

A DEFINITION OF THE TOPIC AND RESEARCH PLAN

- 1= The topic has not been defined clearly or it has no scientific relevance. The research setting has been planned erroneously and it cannot provide answers to the questions asked.
- 2= The topic has not been defined as a result of scientific consideration or critical selection. Typical examples of the above include situations in which the doctoral candidate has somewhat accidentally gained access to a definition method or extensive patient data and the study thus is carried out without a creative, original consideration and selection.
- 3= The study is based on an original idea, which is logical and scientifically relevant.
- 4= The starting point of the study is creative and scientifically very reasonable.
- 5= The starting point of the study is particularly creative and scientifically very reasonable; the study is based on innovative thinking or it bravely challenges the field's existing ideas.

B MATERIAL AND METHODS

- 1= The methods used are not suitable for studying the material or they provide erroneous or clearly insufficient answers to the questions asked. The material is selective and provides misleading results.
- 2= The methods used are suitable for studying the topic. However, the use of the methods does not involve any particular uniqueness. The research material is not very extensive.
- 3= A generally used method has been improved or modified, as a result of which it is well suited for the study in question. The material is of a high quality.
- 4= The methods have been applied innovatively or they have been significantly developed or improved, as a result of which they are well suited for the study in question. The material is of a high quality.
- 5= The selection of methods is particularly extensive or requires high professional skill. A new method as regards its concept or implementation has been developed in connection with the study. The material is of an exceptionally high quality.

C DOCTORAL CANDIDATE'S OWN CONTRIBUTION

The doctoral candidate's own contribution refers to the work carried out by the candidate himself or herself. However, similar work carried out by the candidate's supporting staff may also be regarded as the doctoral candidate's own contribution, provided that the candidate is profoundly familiar with the methods, he or she teaches the supporting staff how to use them, and supervises the execution of the work.

- 1= The doctoral candidate's own contribution to the acquisition of the research material and to the obtaining of the results is insignificant or non-existent.
- 2= The doctoral candidate has self been responsible for the obtaining of some of the results. The doctoral candidate has become sufficiently familiar with the methods used.
- 3= The doctoral candidate has self produced a significant part of the results. He or she has become familiar with each of the methods in such a detail that he or she practically masters them.
- 4= The doctoral candidate has self produced an extremely large part of the results. The doctoral candidate has familiarised him or herself with each of the methods used, and the methods have been used by the candidate or under the personal supervision of the candidate.
- 5= The doctoral candidate has self produced and exceptionally large part of the results. The doctoral candidate has become deeply familiar with each of the methods used and their functioning and the methods have been used by the candidate or under the personal supervision of the candidate.

D RESEARCH RESULTS

- 1= The results of the study are consistent with earlier conceptions and they verify them.
- 2= The results complement and specify earlier findings which have been regarded as uncertain and/or scattered.
- 3= The doctoral dissertation yields new viewpoints into or new information about the field of research.
- 4= The doctoral dissertation includes important and significant observations.
- 5= The doctoral dissertation includes essentially important and significant observations.

E FAMILIARITY WITH THE FIELD OF RESEARCH

The doctoral candidate's familiarity with the field of research of the dissertation is demonstrated not only in the manuscript, but also as his/her expertise demonstrated in the public examination of the dissertation.

- 1= The doctoral candidate's discussion of the topic of the dissertation contains significant shortcomings or essential misunderstandings.
- 2= The doctoral candidate's knowledge covers the topic of the dissertation, but the nature of the knowledge is passive and based on literature.
- 3= The doctoral candidate masters the knowledge and literature relating to the theme of the dissertation well, and has formed a consistent and critical view of the merits and weaknesses of earlier publications.
- 4= The doctoral candidate's knowledge of the topic of the dissertation is so extensive that he or she can change or complement the field's existing ideas.
- 5= The doctoral candidate's knowledge of the topic of the dissertation is so extensive that he or she essentially can disprove or change and significantly complement the field's existing ideas.

F DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The doctoral candidate's ability to critically reflect on his or her own results in relation to earlier findings is demonstrated both in the dissertation and in the public examination. The discussion and conclusion sections demonstrate the candidate's abilities in critical analysis, scientific honesty and academic discovery.

- 1= The dissertation lacks a general discussion and/or conclusion section or a closer examination of the above sections reveals that they are merely a repetition of the summary or the literature review section. The conclusions do not provide answers to the questions asked.
- 2= The general conclusion section contains a list-like comparison of the candidate's own and earlier results. The conclusions made provide answers to the questions asked.
- 3= The candidate critically compares his or her own findings to earlier literature and considers the reasons behind possible differences by recognising weaknesses and contributing factors both in his or her own study and in earlier studies. The conclusions made correspond to the questions asked and they are scientifically justified.
- 4= The doctoral candidate can critically compare his or her own study to earlier studies, and make a summary of the current state of the research problem. The conclusions have been made using a critical approach.
- 5= The doctoral candidate can make a creative synthesis of the current state of the research problem using a critical approach and point out novel approaches for further research. The conclusions have been made using a particularly critical approach.