

## Habilitation thesis reviewer's report

<b>Masaryk University</b>	Faculty of Sports Studies
<b>Faculty</b>	Kinanthropology
<b>Field of study</b>	Stanisław Czyż, Ph.D.
<b>Applicant</b>	...
<b>Unit</b>	<b>The model of acquiring special motor skills</b>
<b>Habilitation thesis (title)</b>	Ass. Prof. Ladislav Čepička, Ph.D.
<b>Reviewer</b>	University of West Bohemia
<b>Unit</b>	

**Reviewer's report** (extent of text up to the reviewer)

### Significance and contribution to the field

#### *Objective of monograph*

There is no clear statement of the objective of the book. At the end of the Preface author states is that the problem presented in this monograph is related to the mechanism of specialisation, or learning effectiveness in constant conditions. The author deals with the reason for the fact that the specificity of practice leads to more effective execution of closed skills. I am not sure if the problem development is sufficient like this. It is not necessary to declare the objective or aim in the monograph but the problem should be obvious. More over there is a discussion in the Chapter 4 and conclusions in a Summary. It is difficult to discuss anything if there is no problem statement. I mean that this contradiction relates to conception of the monograph. Is it a textbook or the monograph presenting research results? This monograph is a mixture of both of these. If the monograph has an ambition to be a scientific work the problem and aim should be stated. The problem, research objective or aims are the most important parts of the work thus it should be stated properly. So my recommendation is to develop a clear and unambiguous problem and state objectives or aim of the monograph.

#### *Objectives achievement*

The author gives six conclusions in the chapter Summary. These conclusions are supported by literary research and the results of the author's analyses as well. The conclusions reflect the author work and they are consistent with the finding of related studies. A positive feature of the Summary is the author's recommendation to the further research which lies in including more skills and taking into account other practice forms.

#### *Contribution to body of knowledge*

This monograph brings new ideas into practice and theory of motor skills as well. Even though theory of motor skills became more popular in the early 60s (from the paper of Poulton (1957)) just there are still many interesting problems to solve. The conclusions of the monograph raise interesting directions of further development of the research in motor skills. The author states six conclusions which can be used as the start points for further research very well.

### *Relationship to other works in the field*

The most of crucial and significant studies in the field are mentioned. The author uses these studies to explain theory and compares them with the results of his own studies. He can do it like this because he has a strong background in motor skills theory and his studies have been published in prestigious journals like Human Movement, Perceptual and Motor Skills, or Journal of Motor Behavior.

## **Methodology or approach**

### *Approach for the habilitation thesis*

The habilitation thesis has a form of monograph. It consists of 110 pages of text, 25 figures, the list of references has more than 200 titles, mostly the latest works, but “classical” studies are also included.

The text is divided into four chapters which are titled as follows:

- Definition and classification of motor skills,
- Motor learning,
- Especial motor skills,
- Discussion.

The text starts with the Preface and ends with Summary.

The author appropriately uses his studies to construct arguments and puts the results into context with the theories. And he does it very well. However, I miss better problem development. That is why I would expect chapter of an Introduction.

### *Objectivity/bias of approach*

All procedures used in the monograph seems to be clear and unambiguous, the designs of studies are very good.

## **Argument and use of evidence**

There is no clear statement of the problem in the monograph. However the arguments are consistent; the text relies on the evidence. The validity and reliability of the evidence seems to be appropriate. Conclusions are presented in summary and they are just author's statements. There are no arguments and relations to the previous text in conclusions.

## **Writing style and text structure**

I am not a native speaker so I will not review the writing style and text structure. I have just some a small comment on chapter Summary.

Usually the summary gives readers opportunity to quickly known what is the content of the book. The summary should be very condensed version of a longer text. Habitually the summary consist of the main topic, methods used to research information, further subsections within the book and results, conclusions, or recommendations.

However the author made just conclusions and short recommendation in the summary. By my mean the recommendations would be as follows:

- to identify the major objectives,
- to identify phrases with keywords,
- to present the major result s from discussion section,
- to clarify the major conclusion.

**Reviewer's questions for the habilitation thesis defence** (number of questions up to the reviewer)

The problem, research objective or aims are the most important parts of the scientific work thus it should be stated properly. Can you state the clear and the unambiguous problem and objectives or aim of the monograph?

### **Conclusion**

The habilitation thesis submitted by Stanisław Czyż, Ph.D entitled *The model of acquiring special motor skills* **meets** the requirements applicable to habilitation theses in the field of Kinanthropology.

In Brno on October 30, 2017

Literature:

Poulton, E. C. (1957) On prediction in skilled movement. *Psychological Bulletin*, 54, 467-478.