he has chosen this particular methodological approach. The results obtained can be easily compared with those of previous studies.
3	The analyses are satisfactory yet exhibit some methodological flaws or do not completely answer the research question.
5	The student has failed to use linguistic methodology appropriate for the topic. The analyses are very poor. The student mainly presents selected examples from his/her data. The research question is hence not answered at all.

Presentation of results (tables, figures, etc.)   10%

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

1	The tables and figures are legible and easily to grasp at the first glance. It is evident that the author has spent some time finding the best visual means of presentation. S/he has related or connected these to the main text, in which they serve as evidences or examples.
3	The formatting of tables and figures is satisfactory yet not always easy to grasp at the first glance. Some results may also have better been presented in a diagram than a table or vice versa.
5	The student has not attempted to use tables and figures to support his/her argument. Or the tables/figures are irrelevant to the main text, or they are impossible to comprehend.

Presentation of results (text)   10%

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

1	The student explains how she/he arrived at the results represented and indicates their significance to the topic or field of linguistics in which the paper is written. The student nicely points out the most important results which her/his analyses have yielded and provides convincing explanations. The author's results are put into context by comparing them with those of previous studies.
3	The author largely points out the most striking results. At the same time, however, s/he concentrates too much on discussing aspects that are not entirely relevant to the research question at hand, or s/he neglects to include findings from her data that do not confirm or even contradict her overall finding.
5	The author mainly lists examples from her data. No comparison of her results with those of previous studies is offered.

Language (vocabulary, grammar, style)   20% *)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

1	The student uses the academic writing register/style with appropriate linguistic terminologies. The paper contains hardly any typos or grammar mistakes.
3	The language used is largely suitable for an academic piece of writing, but the paper exhibits some – mainly recurring – typos and grammar mistakes.
5	The student uses writing style which is inappropriate for an academic paper. There are a great number of grammatical mistakes and typos. Style is unidiomatic or sentences simply do not make sense, and paragraphs lack coherence.

Formal aspects (paper shows that student has familiarised her/himself   10% *)
with the conventions of modern linguistics)

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

1	The student has followed the conventions of modern linguistics appropriately. The parenthetical referencing system has been used. Cited sources and the list of references match. The individual entries in the list of references are complete and formatted consistently. All pages and examples are numbered. All tables, diagrams, and figures are numbered and have appropriate captions.
3	The student has followed the linguistic conventions but with some mistakes e.g. failure to arrange authors' names in alphabetical order in the reference, failure to number examples etc.
5	The paper reveals that the student has not paid sufficient attention to the conventions of modern linguistics. Crucial components (e.g. page numbers, table of contents, list of references) may be lacking. The list of references (if included) is not formatted consistently and/or does not list all cited sources or lists sources that have not even been cited in the paper. The included tables, diagrams and figures are not numbered and do not have an appropriate caption.

Overall grade _____

*)   The term paper will be returned for revision if this category is marked 5.