

1. Why is Russian transit diversification solved by dumping everything into the sea?

In this short article I would like to provide an historical background of Russia's energy commodities transit relations with Belarus and the Ukraine. This case study should help the reader to understand the complex interactions between those states, which is crucial in comprehending the diversification tendencies of Gazprom and why is the South Stream is not a geopolitical weapon of Russia.

Relationships in the natural gas transit sector between the three states are without a doubt very problematic. Belarus, which for many years had cheap natural gas at the same price level as in Russia's home market as granted (? This needs revising – the sentence is complicated and has lost meaning), took an ice cold shower (idiomatic/informal – not appropriate in an academic text), when, in 2007, Gazprom started to move the price towards the European levels. Constant arguing about transit fees collected from Minsk on the one hand, and Moscow pushing Belarus to pay for their consumed gas, along with a Russian tension to buy Belgatransgaz1 on the other, resulted in gas disputes (check the spelling of this word), most notably in 2004, 2007 and in 2010. However, it was only in 2004 and in 2007 that the gas was actually halted (Yafimava 2010: 3). It is necessary to mention, that Belarus had also experience with stealing Russian oil and with the strategic withholding of supplies in 2007, when Minsk was effectively draining the Druzhba pipeline to compensate for Russian unpaid transit fees. These fees, demanded despite existing agreements, were actually made up by Mr Lukashenko, a retaliation for Russian cancelation of the duty free zone for transporting oil into Belarus (Kodůusková et al. 2014: 283). The reliability of Belarus as a transit country can be summed up in a statement made by Mr Lukashenko in 2010, when he stated that Belarus would stop the transit of natural gas to Europe if Gazprom did not pay transit fees (Yafimava 2010: 9).

It is not necessary to discuss the Ukraine's reliability as a transit country over long periods of time, but rather, it is sufficient to look only at the years 2006 and 2009. The gas disruption of 2009 was considerably more critical than that of 2006, due to the fact that in 2006, gas supplies were only halted for a few days (Kodůusková et al. 2014: 265). However, in 2009, the state owned Naftogaz did not have enough finances to pay its debts to Gazprom and did not send payments on time. Gazprom claimed that, if the whole debt was not paid, a new contract would not be signed (Kodůusková et al. 2014: 266). On 1st January 2009, Gazprom upheld its word when natural gas to the Ukraine was halted due to the non-existent contract. Gas for European customers was still flowing, but on the 5th January, the Russian Federation claimed that the Ukraine stole 0.063 bcm of natural gas, which was running to Europe. Interestingly, a letter addressed to Gazprom and written by the Chief Executive of Naftogaz, Mr Oleg Dubyna, made its way to the press. An aspect of Ukrainian law, which stated that non-contracted gas in pipelines can be claimed by Ukraine (Pirani, Stern and Yafimava 2009: 17-19) was included in the letter (what is the point of this sentence? It doesn't explain anything and needs a clear link to the next sentence if you are to leave it in.). On 5th January 2009, volumes of natural gas flowing to Europe were drastically reduced during the course of the day, and next morning they were completely halted. The flow was finally resumed after 15 days, on 22nd January. The result of this dispute was that Gazprom was labelled an unreliable supplier which had left Europe freezing during a harsh winter. Another implications are speeded diversification policies and projects, which will in turn hurt also Ukraine (makes no sense – re-think and re-work).

A more stealthy dimension (?) comes from a statement by Naftogaz, which threatened Gazprom to steal gas if contract is not sealed. This already predicted crisis to some way. (all the underlined is confusing and makes little sense – you need to re-think and re-work). As stated earlier, Gazprom claimed that the Ukraine had stolen 0.063 bcm of gas for their own market, which was a false statement. This small amount of natural gas, also known as 'technical gas' is used to run compressors in pipelines; in other words, without a minimal volume of gas flowing, pipelines could not operate correctly. What is important

here is who provides this gas. Normally 'technical gas' is added to the sum demanded from the producer of gas, which, in this case, was Gazprom (Pirani, Stern and Yafimava 2009: 20). It is unnecessary to add, that this practice did not work in 2009. (if it's unnecessary to add this statement, then why have you added it?)

One thing is a misunderstanding or lack of will to understand to a single part of deal about the provider of technical gas, when Naftogaz takes this gas from volumes to Europe and Gazprom expects Neftogaz to provide this gas by himself. (this makes no sense and I can't decipher what you wish to say here – re-think and re-work). Naftogaz also employed the practice of turning pipelines to reverse flow so that the Ukraine could supply stored gas to the energy hungry east and south. However this practice explicitly closed the route for Russian gas reaching Europe. The reverse turning of pipelines is mechanically complicated and so we can safely assume that it had been planned for a long time (Pirani, Stern and Yafimava 2009: 24). In light of these events, it is much easier for a reader to draw their own conclusions about these two companies, when Gazprom complains that Naftogaz blocked the pipelines and Naftogaz retaliates with Gazprom's closed valves (this sentence doesn't fit here – you need to link it in somehow or delete it).

To conclude, the author finds that endurance of both companies with which they ignored and overlooked the fastest way to resume flow to their partners in Europe as shocking and shortsighted. (this doesn't make sense – what do you wish to say here?)

This article was a short reminder of the reliability of the Ukraine and Belarus as transit countries for energy commodities. Not surprisingly, demonized Russia chooses to break away from transit countries in general by building expensive undersea pipelines, where problematic transit states are no longer an issue.

Koďousková, H., Kuchyňková A., Leschenko, A. a Jirušek, M. 2014. Energetická bezpečnost asijských zemí a Ruské federace. Brno: MUNI Press.

Pirani, S., Stern, J. a Yafimava, K. 2009. The Russo-Ukrainian gas dispute of January 2009: a comprehensive assesment. Oxford: Oxford Institute for Energy Studies.

Yafimava, K. 2010. The June 2010 Russian-Belarusian Gas Tranzit Dispute: a suprise that was to be expected. Oxford: Oxford Institute for Energy Studies.

Comments:

Check your spelling of English words using a dictionary.

Revise your use of articles – especially the definite article 'the'.

You need to study the different verb tenses in English and how they are used – your verb tenses are all over the place and you use the present when you should be using the past, i.e. if an event happened in 2006 or 2009 this is the past and you can't use the present tense.

The correct pronoun for objects is 'it' and not his/her – these are used for people or animals if you know the gender of the animal.

Use of punctuation in English

Also, make sure you don't use a translation tool to translate chunks of text – these tools are seldom accurate.

2. Main institutions of the European Union

I study Sociology and European studies at Masaryk University. I would like to present the seven main institutions of the European Union. I did not choose the topic of sociology, because it could be difficult to explain some sociological theories. The Czech Republic has been the EU (I will use this shortcut) member since 1 May 2004 and this organization forms economy or social life. Knowledges about the EU could be helpful to imagine position of the Czech Republic in Europe and relationship with the EU. This paragraph is not in the correct order – group like sentences/ideas together – for example as follows:

I am a student of Sociology and European Studies at Masaryk University and would like to introduce the seven main institutions of the European Union. The Czech Republic has been an EU member since 1st May 2004. A knowledge of the EU enables us to understand the position of the Czech Republic within Europe and its relationship with the EU as a whole, and how the organisation influences economic and social life within the Czech Republic.

The European Commission

The European Commission is one of the main institutions of the EU. The Commission prepares suggestions for new European law and decides how EU funds should be spent. The Commission is based in Brussels and Luxembourg and has offices in every EU country, as well as delegations in capital cities around the world, including Argentina (<http://eeas.europa.eu/>).

The Commission consists of 28 commissioners, one from each EU country and each one has a specific policy area, which is assigned to them by the President of the Commission. Their political term is five years and the current President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, began his second term of office in February 2010.

The main purposes of the commission are as follows: proposing new laws to Parliament and Council; managing the EU budget and allocating funding; enforcing EU law; representing the EU internationally. The Commission is considered as the engine of the union (Fiala 2003, 249).

The European Council

The European Council meetings are essentially summits where EU leaders meet to decide on broad political priorities and major initiatives. EU leaders are often the Prime Minister of the member states but can also chair meetings, as is the case in France, though meetings are usually chaired by a permanent president. Typically, there are around four meetings a year, chaired by a permanent president.. The Commission President and the European Council President are also members of the summit. The current European Council President is Herman Van Rompuy and the seat of the European Council is in situated in Brussels.

Council of the European Union

The Council is based on an intergovernmental principle, and it's purpose is to offer itself as the place, where members of the EU can defend their interests (Fiala 2003, 177). The Council does not have permanent members, but each country sends its minister for the policy field being discussed, for example, if the council is discussing agricultural issues, then Ministers of Agriculture would need to be present. This meeting is called the 'Agriculture Council' and is also based in Brussels.

Targets or tasks of the Council are as follows: approving EU laws; coordinating the broad economic policies of EU member countries; signing agreements between the EU and other countries; passing the

annual EU budget; developing EU foreign and defence policies; focusing on the justice and police forces of member countries.

European Parliament

Members are elected to the European Parliament in direct elections and for a term of five years. Direct elections is a term that means members are voted for but not voted for through intermediaries. The Parliament, along with the Council, are the main law-making institutions. The number of members for each country is roughly proportionate to its population; no country can have fewer than 6 or more than 96 members, and the total number can not exceed 751 (750 plus the President). Members are grouped by political affiliation, not by nationality.

The parliament has three places of work in Brussels (Belgium), Luxembourg (Luxembourg) and in Strasbourg (France). The three major tasks of the European Parliament are law-making, controlling EU institutions and their democratic character, especially the Commission, and again, along with the Council, debating and adopting the budget of the EU (Fiala 2003, 299).

The Court of Justice of the European Union

The Court of Justice interprets EU law to make sure it is applied in the same way in all EU countries. The Court of Justice has one judge per EU country. The Court is composed of judges and nine advocates-general then from a General Court and forms the EU Civil Service Tribunal. Individuals, companies or organisations can also send cases before the Court. The seat of the Court is in Luxembourg.

The European Court of Auditors

The European Court of Auditors audits EU finances. This court is independent, but has to cooperate with the other institutions. The purpose of the European Court of Auditors is to improve EU financial management and report on the use of public funds. The seat of the court is in Luxembourg.

The European Central Bank

The most independent institution (ECB) is based in Frankfurt (Germany). The bank cooperates with all central banks in the 28 member states. The ECB helps to keep inflation under control, especially in countries that use the Euro. The Euro is a common currency and most countries use this; the Czech Republic does not, as yet, use the Euro. The Eurozone consists of all countries which have adopted the Euro. The area where the euro is used is known as the Eurozone. The ECB also keeps the financial system stable and allows central banks in the Eurozone to issue Euro banknotes.

To conclude, the EU's broad priorities are set by the European Council; members in the European Parliament represent European citizens; targets of the EU as a whole are promoted by the European Commission and national interests are promoted by governments in the Council of the European Union.

The Court of Justice of the EU and the European Court of Auditors are inspectors of the EU. The European Central Bank take care of the currency (the euro).

The EU has many other aspects, such as the Committee of the Regions or the European Ombudsman. The EU is a very complicated system and most of the population do not understand this organization.

Maybe for this aspect our population is so pesimistic and negative in the EU's tasks ? – not sure what you want to say here).

Fiala, Petr. Evropská unie. 1. vyd. Brno: Centrum pro studium demokracie a kultury, 2003.

Europa. <http://eeas.europa.eu/> (accessed October 20, 2014).

Revise your use of the definite article – it's a little inconsistent – there are times when you need to use it and times when you don't.

Some of your sentences are too informal for an academic text, for example, you don't need to say what you wanted to do – this is irrelevant. It might be better to just state what you want to state and ignore what you don't.

Check your spelling using an English dictionary – I've corrected some, but you need to check others.

Make sure you check over your text as sometimes what you are writing is confused.

Use of punctuation in English

3. Albanian organized crime

A Definition of Organized Crime

The issue of organized crime touches countless states and crosses the boundaries of these states. Organized crime is hard to comprehend because of its nature, because in many cases it is not based on so-called 'hard data', which is determined by several key factors:

a) research capabilities; b) tracing empirically substantiated facts; c) the disclosure of documents of institutions which fight against organized crime – these documents are mostly secret and their subsequent meaningful value may be obsolete (Šmíd 2008).

One of the most common definitions of organised crime, used in Czech academic environment, is the concept of J. O. Finckeneauer. He described eight attributes that must be present in order to talk about organized crime:

- 1) Ideology - in terms of its absence. Organized crime does not present political ideology. Politics is seen only as a tool, which is used to achieve goals.
- 2) Structure / organized hierarchy - everyone has their place. Few members reach real decision making and in many cases the members do not know each other.
- 3) Continuity - the group does not end with the death of the leading members, which are replaced if needed.
- 4) Violence / use of force or threat of force - the instrument by which it is possible to implement many different goals. Its use is not limited to competition only, but also, is used to deal with traitors and borrowers. Some groups use it against security structures or politicians who refuse to cooperate.
- 5) Reduced membership - or its exclusivity, which is one of the most common criteria - ethnicity, kinship, previous criminal activity, religion and more.
- 6) Illegal business - the basic attribute of organized crime includes profit and **to accumulate is (?)** organized criminal groups use several of the most common illegal business activities: narcotics trafficking, human trafficking, arms and explosives, trades financial crime, violent crime, cybercrime, counterfeiting, racketeering (financial blackmail in order for fictitious protection), corruption and maritime piracy. It is a tempting replacement (in many cases unattainable) of products or services, to the market, where there is no competition.
- 7) Penetration into the legal economy - for organized criminal groups, one of the benefits is to go into the legal economy due to easier concealment of illegal activities, but still carries out organized crime practices.
- 8) Corruption - is one of the investments that are shaping the future of organized criminal groups. They provide a protection and at the same time, it is one of the tools that can undermine the functioning of the state (Fickneauer 2005).

Albanian Organized Crime

In the Albanian environment (Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia) bloodline is a prerequisite for entry into an organized criminal group (it's all fixed language). The discussion about Albanian organized crime is very often associated with the concept of mafia. Mafia develops where the government can not or will not apply its monopoly on violence (where the state apparatus is so weak that the Mafia takes over the functions of state (Sicily). They are taking on the function of protection, give work and resolves disputes - a term we can take in the Albanian environment as an umbrella concept, because members do not belong to a single organization, but their unity is related to language, culture and social structures which help to protect and them maintain internal cohesion. In 2005, the Albanian government issued a statement in which showed the failure of control of over 25% of its territory. This area is managed by the

Albanian clan structures and local mafia. Albanian organized crime is mainly based on family clans (Albanian - fis), which mostly differ in internal organization, but they retained four main principles, which are essential for their functioning and are substantial for Albanian culture as a whole.

1) Code (kartun) - especially honour murders.

2) Secret (bessa) - loyalty is confirmed by silence in favour of the clan and with dignified and solemn word.

3) The territory (territoriality) – controlling pinpointed locations.

4) Physical violence - not only numerous violent conflicts between clans.

Violence in Albanian organized crime is characterized by great brutality (McCarthy, 2011).

Albanian Organized Crime in Czech Republic

Albanian criminal groups in the Czech Republic belong among one of the most active groups, which are mostly based on ethnicity, and their relationship to the homeland is very close. In our country, we have groups moving mainly from Kosovo and Macedonia and rarely from Albania.

Literature:

Finckenauer, J. (2005): Problems of Definition: What is Organized Crime, Trends in Organized Crime, Nr. 3, p. 62 – 83.

McCarthy, D. (2011): An Economic History of Organized Crime. A national and transnational approach. London and New York: Routledge.

Šmíd, T. (2008): Teoretické vymezení organizovaného zločinu. In: Politologický časopis 3/2008, s. 270-296.

Němec, M. (2003): Mafie a zločinecké gangy. Praha: Eurounion.

Overall, good grasp of grammar but you might want to:

Revise the use of articles, especially the definite article 'the'

Capitalise headings/check spelling

Revise subject/verb agreement

5. Russian language with orientation on commercial practice, services and travel.

This kind of field is provided by the Faculty of Arts at Masaryk university in Brno. Generally, students are expected to study for three years and, after defending their work and passing state exams, they finish with a Bachelor's degree. Courses are divided into three parts – Russian language, Law and Economy and common/optional courses (such as?). Students must fulfil their study schedule in order to achieve their Bachelor's degree, and it is necessary to obtain 180 credits during three years. As compulsory courses don't provide all credits, optional courses are also required.

The first group of courses, which in this case are compulsory, are focused on the Russian language. Students improve their skills of writing, speaking and listening, and some courses also emphasize essential points of grammar, phonetics, structure of sentences or translating. Exceptions are explained and demonstrated so that they can be easily understood. At the beginning of their studies, students are considered to be able to use the Cyrillic alphabet (reading and writing letters). Russian language also means information among history, literature, culture, habits, customs and tradition, which are usually included in various texts. So language isn't simply about improving skills and learning, but also about exploring the roots of the nature (of the language?) too.

The second part contains the main information about the theory of law, commercial law, economy, psychology and sociology. The theory of law is mostly presented as a compilation of important facts, but not in-depth. Information about functions of corporations in the Czech environment is included in courses on commercial law. Economy introduces basic issues in its field. In both cases (economy and law) students are taught how to think in the right way in order to critically evaluate theories or examples of everyday reality. It is also necessary to know how handle people, which is why courses in psychology and sociology exist, because of the fact students are expected to work mainly with people, they help to put a human perspective into the field. Of course, the Faculty of Arts offers more courses, but they incorporate points of law, economy or psychology.

The last category I can divide into two smaller groups – common compulsory courses and optional courses. Common compulsory courses must be passed. These courses are composed of the physical education, philosophy and foreign language. The rule for choosing courses of foreign language is simple, if you study a Slavonic language, you will not be permitted to pass the exam from the same branch of language. Commonly the courses of English or German are registered. Optional courses are spread throughout the whole university, which means, you can pick up a topic you want to learn something new about. It is better to register a course closer to your field to make sure you are able to complete it. On the other hand, if you are confident or have a general range of knowledge, you will benefit from courses out of your branch of study. However it is appropriate firstly to fulfil the requirements of compulsory courses and afterwards to turn your attention towards optional courses.

After completion of all requirements in the study schedule, students are able to seek out a job. Despite the fact that usually five years of study are required, in this case students are well prepared in a practical way, so they can work in companies, offices and travel agencies, for example. Communication should be going on in Russian language and important tasks too.(? this sentence needs clarification – what are important tasks?) But if students want to progress in their range of knowledge, they will take a place in the field to obtain the master's degree. The branch of translating or philology is offered, however students have to consider the fact that, these degrees focus on theoretical issues, and so it is necessary to decide, what is more important – the opportunity to get a job or to continue in studying?

In my short text I attempt to sum up the most important facts about studying the field of Russian language with orientation on commercial practice, services and travel. During three years students have to obtain 180 credits and successfully pass all exams of compulsory courses, defend the final work and deal with state exams. Courses are divided into three parts – Russian language, law and economy, common/optional courses. After finishing studies students can get a job position or continue in master's degree. (A summary should consider the text but not repeat what is already stated in the text – this is unnecessary repetition – a summary should tell us what all the above 'means' – in other words, it should be a short analysis/the writer's opinion on the 'facts' presented, for example: to conclude, undertaking any course of study in university requires students to commit themselves to it for a considerable length of time and be prepared to work hard and in several fields, similar or different to the core subject, in order to achieve their desired degree.

Grammar/language points:

Articles

Subject/verb agreement

Check your use of punctuation – commas, full stops, capitals....

Prepositions – you would benefit from studying how these are used

Spelling – use a dictionary to check that you've spelt words correctly, don't rely on the computer's spellcheck

6. Issue Ownership as a fundamental concept for being successful in politics (?)

There is no doubt that politics has changed considerably over the last century. Politics cannot be characterised as same way as it was at the end of the 19th century. The most important factor in this political evolution, has been the expansion, in the 20th century, of the right to vote with both world wars contributing to this important shift. Politics has lost its exclusivity and has become accessible to the majority of people in today's society, and it has also led to a change in the character between political parties (party as an actor in the system, all parties competing for mandates) and voters. Typical links between these two gradually evaporated and volatility (fluctuation of voter's support for party in consecutive election) showed to be typical for modern political era and there is spotted the importance of the concept of issue ownership. (this underlined sentence is confused and it is very difficult to try and decipher what you wish to express here – re-think.)

Constituency acts more passively in the political sphere and because of its political parties or individual candidates, has started using topical issues which are key to success in election. (Eibl 2007: 152) There is competition for issue ownership among parties because of strategic advantage. We can say that issue ownership represents a fundamental precondition to being successful and moreover, it is a matter of reputation in the political arena. (Walgrave, De Swert 2007: 37)

The basis of issue ownership is the capability of voters to identify a political party owing to which issues the party uses in election campaigns. When the party states that it 'owns' the issue, this raises two facts:

1. The party must persuade voters that the issue emphasized is really important. It is a strategic moment for the party, without the importance of the issue (so-called issue salience) issue ownership is decreased (as soon as voters do not understand the issue as significant they will not vote for it so the party's result will mean disappointment), (Bélanger a Meguid 2008:4-6)
2. The party has to be known as a subject capable of handling the problem of the emphasized issue and unless voters perceive the party as capable, they will vote for another party. Thus, we can talk about two levels of the issue ownership: 1. Party level – with the aim to focus on its own issues, on the problems which they can cope with and in an appropriate way, and 2. Individual level – the ability of voters to evaluate the importance of issues and simultaneously, the credibility of the party in the concrete case. (Walgrave, Lefevere, Tresch 2014: 2-3)

For the party, the most crucial are the real owned issues, because these should be in the party's program during the election, they are decisive for them in view by voters (Not sure what you mean here?). The problem of modern politics is its chaotic arrangement – we can distinguish plenty of actors, parties, candidates, ideologies. Voters can be confused, however issues help them to recognize the party, it works like a label and/or link and due to this, people can be more easily orientated in the area of political competition. The confusion caused is also due to the position of the parties – they appear more closely on ideological axis (it is a right/left political spectrum usually delimited from fascism on the right and communism on the left.). (Walgrave, de Swert 2007: 39) The competition for issue ownership is very high and issues become more varied and can change frequently (after short periods – f.e. (what does this f.e. stand for?) incumbent party – the party which governs - loses in the election). The important fact for election competition and for success in this competition, is to raise the appropriate issue in the great (I don't think great is the right word here) period of time - approximately one year before elections are due to take place and when the competition starts to become intense. Moreover, public interest also increase during this time.

The authors distinguish sources of this concept: 1. partisan identification – this can serve as a screen of perception, the way human beings understand the world; 2. ownership on the constituency base – this type is independent of other sources because of the typical link between political parties and parts of the population, for example, ethnic group, class; 3. the attitude of voters to concrete issues – if the issue means a lot to the voter there is a high probability that the voter will search for the best party to deal with this issue – voters can be influenced by ideology or subjectivism; 4. evaluation of a party's performance – whether the party "did the job well" in the incumbent or not, the real force or ability of the party in the highlighted theme. (comp. Petrocik 1996, Stubager, Slothuus 2012)

To conclude, we can say that this concept (what concept? Clarify) creates considerable part of politics mainly at the present times. (This doesn't make any sense, what are you trying to express here?) The basis of the mentioned concept lies in the issue owned by the political party with huge response among society. However the issue itself is meaningless unless it is endowed with salience for people – the voter will vote for the party which is of some advantage to him. (Eibl 2007: 163) Beside this, the Party's problem is to persuade its constituency that it is the right actor for handling it (Handling what? Clarify.). The concept shows which themes are emphasized or downplayed in campaigns.

Used sources

Bélanger, Éric a Meguid, Bonnie M. 2008. „Issue salience, issue ownership, and issue-based vote choice.“ *Electoral studies* 27, č. 3, 477-491.

Eibl, Otto. 2007. „Koncept tematického vlastnictví, palčivosti témat a agendy setting v politologii.“ *Politologický časopis* 2007, č. 2, 151-167.

Petrocik, John R. 1996. „Issue Ownership in Presidential Elections, with a 1980 Case Study.“ *American Journal of Political Science* 40, č. 3, 825-850.

Stubager, Rune a Slothuus, Rune. 2012. „What are the sources of Political Parties' Issue Ownership? Testing Four Explanations at the Individual Level.“ *Springer Science+Business Media* 2013, č. 35, 567-588.

Walgrave, Stefaan a De Swert, Knut. 2007. „Where Does Issue Ownership Come From? From the Party or from the Media? Issue – party Identifications in Belgium, 1991-2005.“ *The Harvard International Journal of Press/Politics* 2007, č. 12, 37-67.

Walgrave, Stefaan a Lefevere, Jonas a Tresch, Anke. 2014. „The Limits of Issue Ownership Dynamics: The Constraining Effect of Party Preference.“ *Journal of Election* 24, č. 1, 1-19.

You need to revise your use of articles – this is a weak point and makes the text unreadable and confusing in places.

Make sure you are using vocabulary in the correct context – check words before you use them.

Your word order needs revising in some areas – it is confused.

Your use of prepositions is weak – you might benefit from studying how these are used.

Punctuation in English – have a look at how English language is punctuated.

For the best part, most ideas are linked and coherent, but there are some places where this isn't the case, so you need to make sure that your writing has logical progression and that one idea links seamlessly to another.

7. Tourism from the Czech Republic to Eastern Europe

Introduction

In this essay we (We? There is only one person writing this essay so you need to use 'I') will deal with a holiday offer to Eastern Europe, by Czech travel agencies. The point of the essay is to highlight the possibilities of developing tourism in Eastern Europe and the reasons why people should visit it (visit what? Clarify), for example, its untouched nature, unique culture and architecture. Further, this essay will look at why, despite the beauty that these countries offer, they are not popular tourist destinations and why it is that people frequently prefer to go to hot countries with beaches for their holidays.

One of the reasons that Czech people do not visit this region (what region? Clarify) is its historical relationship between the Czech Republic (former Czechoslovakia) and Russia and the former SSSR countries. The Warsaw pact troops under the direction of Soviet Union (SSSR) occupied Czechoslovakia from 1968 to 1991. (This sentence doesn't make any sense and it's difficult to decipher what you wish to express.) In this era there was a non-democratic regime and a lot of people died in the time of this occupation, and opponents to the regime were strictly punished. Nobody was allowed to leave the country without approval from the state. It was a difficult time for Czechoslovakia.

The current situation in Eastern Europe

Russia, along with the Ukraine are the biggest countries in Eastern Europe. The reason why Czech people do not go to Eastern countries is to do with the current complicated situation, here I am talking about the civil war in the Ukraine and Russia's incomprehensible attitude to this war. Riots started on 6th April 2014 in the Doñeck region. The struggle is between the Ukrainian armed forces and the pro-Russians rebels backed by the Russian Federation. The peace conditions for Doñeck and Luhansk, both part of the Ukraine, were agreed on 1st September 2014.

Another reason why Czech people do not go to Russia is the need for a visa. The need for a visa complicates and prolongs the organization of a trip. Another weak point is the high price of a trip to this region. The cheapest flight from Prague to Moscow and without having to change, costs about €353 and a standard visa costs €62 and it takes ten days to get it.

Types of Tourism

In the this part, I will explain types of tourism which can be experienced when travelling to Eastern countries. Based on the offer of two travel agencies, I will illustrate the range of holidays available to Czech tourists from travel agencies such as Invia and Kudrna. Invia is currently a very popular travel agency in the market as it offers a lot of high end hotels, mainly in Moscow and St. Petersburg. In these big cities it is possible to see many famous buildings and monuments, but we do not always absorb the culture, because it is a metropolis for tourists and everything is very 'touristy'. However Kudrna specializes in amazing long trips with guides such as trips to Baikal or to climb Mount Elbrus.

Solutions for the future

This section will look at ideas for the future and how to increase the demand for travel to these countries. In my opinion, the most important is promotion; Czech travel agencies do not promote Eastern countries enough. When you see a billboard in the street offering trips, what kind of trip is it?

Most of billboards advertise sunny western countries like Spain, France or Greece, for example. I strongly believe that better promotion would result in a higher demand for vacations to Eastern Europe. It is a fact that advertisement has an impact on demand and it is rare to see advertisements for Russia or the Ukraine on any other website other than on an agency's website.

Another thing to consider is the expansion of trip offers. People should be able to experience real Russian culture. For adventurers there should be some new amazing trips to bigger cities and not just sightseeing, which can be boring. When you want to experience Russian culture, you could visit the Babylon fest in Brno, this is an encounter of national minorities that live in the Czech Republic.

Suggestions for adventure trips:

- Rafting (Šua, Suna, Čirka-Kem, Ohta)
- Hiking (Tchača, Altaj)
- Caving (Kruber-Varoňa, Ordinska cave)
- Diving (Kamčatka, Bajkal, Ordinska cave)

Conclusion

To conclude, firstly, I discussed history and its influence on tourism. Demand for trips to Eastern Europe is low because of the occupation by these countries. (You need to clarify what you mean here – do you mean that these countries are occupied forcefully by another or that these countries are forcefully occupying others?) Another point is poor offers from travel agencies, who do not offer enough variety when it comes to places to visit. I also suggested interesting trips which could be fascinating for adventurers (which is important because?). In terms of tourism I think that Eastern Europe has a lot to offer in terms of interesting places to visit and it is a pity that people do not want to travel there as much as they do to Spain or Italy, for example.

Prepositions – this is a very weak area for you, you would benefit from studying how these are used

Check your spelling with a dictionary – this will also enable to increase your use and accuracy of vocabulary which is limited.

Punctuation – revise its use in English

Word order and the necessity to clarify points so that the reader is certain about what you are referring to.

8. David Hume – Causality and Copy principle

In this essay I would like to focus on David Hume's distinction of perception and his conception of causality. David Hume is an important philosopher who has had a significant influence on the history of philosophy. He is also representative of British Empiricism and Enlightenment. He is known for his opinions about causality and stands at the beginning of modern philosophy of causality.

Today, we consider causality as a relation between events – between an event which constitutes causation and an event which constitutes effect. In the past, there were many opinions and causality was not a frequented theme. Today we also have to deal with various opinions and so every philosopher interprets this definition differently.

Empiricism is important for Hume's concept of causality. In empiricism, the only source of knowledge comes from our senses or from our internal experiences. The internal experience is, for example, emotions or internal states. There are no relations and objects from which we cannot deduce from experience.

Before Hume tackles the problem of causality, he focuses on our perception. One of Hume's important works is 'An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding'. Here can be found a distinction of perception of human consciousness, between impressions and ideas. Impressions and ideas are mental sensations and a relation between them the first principle of Hume philosophy. In creating ideas, Hume applies his copy principle. According to this principle, the idea is a copy of the impression - ideas come only from impressions; there is no idea that would not have been sourced from impression. Impressions can be caused by external objects which affect our senses, but they are also internal states, especially the emotions, e.g. affect (?), love, hate....

There are important difference between idea and impression; the main distinction between these perceptions is their power and vibrancy. Ideas are less vivid, because they only copy or imitate the impression. Impressions come from sensation, they are more vivacious and they do not have a pattern, while ideas are only remembrance, reflection or recall of impression. For example, a taste of a good meal is the impression, but a recollection of this event is the idea. Therefore, it is easier to lose ideas. But because we experience impressions directly, we perceive them more vividly. There are also other differences. Impressions precede ideas and generate ideas and they are a model for them, but impressions do not have a pattern.

Ideas can connect together and create more complicated units; this connection is based on three principles of connection among ideas: resemblance, contiguity (relationship in time or place) and cause and effect. Here we can see that the causality is one of these principles.

Hume asks where causality can be found. It is not a process of our mind and we also cannot find it in subjects. We see only the causation and the effect, but causality itself cannot be found. There is also an important question: How can we connect two events when we do not know of any rule concerning how they follow each other? Hume tries to find an idea of necessary connection; this idea has to have an appropriate impression. He comes to the conclusion that, the idea of necessary connection comes directly from internal impression and indirectly from permanent association of objects.

There are two important considerations in Hume's conception of causality: events (causation and effect) must occur together and they must be similar to some event which we experienced in the past; for

example, when we see a stone falling to the ground, we expect that other heavy objects will fall to the ground.

Hume claims that causality is based on our belief and habits which affect us in such a way as for us to expect the same future after the same past. We know only the past event and the future event. We get accustomed to these two events together and on the basis of this connection we assume that they follow each other in all cases. A certain event is followed by the same event, we develop a strong habit (not sure habit is the right word here) about these events from the past and there is no need expect a change.

Hume was one of the earliest to deal with the issue of causality in detail. Although he questioned the causality, but it does not mean he tried to eliminate it in real life. He believed as an average person that, when we throw a stone it falls to the ground. The distinction between ideas and impressions is not original and also not so influential. Hume's philosophy is important because he brought lots of new ideas to a field that was not such a frequented theme. His biggest influence can be seen in idea that causality is not necessary connection.

Literature:

NOVOTNY, Zdenek. David Hume a jeho teorie vedeni. Olomouc: Votobia, 1999, 213 p. ISBN 80-719-8366-7.

JASTRZEMBSKÁ, Zdeňka. Kauzální aspekty vysvětlení. 1. vyd. Brno: Masarykova univerzita, 2007, 87 s. ISBN 978-802-1044-425.

HUME, David. Zkoumání o lidském rozumu. Vyd. v tomto překl. 1. Praha: Svoboda, 1996, 235 s. ISBN 80-205-0521-0.

Overall this piece of work reads very well and is relatively accurate. In order to improve your written English you should consider the following:

Punctuation and how it's used in English language

Prepositions – you need to revise the correct use of these

Developing more complex sentences, for the best part yours are quite simple

Use of vocabulary and attempting to extend your vocabulary, which is a little limited

Word order – sometimes the order in which you place words in a sentence can make it 'clumsy' and difficult to read

Articles – a, an and the – you need to revise the correct use of these

9. Psychology of sport and its application

Introduction

I study psychology at the School of Social Studies at Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. In my studies and a future job, I would like to focus on the Psychology of Sport; that is why I have chosen to introduce it to you. Firstly, I will present Psychology in general and then specify Psychology of Sport. The main part of the essay includes a presentation of a research from this field.

Psychology

Psychology as the scientific study of human behaviour – their mental processes and interactions. There are several basic types of psychology – cognitive psychology, social psychology, developmental psychology and personality psychology (Nakonečný, 2013). They differ in perspective in the way they look at problems and in the exact part of human life they focus on. Each of the mentioned types of psychology includes different approaches – the ways we may interpret human behaviour or certain mental processes, such as behaviourism, Gestalt psychology, humanistic psychology of psychoanalysis (Nakonečný, 2013). All of this shows that psychology is a complex science with various subfields which may view the human mind via various approaches.

Psychology of Sport

In the context of sport, psychology applies psychological theories on different kinds of sport. Every sport has its specifics, but these specifics vary according to the discipline through which we look at the issue. Psychology of sport studies, for example, personalities of sportsmen and their coaches, their relationship, coaching itself, team dynamics, coping with a stress during a competition and the like (Tod, Thatcher, & Rahman, 2012). A concrete example is necessary in order to understand it properly. Consider football, this is a team sport. From a layman's perspective, it means that there are 11 players in each team playing together against another team. But a sport psychologist sees 11 different personalities in different actual moods and may recognise various interactions between them mutually and between them and their coaches.

The Concrete Research

To be even more specific, I would like to introduce you one study from the field of psychology of sport. Researchers Mark S. Allen, Iain Greenlees and Marc Jones (May 2011) from different universities in United Kingdom, investigated the role of various components of personality on the ability to cope with stress during participation in sport. Coping strategies are very important for performance in sport, because they may deeply affect reactions on various situations before, during or after a game and also the whole result of a game. Individual differences in personality may influence used coping strategies. It is important to investigate personalities of athletes to predict the using of coping strategies and develop them to be helpful in sport (Allen, Greenlees, & Jones, May 2011).

Methods

Firstly, 253 athletes (187 men, 66 women; mean age 21.1 years, $s = 3.7$) competing in 34 different sports fulfilled NEO-Five Factor Inventory. This questionnaire discovered different levels of the 5 dimensions of personality among athletes (Allen, Greenlees, & Jones, May 2011). Dimensions or

factors, according to the Big Five Theory, namely belong to openness to experience, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness and neuroticism (forming the acronym OCEAN)(Smékal, 2009). These factors are considered as constituent traits, which mean their levels for one person is stable in time (Allen, Greenlees, & Jones, May 2011). Then the same athletes completed the Coping Function Questionnaire to measure their ability to coping stress.

Results

According to authors, “results show that extraverted athletes, who were also emotionally stable and open to new experiences, reported a greater use of problem-focused coping strategies” (Allen, Greenlees, & Jones, May 2011). That means they try to resolve the problem using, for example, re-analysing it, seeking support or using more effort (Výrost, & Slaměník, 2008). “Conscientious athletes and athletes displaying high levels of extraversion, openness and agreeableness reported a greater use of emotion-focused coping strategies” (Allen, Greenlees, & Jones, May 2011). These athletes cope with issues via ventilating or managing emotions (Výrost, & Slaměník, 2008). “And athletes with low levels of openness, or high levels of neuroticism, reported a greater use of avoidance coping strategies” (Allen, Greenlees, & Jones, May 2011). These ones remove themselves mentally or physically away from the stressor (Výrost, & Slaměník, 2008). Each of coping strategies has its pros and cons and it is necessary to work with it more in order to make it the most useful. These findings suggest that is important to know an athlete’s personality, because it may influence coping strategies used and that may have an impact on their performance during a competition (Allen, Greenlees, & Jones, May 2011).

Conclusion

In this essay I have tried to give you a short introduction to general psychology and its subject. Then I specified psychology of sport. Least but not last I presented you one study from this field of my interest to provide you practical example of what psychology of sport may be. (This isn’t really what I would term a conclusion – a conclusion should draw on facts presented and offer, for example, an opinion on at least one aspect of what is covered and why it is important)

References:

- Allen, M. S., Greenlees, I., & Jones, M. (May 2011). An investigation of the five-factor model of personality and coping behaviour in sport. *Journal of Sports Sciences* 29(8), 841-850. DOI: 10.1080/02640414.2011.565064.
- Nakonečný, M. (2013). *Lexikon psychologie*. Praha: Vodnář
- Smékal, V. (2009). *Pozvání do psychologie osobnosti: člověk v zrcadle vědomí a jednání*. Brno: Barrister & Principal.
- Tod, D., Thatcher, J., & Rahman, R. (2012). *Psychologie sportu*. Praha: Grada Publishing.
- Výrost, J., Slaměník, I. (Eds.) (2008). *Sociální psychologie*. Praha: Grada Publishing.

Overall, really well written, but in order to improve your written English, you should consider the following:

- Revise your use of definite and indefinite articles
- Revise your use of prepositions
- Revise your use of the passive tense and subject verb agreement in places
- Extend your vocabulary and your use of more complex sentences

10. CYBERCRIME AND CYBER-SECURITY

I study political science at Masaryk University and part of my study is to look at crime and security on the internet, which, in the last few years, has become a big issue. This text is designed to help the reader to understand new trends in cybercrime and cyber-security.

The main benefits and challenges of internet and computer crime is that there aren't any boundaries. The attacker can commit a crime in a country that does not have the approved necessary legislation. This means that an attacker can escape without any kind of punishment. The most obvious example of a worm attack (a specific type of malware computer program) is one known as 'I love you', which was used in Philippines because this country doesn't have the necessary legislation. Paradoxically, the country with the highest cyber crime rate is the USA and they have the most sophisticated system of protection. They have also most advanced legislation, such as the Patriot Act, SOPA, PIPA, ACTA. The other aspect of this issue is internet freedom and freedom of speech; society needs to find a balance between freedom and safety.

The motivation for why people commit cybercrime has changed. First cybercrimes were committed because the attacker wanted respect from the internet community, but more and more, since 2000, crimes have been committed because the cracker wants to steal money or personal data. **There is a big misunderstanding in terms. Hacker is 'hacking' for fame and cracker 'cracking' for money.** (This sentence is out of place here – it's not a logical progression from the one previous to it or the one that comes after.) **An organized group of criminals is in this crime since 2007.** (You need to re-think this sentences – it doesn't make sense and it's hard to decide what you are trying to say here.) These groups are capable of causing huge losses and from any place in the world. Types of attacks have also changed from the Nigerian scam email to sophisticated attacks on institutions and corporations and the number of attacks are constantly growing. In 2000, losses were around three million dollars and in 2009, this figure had increased to around six hundred million.

Cyber crime is not only about financial losses, but also the theft of our personal information. Stalking is the flip side of using identity on the internet. There is clearly observable trend from amateur to professionally organized groups, from gaining fame to sophisticated financial scams with huge losses. There is also other part of cybercrime such as hacktivism. The concept of hacktivism is very problematic. Some authors considering these types of attacks are part of cyber terrorism or cybercrime. On the other hand hacktivism can be understood as a specific part of freedom of speech; blocking access, defacement of web pages, email bombing are most widely used attacks. There are many hacktivist groups, such as Anonymous or Syrian Electronic Army, operating in the world today. These groups work absolutely decentralized and make ad hoc coalitions for attacking targets. (This paragraph is full of non-related sentences – i.e. the ideas don't link or form one cohesive argument/discussion/opinion)

The leaders in cyber security are the USA, Germany and Great Britain. Every state in the world is trying to build their own national security strategy, but most of them are quite similar. The main points are cyber criminality and protecting their own interests in cyberspace. Most of these strategies are focused on cooperating with the private sector and government. Every state is trying to define a clear mandate of state in the area of cyber security. Problems of cyber security are solved ad hoc. This means that responsibility for this policy is fragmented to many institutions with limited cooperation. The government is trying to give CERT (Computer Emergency Response Team) some executive powers. Here we can find many problems. An institution with their mandates to fight with cybercrime are also used for other

purposes I- consider the Snowden affair. There is pressure on the private sector to adopt uniform safety measures. These measures were stopped due to their high cost.

The question is could government dictate what to do? Economic damages can be bigger than actual cybercrime. There is also a view that the private sector will be motivated by subsidies. Good legislation is important, but it must be enforceable. It is very difficult to penalise someone if organized groups of criminals are all over the world.

Literature:

Brenner, S.. 2010. Cybercrime: Criminal Threats for Cyberspace. California: Greenwood Publishing.
CARR, Jeffrey a Lewis SHEPHERD. Inside cyber warfare. 1st ed. Sebastopol, Calif.: O'Reilly Media, Inc., c2010, xviii, 212 p. ISBN 05-968-0215-3.

Tikk, E., Kaska, K., Vihul, L. International Cyber Incidents: Legal Considerations.
<http://www.ccdcoe.org/231.html>

Greenberg, L., Goodman, S., Soo Hoo, K. Information Warfare and International Law.

Halpin, E., Trevorrow, P., Webb, D., Wright, S. Cyberwar, Netwar and the Revolution in Military Affairs, s. 139-153.

DENNING, Dorothy. Hacktivism and Cyberterrorism. [online]. [cit. 2013-12-10]. Dostupné z: <https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1423/podzim2013/BSS152/um/13-denning.pdf>

STERLING, Bruce. Zátah na hackery. [online]. [cit. 2013-12-10]. Dostupné z: <https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1423/podzim2013/BSS152/um/13-sterling.pdf>

Overall your text is rather unstructured and lacks coherence – ideas don't follow on from one another and the reader has a sense of being given a list of facts but gets no clarification or explanation as to what all this means.

There is no paragraphing/logical paragraphing

All you sentences are very short and simple which makes it very difficult to read due to a lack of fluency. You need to learn how to develop more complex sentences in English.

Your grammar isn't too bad, but you need to consider issues such as:

Verb tenses and subject verb agreement

Articles

Vocabulary – make sure you use words in the right context and try to expand your vocabulary, as it stands, it is very limited.

11. Portuguese language and important historical events in Portuguese, Brazilian and African literature

I am in my third year of studying Portuguese language at Masaryk University. In my opinion Portuguese is a very interesting language and in Czech Republic is very rare (to what?/Why? Clarify). My study is focused on the history of Portugal and Brazil, grammar, phonetics, translating, structure of sentences and literature.

The first part of this essay will discuss the literature of Portugal, followed by literature of Brazil and the last part of the essay will deal with African literature. Everyone knows Portuguese is the official language of Portugal, but many people don't realize that, not only is Portuguese the official language of Brazil but it is also the official language of several African countries known as "Portuguese-speaking African countries"; these include Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé, and Príncipe.

Portuguese literature begins with the poetry of troubadours in Portuguese-Galician language. This literature is preserved in three hymnals from end of the 12th century. Troubadour's poetry deals mainly with themes of chivalry and courtly love. One of most important persons of Portuguese Renaissance was the poet Luís de Camões, who wrote the national and epic poem *The Lusíads*. One of the most interesting ages of Portuguese literature was romanticism. The main representatives of romanticism were Almeida Garrett, Alexandre Herculano and Camillo Castello Branco. It is also necessary to mention José Saramago, who won of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1998.

Brazil was discovered by the Portuguese explorer Pedro Álvares Cabral at beginning of the 15th century. From the 16th to the early 19th centuries, Brazil was a colony of Portugal and achieved its independence was in 1822. One of the first Brazilian texts to be written was *Carta de Pero Vaz de Caminha* by Pero Vaz de Caminha, which describes what Brazil looked like in the 15th century. Another important period was Brazilian Romanticism, which can be divided into three different cycles. The first cycle focuses on national identity, the second, also called Ultra-Romanticism, is marked by European themes and traditions and the third cycle is influenced by social poetry. Brazilian romanticism was followed by realism, which brought with it a new style of prose, including analysis of the people and description of the environment. The most important author of this period was Machado de Assis. In modern day Brazil, one of the most famous authors is Paulo Coelho, but it is also worth mentioning the author Milton Hatoum, whom I had opportunity to meet when he visited our faculty.

The Portuguese-speaking African countries are Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe (You've already told us this in your opening paragraph – you need to delete it from one or the other as its repetitive). I would like to focus on the literature of Mozambique predominantly as it is the subject of my bachelor thesis. One of the most important authors from Mozambique is Mia Couto. He was born in city of Beira to Portuguese emigrants who moved to the Portuguese colony in 1950s. Couto's poetry was first published when the author was fourteen years of age. He was also the main representative of animist realism, which was a typical literature in Mozambique.

Now I would like to focus on political events in Mozambique. Mozambique was a Portuguese colony and so the official language is Portuguese, but there also exists many local African languages, for example Tsonga, Sena Nyanja, Makonde and Macua. Mozambique was discovered by the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama in 1498. At the beginning of the 16th century the Portuguese wanted to conquer the interior of Mozambique, but they didn't have a strong enough military personnel. At the Berlin Conference in 1884/1885, Mozambique became a Portuguese colony. (You've already said that

Mozambique was a Portuguese colony.) Mozambique has been an independent country since 1975, but Mozambique would not have been able to achieve independence without the liberation movement the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO). These political events had a huge influence on the literature of Mozambique and some authors, for example Marcelino dos Santos, became politicians as a consequence.

Conclusion

In this essay I wanted to introduce you to literature and important historical events of Portuguese speaking countries. I would also like to mention that culture and some traditions have all Portuguese speaking countries in common, for example, rich traditional folklore and famous carnivals, such as Mardi Gras. (A conclusion should really draw on points in the text and offer an opinion/ further points for subsequent discussion – a conclusion doesn't need to tell the reader what you've done)

Literature:

J. Klíma (1996), Dějiny Portugalska
J. Klíma (2007), Stručná historie států: Mosambik
J. Klíma (2011), Dějiny Brazílie

Comments:

Revise language points such as prepositions and articles

Word order – you sometimes get this confused

Use of the passive tense – not always necessary and you don't need to use it if the active will suffice – have a look on the internet and see why and when to use the passive.

12. Why do people deal with art criticism? (What do you mean by this question?) What is art criticism, is it important?

I have chosen to discuss a topic that is not been over-processed and is a topic most beneficial to me, as I study the history of music, theatre and film arts, which also includes sculpture, painting and architecture. I have to know the many important aspects of these subjects, but an art critic should really focus on one area, so that they obtain an in-depth knowledge and understanding of works in order to become a great critic.

The question of why it is important critic is suitable. None of the artists on negative criticism does not want to hear. It can be a benefit for artists. When a humble artist admits knowledge critic, may in specific cases improve. On the other hand, the audience is often reviews on the Internet or in a magazine necessary. It is important to note that not only negative criticism, but is also positive criticism. When the critic can apply positive criticism that will attract viewers.

After reading the negative criticism you may change your mind and visit to the theatre , concerts, films or the gallery you will not attend. These are the main reasons why is criticism so important.

(I'm afraid there are too many errors for me to correct in these two paragraphs – I would need to re-write the whole thing to make it make sense – you really need to re-think carefully what it is you want to express and try to do this simply at first and then build on it to form more complex sentences. Also, make sure you don't use a translation tool to translate chunks of text – these tools are seldom accurate.

Art criticism

Criticism translates as assessment, evaluation and award (of what?). Nowadays it is an important activity. We have several kinds of professions and can be a critic of literature, music, theatre and film. The purpose of criticism is to analyze the resulting reports and/or reviews published. Reviews are published frequently in magazines and are usually objective and impartial. When a critic wants to evaluate things he/she must study them in depth and must compare the work to other things (such as what?). Assessments must be both positive and negative, but regardless of whether it is positive or negative, criticisms must always be justified. Slander is not a criticism. The critic has to show the shortcomings of the subject they are critiquing, but is not required to propose how to correct it. In literature and art, criticism is used for the assessment of artworks (you've already stated this). Great critics, such as F.X. Salda, can become teachers of generations of writers and poets. His literary efforts were not good, but it is not important. (Explain.)

Frantisek Xaver Salda was a Czech poet, novelist and literary critic . He is the founder of Czech modern criticism. Salda ensured that criticism became an autonomous field. He is the author of the slogan 'Literary Criticism' and is associated with a manifesto of Czech modernism. **He became a critic after he was forced to defend his story analysis, which was attacked by a realistic magazine Time. In his story, the characters were a problem impressionism, symbolism and decadence. It was a typical Salda's writing style. He much refused descriptive realism. A Salda prefer young people, which gave hope. In the twenties of the 20th century.** (Again – all this is very confused and I would need to rewrite for it to make sense – re-work) He became a renowned critic in Czech society. He published his own magazine Salda's notebook. Salda thinks that criticism is art and that not everyone be a critic

One of the greatest problems of critics is their subjective opinion. (You stated previously that critics were ALWAYS objective and impartial – this is contradictory to that statement, which is why I changed the previous one to ‘usually’.) For people who classify certain things, it is important to be objective, but our feelings and perceptions are different. In reviews our subjective feelings often prevail.

Literature:

SALDA, Frantisek Xaver. Kritika. In: OttLŽv slovnĀk nauĀŤnĀŤ. Praha: Paseka, 1999, str. 190.

STEPANEK, Miroslav, RIMAN, Josef. Literární kritika. In: Ĺ TĀŠPĀĀNEK, Miroslav, ĹĀŤMAN, Josef. MalĀŤ ĀŤeskoslovensĀŤ encyklopedie. III. svazek. Vyd. 1. Praha: ACADEMIA, 1986, str. 832.

Most of this text is not very coherent and there seems to be little logical progression. The student writes in very short, simple sentences, which makes the text clumsy and difficult to read because of the lack of fluency. There are no examples or explanations for the ideas put forward. The use of vocabulary is very limited and their overall grasp of grammar, while not completely inaccurate, needs revision and the student might want to revise some of the more basic elements – a good place to start would be to look at all the parts of speech and how they are used and then start to look at specific points, e.g. prepositions, articles...

13. Electoral system into the parliament of the Czech Republic and main political parties

Introduction

As a student of Political Science in the Faculty of Social Studies, I would like to introduce you to our electoral system in the lower and upper chambers of parliament, known as the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. I would like to focus on our electoral systems and simultaneously, elucidate specifics of the system. At the end of the text, I would like to present the main political parties of the Czech Republic.

Electoral system of the upper chamber of parliament

Pursuant to the Constitution of the Czech Republic, Senate elections run according to the principles of the majority system. The Czech Republic is divided into 81 constituencies and each constituency has one elected senator. Elections mostly run in two rounds due to the requirement to obtain an absolute majority of votes (absolute majority means more than 50 per cent of votes). The first round is attended by all candidates. If none of the candidates obtain 50 per cent, there will be a second round of elections in a week's time. Only the two candidates with the highest number of votes from the first round proceed to the second round. In the second round, the candidate with majority of votes wins. To become a senator, you have to be over 40 years of age and have the right to vote. Elections run once every 6 years and a third of the chamber is changed after 2 years.

The electoral system of the lower chamber of parliament

In contrast with the electoral system of the Senate, elections to the Chamber of Deputies are run according to the principles of the proportional system. The Czech Republic is divided to 14 electoral regions which are identical with higher territorial self-governing units of the Czech Republic. The seats are distributed to political parties which have crossed a 5 per cent closing clause (closing clause means the minimum percentage of votes which the party have to obtain to get a mandate), coalition of two political parties have to get 10 per cent of votes, coalition of three parties 15 per cent of votes and coalition of 4 or more parties have to obtain 20 per cent of votes. Afterwards, mandates are distributed on the basis of d'Hondt system – number of votes of each political party is gradually divided by 1, 2, 3, 4 ...n where 'n' is one greater than the number of seats allocated in electoral region. Results of the dividing of all parties and coalitions are sorted by size to the number of allocated seats in the electoral region. Each party is then assigned as many mandates as many times their result appeared in a number comparison. To become a member of Chamber of Deputies, you have to be 21 or more years of age and have the right to vote. Elections run once every 4 years.

Main political parties of the Czech Republic

Czech Social Democratic party (ČSSD): the ideology of the party is social democracy. ČSSD is a member of the Party of European Socialists. It is currently one of the government parties and the chairman of the party is Bohuslav Sobotka (current prime minister of the Czech Republic).

TOP 09: TOP is a composite of three words – tradition, responsibility and prosperity; this party is quite young having been established in 2009. The party is a member of the European People's Party and its ideology is conservative liberalism. It is currently in opposition and the chairman of the party is Karel Schwarzenberg.

Civic Democratic Party (ODS): the ideology of the party is economic liberalism and conservatism. ODS is a member of the Alliance of European Conservatives and Reformists and is currently in opposition> The chairman of the party is Petr Fiala.

Christian-Democratic Union – Czechoslovak People's Party (KDU-ČSL): the ideology of the party is Christian democracy and social conservatism. KDU-ČSL is a member of the European People's Party and is currently one of the government parties. The chairman of the party is Pavel Bělohrádek.

ANO 2011: ANO is a composite of words 'action of disgruntled people'. The party is very young having been established in 2011 as political movement. Its ideology is centrism and liberalism and it is currently one of the government parties. The chairman of the party is businessman Andrej Babiš

Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSČM): the ideology of the party is communism, socialism, Marxism and Stalinism. KSČM is a member of the Party of the European Left and is currently in opposition. The chairman of the party is Vojtěch Filip.

Conclusion

The Electoral system to the Senate is a majority system; elections run once every 6 years and one third of the Senate changes after two years, Senator has to be 40 + years old and have a right to vote. Electoral system to the Chamber of Deputies is proportional system with 5 per cent closing clause, mandates are distributed according to d'Hondt divisor, member of Chamber of Deputies has to be 21 + years old and have a right to vote. Main Czech political parties are ČSSD, TOP 09, KDU-ČSL, ODS, ANO 2011 and KSČM. (A conclusion generally offers opinion and points for further discussion, rarely does it state again what has already been written – this is just repetition)

Over all this is very well written with only a few minor grammar errors – in order to improve your written skills in English you might like to revise:

Articles

Vocabulary – try to build on what you already know

14. Emotion of anger in toddlerhood

Introduction

Toddlerhood is a period of infant development, which lasts from the first to the third year of infant life. It is a very important period, which is characterized by huge progress in gaining independence. This is related to progress in motor skills (independent movements), cognitive abilities (perception, thinking, language, realizing his or her existence) and finally development of emotions (Vágnerová, 2005). The last will be the main topic of this paper.

The infant can already differentiate many types of emotions and use them in certain situations. He or she can also recognize emotions of other people. Some emotions are more important than others, because they are related to other aspects of development. One of these kinds of emotions is anger. To say no and reject something, to express disagreement is a new ability of toddlerhood. But for toddlers this new emotion is very strong and hard to control and express acceptably. One of the important developmental tasks is therefore, to hold emotional balance (Vágnerová, 2005).

Toddlerhood is typical for more emotional misbalance of the infant, including quick, more often and intense bursts of anger and problems with returning to calm state. Researches evidence that the degree of anger expression depends on the infant's temperament and also on the raising style of caregiver. Studies involving observations of infant behaviour and mothers' reports that, during the second year of life, their children start to use physical aggression towards other people, especially when they want to get something that another child has (Baillargeon et al., 2007). The most common forms of physical aggression are kicking, biting, pushing and hitting. Usually these forms of aggression stop in the fifth year of infant life and children develop effective strategies for expressing anger acceptably and controlling themselves.

In this period of emotional misbalance, the infant's parents play a very important role. They stand for important models of expression of emotions and dealing with anger (Newman, 2012). It is very likely that parents with self-control problems and common expression of anger will increase their infant's usage of inappropriate anger expression toward other children and also toward his or her caregivers. Actually, at times when an infant's parents get angry, the infant learns as much or more about the expression of anger from watching their faces as they do from verbal explanations or punishment (Bandura, 1977).

Children at this age are also sensitive to anger which is not directed at them. Parent's hostility towards each other expressed by quarrels, sarcasm and physical abuse, increases children's sensitivity to anger and is closely related to disturbances in development (Kochanska, Aksan and Joy, 2007). Therefore, it is very important to understand the role of anger in toddlerhood and not to have doubts, if we raised our child in the correct way, when he or she expresses the anger toward his or her caregiver. It is also important to show children a model of proper usage of anger and to help the child control his or her anger and express it in more socially acceptable ways. Children who are severely punished or ridiculed for their expression of anger are left in a state of doubt. They can see the models for the expression of anger in the way their parents respond to them and yet they are told that anger is not appropriate for them (Newman, 2012). The goal in socialization of angry feelings is to help children to find legitimate expressions of anger without hurting themselves or others.

Conclusion

I have presented some information about the development of anger in toddlerhood. In this period it is important to progress the autonomy of children and emotion of anger is related to this progress. To control anger is very hard for toddlers; therefore intense periods of rage and anger are quite common. Parents play important role in learning infant some appropriate ways of anger expression. Parents stand for model of behaviour that the child will imitate. Therefore is for parents important to self-control of their angry feelings and to explain toddler, what the emotion of anger is and how people express it in our society. (A conclusion generally offers opinion on what is presented in the text and points for further discussion – it seldom repeats what has already been written).

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Over all, this a a very well written piece of work, but if you want to improve your written English, you might want to look at:

The use of articles and prepositions

Word order of parts of speech