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PREPARATION OF A MASTER’S THESIS

Methodical recommendations

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Methodological Guidelines for the preparation, design and defense of master's thesis include general requirements for writing, design and defense, criteria for evaluating master's theses; they allow you to systematize and optimize the process of writing a master's thesis. For Students studying in English in the specialty 7-06-0313-01 Psychology (studying in English).

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INTRODUCTION

The methodological requirements for Master thesis have been prepared on the basis of the following documents:

The Code of the Republic of Belarus about education of 13.01.2011 No. 243-Z. (as amended on 14.01.2022)

The Rules for Certifying Students, Cadets, and Trainees in Mastering the Content of Higher Education Educational Programs, approved by the Resolution of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus of 13.10.2023 № 319;

Instructions on the order of registration of qualifying scientific work (thesis) for the degree of Candidate and Doctor of Science, author's abstract and publications on the topic of the thesis, approved by the Decree of the Higher Attestation Commission of the Republic of Belarus of 28.02.2014 (as amended on 22.08.2022);

the Educational Standard of advanced higher education (Master's degree);

Instructions on the procedure for organizing the execution and protection, registration of abstracts, term papers (term papers), diploma projects (theses), master's theses, approved by order of the Rector of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov of 05.04.2024 No. 91.

These guidelines establish the requirements for the master's thesis completed by the defended in the Educational Institution "Vitebsk State University named after P.M. Masherov", its structure, volume and rules of registration.

The master's thesis is the result of the student's research work and is an independent, logically completed scientific research related to the solution of a theoretical, experimental or applied problem.

The purpose of writing a master's thesis is to show the ability and professional readiness of a graduate student to conduct scientific research in accordance with his chosen specialty, which serves as the basis for awarding him an academic degree "Master of science".

To achieve the goal set in the master's thesis, the undergraduate must: conduct a theoretical study to substantiate the scientific idea and essence of the phenomenon or process under study; justify the methodology, analyze the phenomenon or process under study, identify trends and patterns of its development based on specific data; develop specific proposals for improving and developing the phenomenon or process under study.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The Master's thesis is the result of the student's research work and is a completed scientific study related to the solution of a theoretical, experimental or applied psychological problem.

When preparing a master's thesis, a graduate student, based on the knowledge gained and the universal, in-depth professional and specialized competencies formed, must demonstrate the ability to solve professional tasks at a modern level, the ability to integrate scientific knowledge, scientifically argue his point of view.

The topic of the dissertation is considered at a meeting of the graduating department, and then approved by the order of the rector. The choice of the topic is carried out by the undergraduate and the supervisor, based on the scientific interests and personal inclination of the undergraduate to a certain type of professional activity.

The results set out in the master's thesis should be sufficient to determine the level of scientific qualification of the undergraduate, confirm his skills and abilities to independently solve scientific and applied problems, as well as to assess the compliance of the undergraduate with the qualification requirements for holders of a master's degree in the relevant specialty.

The master's thesis should contain an abstract part and a research part reflecting the in-depth professional and specialized competencies of the graduate of the master's degree in accordance with the specialty of training.

Students who, when mastering the content of the master's degree program, have fully completed the curriculum and the individual work plan of the undergraduate are allowed to defend their master's thesis.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STRUCTURE AND VOLUME OF A MASTER'S THESIS

The general requirements for a master's thesis are:

- relevance of the research topic, analysis and characterization of the history of the problem under study and its current state.
- scientific novelty of the results;
- the scientific significance of the protected provisions;
- reliability of the results obtained;
- practical significance;
- independence of the approach to the disclosure of the topic;
- having your own point of view;
- the use of sound research methods, their compliance with the tasks set in the study.
- the degree of validity of the conclusions and recommendations;
- correct design.

REQUIREMENTS TO THE STRUCTURE AND MASTER THESIS DESIGN

The master thesis should contain the following structural parts:

- ✓ title page (drawn up in accordance with the form in APPENDIX 1);
- ✓ “Table of Contents” section;
- ✓ “List of abbreviations and (or) symbols” section (if necessary);
- ✓ “Introduction” section;
- ✓ “General characteristics of the work” section;

the main part, divided into chapters, which provides an analysis of the scientific literature, a description of the methods used, as well as the essence and main results of empirical research;

- ✓ “Conclusion” (conclusions) section;
- ✓ “Bibliographic list” or “List of references” section;
- ✓ “Appendices” section (if necessary).

The **main text** of the master's thesis is on average 60-70 pages (including the title page, main text, conclusion). The established volume of the master's thesis (60-70 pages) does not include a bibliographic list of sources and appendices.

The volume of the “INTRODUCTION” section of the master's thesis is 3-4 pages.

The recommended volume of the section “GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WORK” should not exceed 2 pages, reflect the topic, object, subject, purpose of the dissertation, research methods, the results

obtained and their novelty, Field of application, the possibility of practical implementation.

The master's thesis should contain an abstract and research part. The research (empirical) part should make up at least 50% of the volume of the main text.

The volume of the section "CONCLUSION" of the master's thesis is 4-6 pages.

The thesis is printed using a computer and a printer on one side of a sheet of white A4 paper (210 x 297 mm). It is allowed to present tables and illustrations on sheets of A3 format (297 x 420 mm).

The text of the thesis is typed using the *Word* text editor. The *Times New Roman* typeface is used in the usual outline of 14 points in document formats *doc*, *rtf*, or *pdf* with text alignment on the width of the sheet. In the case of insertion formulas into the line, it is allowed to increase the line spacing.

The print font must be straight, clear, black, the same throughout the text of the thesis. It is allowed to use the computer possibilities of focusing attention on definitions, terms, theorems, important features, using a different typeface: italic, bold, italic bold, highlighting using frames, discharge, underlining and more.

Paragraph indentation – 1.25 mm, *margin sizes*: top – 20 mm, bottom – 20 mm, left – 30 mm, right – 15 mm.

The text of the main part of the work is divided into chapters, sections, and subsections.

The *headings of the structural parts* of the work are printed in capital letters from a new line, with the location "in the center", in bold, size 16,

for example:

INTRODUCTION CONCLUSION

Chapter headings are placed on a new line following the chapter number, with a "centered" position,

for example:

CHAPTER 2

AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF LEARNING MOTIVATION

Section headings are printed in lowercase letters (except the first uppercase) with a paragraph indentation of 1.25 cm in bold, size 16 points,

for example:

1.1 The concept of the motivational sphere of personality

The distance between the title (with the exception of the paragraph title) and the text below should be 2 line spacing. If there is no text between the two headings, then the distance between them is set to 2 line spacing. The distance between the title and the text, after which the title follows, is set to 3 line spacing.

Each chapter of the master's thesis should be started from a new leaf.

The page numbering is given in Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.) at the bottom of the page with the "center" position.

The first page of the scientific work is the title page, which is included in the general page numbering of the entire work. The page number is not placed on the title page, on subsequent sheets the number is placed in the center of the lower part of the sheet without a dot at the end.

The numbering of the pages of the scientific work is end-to-end, including the “List of used sources” and “Appendices”.

The numbering of chapters, sections, subsections, figures, tables is given in Arabic numerals without the “No.” sign. The chapter number is placed after the word “Chapter” (for example: CHAPTER 3).

Sections: “Contents”, “List of symbols”, “Introduction”, “Conclusion”, “List of sources used”, “Appendices” do not have numbers.

The sections are numbered within each chapter.

The section number consists of the chapter number and the serial number of the section, separated by a dot, for example:

“1.3” (the third section of the first chapter).

The subsections are numbered within each section. The subsection number consists of the ordinal numbers of the chapter, section, subsection, separated by dots. Do not put a period at the end of the headings of chapters, sections and subsections. If the title consists of two or more sentences, they are separated by dots.

Illustrations and tables are designated by the words “figure” and “table” respectively and numbered sequentially within each chapter. All tables and figures should be referenced in the text. The words “figure” and “table” in the captions to the figure, in the table and links to them are not abbreviated. The number of the illustration (table) should consist of the chapter number and the serial number of the illustration (table), separated by a dot. For example, “figure 1.2” (the second figure of the first chapter), “table 2.5” (the fifth table of the second chapter). If only one illustration (table) is given in the chapters of the work, then they are numbered sequentially within the work as a whole, for example: “figure 1”, “table 3”.

The “Applications” section is drawn up at the end of the master’s thesis, arranging them in the order in which links to applications appear in the text of the work.

It is not allowed to include materials in the “Appendix” section that are not referenced in the text of the work.

Each application should start with a new sheet with the word “APPLICATION” printed in capital letters (size 14) in bold in the upper right corner. The application must have a meaningful title, which is placed from a new line in the center of the sheet, printed in lowercase letters with the first capital letter (size 14) in bold. Do not put a Dot at the end of the title. Applications are indicated in capital letters of the English alphabet, starting with A.

THE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE MAIN SECTIONS OF THE MASTER'S THESIS

Regardless of the chosen topic, the master's thesis should include the following structural elements:

The structural element	Content
The title page	It is drawn up according to the model given in Appendix A
Content	The table of contents is given at the beginning of the dissertation and includes the names of its structural parts, indicating the page numbers on which the beginning of the presentation of the relevant parts of the dissertation is placed.
List of symbols	If a specific terminology is adopted in the work, as well as sparsely used abbreviations, new symbols, designations, etc., then their list can be presented in the form of a separate list placed before the introduction.
General characteristics of the work	It contains the following subsections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the purpose and objectives of the study; - provisions for the defense; - approbation of the results of the dissertation; - the publication of the results of the dissertation (if the undergraduate has published scientific papers); - the structure and the structure and Volume of the dissertation.
Introduction	This section identifies the field of research and substantiates the relevance and scientific significance of the chosen topic.
<i>The main part contains 1-3 chapters:</i>	
Chapter 1. Theoretical and methodological foundations of the study of the problem	This chapter evaluates the degree of study of the problem under study, examines issues that are theoretically and practically solved and debatable, covered in different ways in the scientific literature. In the process of studying the problem, it is necessary to express and justify your point of view.
Chapter 2. An empirical study of the problem under study	This chapter provides a description of the planned empirical study, characteristics of the study sample, justification of research methods, analysis and interpretation of data obtained as a result of empirical research. Diagrams and tables illustrating the results obtained are required.

Chapter Development of recommendations and justification of measures to solve the problem under study	3. In this chapter, based on theoretical research, the results of empirical analysis, recommendations and measures to solve the problem should be justified. <i>After each chapter, there are conclusions to the chapter from a new page.</i>
Conclusion	The conclusion, as an independent section of the work, should contain a brief overview of the main analytical conclusions of the study and a description of the results obtained during it.
List of sources used	The list should include a list of scientific sources designed in accordance with rules: manuals, monographs, scientific articles, reference books used in the preparation of a dissertation.
Appendix	Applications include Supporting material, tables of raw data and intermediate calculations, diagrams, drawings, photographs, etc. copies of documents certified in accordance with the established procedure, which confirm the scientific and (or) practical application of research results or recommendations for their use.

Let's take a closer look at the composition and rules for the design of the main structural elements of research work.

➤ The **TITLE PAGE** of the master's thesis is drawn up in accordance with **Appendix A**.

The topic of the dissertation should be formulated briefly (up to 10 words), it should present the subject and object of scientific psychological research. The topic should correspond to the content of the dissertation.

The Name of the dissertation should avoid the use of complicated terminology and abbreviations, abbreviations. It is not recommended to start the title of the dissertation with the words: "Study of the process ...", "Research of some ways ...", "Development and research ...", "Analysis ..." and the like.

➤ The table of **CONTENTS** includes the order of the individual parts of the master's thesis ("List of symbols", "Introduction", "General characteristics of the work", the names of all chapters and sections and subsections, "List of sources used", "Appendices" (if any) indicating the pages on which the corresponding section begins. The headings in the "Table of Contents" section should exactly repeat the headings in the text. Abbreviations or headings other than those in the table of contents are not allowed. The last word of the title in the table of contents with the corresponding page number, placed in the right field, is connected by an ellipsis (**Appendix B**).

➤ **A LIST OF SYMBOLS.** If a specific terminology is adopted in the work, as well as sparsely used abbreviations, new symbols, designations, etc., then their list can be presented in the form of a separate list placed before the introduction. The list should be arranged in a column, in which, for example, an abbreviation is given on the left (in alphabetical order), and its detailed explanation on the right. If the dissertation contains special terms, abbreviations, symbols, designations, etc. they are repeated less than three times, they do not make a list, and their transcription is given in the text at the first mention.

➤ The **GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WORK** contains the following subsections (**the name of each subsection is placed in a separate subtitle**):

- the purpose and objectives of the study;
- provisions to be defended;
- approbation of the results of the dissertation;
- publication of the results of the dissertation (if the undergraduate has published scientific papers);
- the structure and volume of the dissertation.

➤ **The purpose and objectives of the study** - the purpose of the work and the tasks that need to be solved to achieve it are formulated. The purpose of the study is the expected result of the work, which will allow to solve the designated problem, what the research is being conducted for. One should not formulate the goal as “*Research ...*”, “*Study ...*”, since these words indicate the process of achieving the goal, and not the goal itself. The purpose of the research work is to study facts, events and establish patterns that link them together. As a rule, the goal begins with the verbs: “*define*”, “*formulate*”, “*establish*”, “*justify*”, “*develop*”, “*identify*”, etc.

Example 1 – Correct and incorrect goal formulation options

Correctly:

The purpose of the study is to identify the relationship of socio-cultural and personal characteristics with attitudes towards the subjective well-being of Belarusian and Chinese students.

Incorrectly:

The purpose of the study is to examine the differences in attitudes towards well-being among Belarusian and Chinese students, to identify the relationship between well-being characteristics and student attitudes, and to analyze the data obtained.

➤ The purpose of the study is specified in the **tasks**. The task is what needs to be done to achieve the goal, to solve the problem of research. Tasks are best formulated in the form of a statement of what needs to be done in order for the goal to be achieved. In the formulations of the purpose and objectives of the study, perfect verbs are usually used (*to define, identify, describe, prove, confirm, etc.*). The number of tasks is determined by the logic of the study (**maximum 5-6 tasks**), *1-2 theoretical tasks are set, the rest of the tasks are empirical.*

➤ In the same subsection, the **object and subject** of the study are indicated, and their choice is justified. **The object of research** is a fragment, a part of reality, to which the process of cognition is directed, something that contains a contradiction and generates a problematic situation. **The subject of research** is always certain properties of an object, their relationship, the dependence of the object and properties on any conditions. It is the subject of the study that is usually described in the formulation of the topic of the work. Thus, the object is a part of the object, i.e., in its content, the object is narrower than the object.

➤ In the SUBSECTION **“PROVISIONS SUBMITTED FOR DEFENSE”**, the undergraduate formulates in a concise form the results for which he can be awarded a master’s degree in his specialty (the total number of provisions submitted for defense should correspond to the number of tasks assigned, **as a rule, no more than 4-5. It is recommended to formulate a position for protection for each research task.** Integration of several tasks into one position is allowed, as well as the presentation of one task in several positions submitted for protection). The provisions submitted for protection should be formulated clearly, concretely and reflect the essence and novelty of the results obtained. They should contain not only a summary of the essence of the new results obtained, but also a comparative assessment of their scientific and practical significance.

➤ In the SUBSECTION **“APPROBATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE MASTER’S THESIS”** it is indicated at which scientific conferences, symposiums and other scientific meetings the applicant reported the research results included in the master’s thesis. If the undergraduate did not report on its results at scientific conferences and other scientific meetings during the execution of the master’s thesis, the subsection of the master’s thesis **“Approbation of the results of the master’s thesis”** indicates: *“the results of the master’s thesis were not reported at scientific congresses, conferences, symposiums and other scientific meetings”*.

➤ The SUBSECTION **“STRUCTURE AND VOLUME OF THE MASTER’S THESIS”** summarizes the structure of the work and explains the logic of its construction, provides the full volume of the dissertation in pages, the volume occupied by illustrations, tables, appendices (indicating their number), the number of bibliographic sources used (including the applicant’s own publications – if any).

INTRODUCTION

➤ **INTRODUCTION** - this is the introductory part of the master's thesis, which examines the main trends in the study and development of the problem, analyzes its existing state, substantiates the theoretical and practical relevance of the problem, formulates the purpose and objectives of the project, gives a brief description of the research object, the initial economic and statistical base and other information used in the project. *The volume of the introduction: 3-5 pages of printed text.*

According to the content, it should present:

The relevance of the research is the degree to which the problem corresponds to modern trends in the development of psychology as a field of scientific knowledge. The rationale for the relevance of the study is a summary of the answer to the question of why this study is necessary at this time and in these circumstances.

The main aspects of the relevance of psychological research are:

- the need to complement theoretical research in a specific area of psychological knowledge;
- the need for new facts that will clarify and develop specific theoretical positions;
- the need for new, more effective psychodiagnostic and research methods;
- the need to develop new methods (technologies) necessary to solve specific applied problems;
- The need to develop practical recommendations;
- the need to solve problems in the field of psychological practice and psychological assistance.

The degree of development of the topic shows the level of study of the stated issues in the scientific literature, as well as the directions of scientific research within the framework of the topic being developed;

Scientific novelty is a sign, the presence of which gives the author the right to use the concept of "for the first time" when characterizing the results he obtained and the research conducted as a whole.

The theoretical significance of the study is the connection of the problem with the solution of cognitive tasks of psychological science, i.e. with the description, explanation, prediction, classification and systematization of mental phenomena.

The practical significance of the research is related to the specific, tangible benefits that can be brought by using the results obtained in practical activities. It should be borne in mind that the stated topic of the work should be fully disclosed. Leaving issues that are important for practice or understanding of the topic without consideration is a serious mistake that affects the evaluation of the work. If any issue cannot be considered due to the limited scope of the study, then this should be specified in the introduction.

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of the topic without consideration is a serious mistake that affects the evaluation of the work. If any issue cannot be considered due to the limited scope of the study, then this should be specified in the introduction.

CHAPTER 1. THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF THE STUDY OF THE PROBLEM

The section provides an overview of the literature, modern domestic and foreign experience on the problem (analysis, comparison, systematization), and formulates the concept of research.

This review should be logically structured. This can be achieved in two ways:

1. A separate review of domestic and foreign works on the relevant issues. At the same time, the narrative should go from the general to the particular: first, a general definition of concepts, then their types and classification, after that – a review of theories.

2. A simple deductive method. The narrative begins with a general definition of concepts, their types and classifications. Then an overview of the theories is given. Next, a description of the necessary phenomena in particular cases related to the topic of the master's thesis (for example, at a certain age, in a specific category of people, in special conditions, etc.).

Study of the literature on the research topic

Scientific publications are divided into the following types: *monograph, abstract of a dissertation, collection of scientific papers, materials of a scientific conference, abstracts of reports of a scientific conference*, etc.

For example, the search for **scientific articles** and abstracts of dissertations can be implemented through electronic libraries (<https://cyberleninka.ru>, <https://www.sciencedirect.com>, <https://psycnet.apa.org>). Based on the conducted literature review, the content and interrelation of the main categories and concepts on the studied problem are revealed.

Conclusions on the theoretical chapter include: definition and brief characteristics of the subject of research, generalization of the entire material of the first chapter to several paragraphs.

CHAPTER 2. AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF THE PROBLEM

The first subsection “Methods and organization of research” sets out (no more than 2-3 pages):

- The general concept and methodological foundations of the study;
- Research hypothesis;

- Research methods and techniques;
- Stages of the study;
- A sample of the study.
- Methods of statistical data processing.

Methodological foundations of the study. When describing the methodological foundations of the research, the directions, concepts and theories with their authors are indicated, as well as specific provisions that are used in the master's thesis as the basis of empirical research.

Research hypothesis. A hypothesis is a verifiable statement about the presence (or absence) of these or other connections between certain processes or phenomena. As a result of the conducted research, the hypothesis may be confirmed or refuted. One should not be afraid of negative results that do not confirm the hypothesis, because they also contribute to cognition. A hypothesis can become a reliable scientific theory only after proper experimental verification and confirmation by relevant facts.

Research methods and techniques. All research methods can be divided into: *methods of collecting empirical information* (observation, survey, analysis of human products, experiment, etc.) and *theoretical methods*. Methods of processing the obtained data (**qualitative and quantitative, among the latter – special methods of mathematical statistics**) should be distinguished from these two groups of scientific methods. The choice of methods is determined by the characteristics of the object, the subject and the set goals of the study. The rationale for the choice of methods is given in the program of empirical research.

Justification of the research methods (a brief description of each technique is given – its purpose, procedure, scales, data processing, for which it is used in this work). When describing the methods, their full name, author, and purpose of the method are given. It is mandatory to provide a link to the source that contains this data. **The forms of the methods, a description of the scales and keys are provided in the appendix.**

The stages of the study. Description of the planned empirical research: the purpose of the empirical part, the research plan (its stages). The description of the stages of the study indicates the completed sequence of procedures aimed at completing the tasks of the study.

Characteristics of the study sample (a full description of the contingent of subjects: their number, gender, age, special characteristics – work experience or belonging to a group). It is necessary to mention here how the sample was formed, whether it was divided into subgroups (experimental and control), etc.

Mathematical and statistical processing of research results.

To increase the reliability of conclusions, both in scientific research and in development in the field of practical psychology, when processing primary empirical data, it is necessary to correctly select and use methods of mathematical statistics. **At the same time, it is not recommended to limit the use of such indicators as the arithmetic mean and percentages.** They

often do not provide sufficient grounds for reasonable conclusions from empirical data.

After conducting a specific experiment, numerous statistical hypotheses are tested, since not one, but many behavioral parameters are recorded in each psychological study. Each parameter is characterized by several statistical measures: central tendency, variability, and distribution. In addition, it is possible to calculate the measures of the relationship of the parameters and assess the significance of these relationships.

It is necessary to choose mathematical methods for processing empirical data in the process of planning a study. Choosing the method of mathematical processing of the empirical data obtained is a very important and responsible part of the study. And it is better to do this before the data is received. When planning a study, it is necessary to consider which empirical indicators will be recorded, with which methods they will be processed, and what conclusions can be drawn from different processing results. **When describing the methods of statistical data processing, specific statistical methods are indicated.**

If statistical processing was carried out using standard statistical programs, it is necessary to provide the name and version of the package. *For example, "... The data has been statistically processed using the program SPSS 25, Statistica9".*

The main types of research tasks in terms of statistical data processing procedures. Most psychological works are reduced to several types of research tasks, which determine the type of mathematical and statistical criterion.

1. In many studies, the **search is carried out for differences in psychological indicators in subjects with certain characteristics.** When processing the relevant data, criteria can be used to identify differences in the level of the studied trait in its distribution. To determine the significance of differences in the manifestation of a trait in psychological research, such indicators as the *Wilcoxon paired criterion, the Mann-Whitney U-criterion, the chi-squared criterion (Pearson's χ^2), the Fisher*-criterion, and the binomial criterion are often used.* However, more often than not, parametric criteria are used to determine differences in the indicators of averages or variances: *Student's t-test (for comparing averages) and Fisher's F-test (for comparing variances).*

2. If the study **searches for the relationship of psychological indicators** in the same subjects, then correlation coefficients can be used to process the relevant data. The relationship of quantities with each other and their dependence are often characterized by the *Pearson linear correlation coefficient and Spearman rank correlation coefficient.* The choice of the correlation coefficient depends on the measurement scales in which the variables are obtained, as well as on the form of connection (linear or nonlinear).

3. The **identification of the data structure** (and, accordingly, the structure of the studied psychological reality), as well as their relationship, is determined using *factor analysis.*

4. If it is of interest to analyze the **variability of a trait under the influence of any controlled factors**, or, in other words, to assess the influence of various factors on the trait under study, then the *Mann-Whitney U-criterion*, the *Kruskal-Wallis H-criterion*, the *Wilcoxon T-criterion*, the *Friedman R-criterion* can be used for mathematical data processing in such problems. However, to study the influence of several factors on the parameter under study (and even more so their mutual influence), an *analysis of variance* may be more useful.

5. Many studies reveal the significance of **changes (shifts) in any psychological, behavioral parameters and manifestations over a certain period of time under certain conditions** (for example, in conditions of corrective action). Constructive, transformative (formative) experiments in psychology solve exactly this problem. To process the relevant data, coefficients for estimating the reliability of the shift in the values of the studied feature can be used. For this purpose, the *sign test* are often used, the *Wilcoxon T-criterion*.

The text of the paper does not need to provide formulas for calculating typical statistical criteria and describe the procedure for calculating them. It is important to pay attention to the limitations that each criterion has.

A Necessary part of the dissertation is **the psychological interpretation of the data**. At this stage, empirical indicators are compared and the results obtained are described. When describing the results of an empirical study, a large amount of factual and digital material is usually provided. The use of tables and diagrams gives it visibility.

“Raw” (individual) results, as a rule, are given **in the Appendix** in the form of summary tables when making a corresponding link in the text (see the design of Appendices), Tables and figures containing generalized research results are placed in the text of the paragraph of the empirical chapter (see the design of tables and figures). **All illustrations (figures, diagrams) in the text should be referenced.**

RULES FOR THE FORMATTING OF TABLES

The table should be placed in the work immediately after the text in which it is mentioned for the first time. The tables on the left, right, top and bottom are bounded by lines. Each table should have a short title, which consists of the word **“Table”**, its serial number and the name separated from the number by a dash. The title should be placed above the table on the left, without paragraph indentation.

For example:

Table 2.1 - Average grades of students' life spheres

	Education and Learning	Family life	Hobbies
Young men	6,87	7,13	8,50
Girls	7,10	6,57	7,40

When making tables, you must follow the following rules:

- It is allowed to use a font 1-2 points smaller in the table than in the text of the dissertation;
- When transferring a part of the table to another sheet, its title is indicated once above the first part, the word "*Continuation of the table*" is written on the left above the other parts.

DESIGN OF GRAPHIC FORMS (DRAWINGS)

To represent empirical data, it is useful to use graphical forms such as diagrams, histograms, distribution polygons, as well as various graphs. They should be placed in the work immediately after the text in which they are mentioned for the first time, or on the next page if they do not fit in the specified place. Figures and diagrams are numbered in Arabic numerals, while the numbering is continuous. The caption to the illustrations is located below them in the middle of the line. The word "*Figure*" is written in full.

For example:

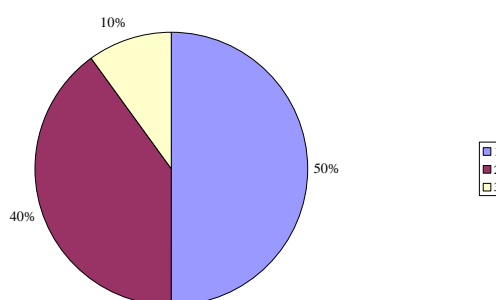


Figure 2.1 – The ratio of assessment of students' life spheres

To Show the correlations between the parameters, you can use a scheme called the **correlation pleiade**.

For example:

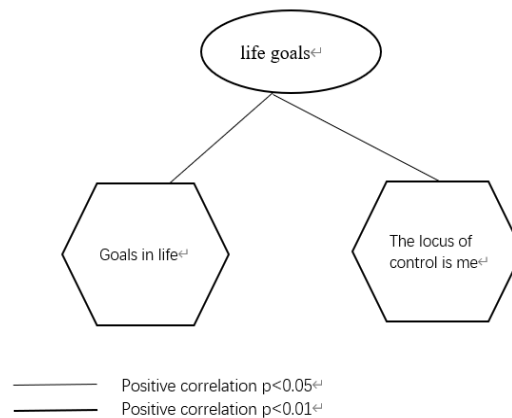


Figure 2.2 – Correlations between indicators

The parameters are represented by circles, feature numbers are placed inside them or the name of the features (parameter) is abbreviated. If numbers are recorded, they must be deciphered in the captions to the drawing. The lines connecting the circles encode the nature of the correlations. For example, *positive connections* (of a positive orientation) can be represented by *solid lines*, *negative ones* – *intermittent*, reliable connections at the *level of 5%* – by *one line*, and reliable ones at the *level of 1%* – by *two lines*. The symbols used should be explained in the text below the drawing. It is better to distribute the signs in groups that combine them according to some criterion. Either the most important parameter is usually placed in the center of the correlation pleiade.

The graph and the text should complement each other. It should be remembered that all tables and figures presented in the paragraph require their verbal interpretation by the author. A detailed description of the data helps to analyze and summarize the results, gives evidence to the conclusions.

The empirical part ends with conclusions about solving problems and achieving goals, confirming or refuting the hypothesis put forward.

CHAPTER 3. DEVELOPMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND JUSTIFICATION OF MEASURES TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM UNDER STUDY

The main purpose of the practical recommendations is the possibility of implementing the results of the work, in the possibility of their application by certain people in real life. The author's recommendations and suggestions should be based on the results of the research conducted in Chapter II in the organization and on the theoretical and methodological provisions set out in chapter I.

When writing practical recommendations, the following rules must be followed:

1. *Recommendations should clearly indicate who they are intended for. If recommendations are developed for several groups of people (for example, for practicing psychologists and parents of adolescents), it is advisable to divide these recommendations (according to the groups of people to whom these recommendations are intended).*

2. *Practical recommendations should be based on the results of your own research.* Scientific literature can be used in their development, but it is unacceptable to cite recommendations developed by other authors (without reference to the authors) or to develop practical recommendations that do not correspond to the purpose and objectives of the study.

3. *Practical recommendations should be written in a language understandable to readers, i.e. in the language of those people to whom these recommendations are intended.*

4. *Recommendations should reflect the possibility of their practical use, i.e. they should answer the question of what can be done to help cope with the problem under study.*

CONCLUSIONS

At the end of each paragraph of the empirical part, it is necessary to make some generalization or conclusion – statement expressing in a brief abstract form the main substantive results of a certain stage of the study.

As a rule, the conclusions reflect the new psychological knowledge obtained by the author at a certain stage or when solving a specific research task, acting as the logical conclusion of the completed part of the work. Unlike the final conclusions regarding the entire study, the conclusions at the end of the paragraph reveal specific, particular results, which is reflected in their formulation. At the same time, the leading place in the formulation of conclusions is occupied by a qualitative analysis of the quantitative results obtained. The total number of conclusions should not exceed 5-7. They must, firstly, correspond exactly to the tasks set, and secondly, reflect the results of testing the formulated hypotheses.

Conclusion. The conclusion represents the main result of the conducted research, the necessity, expediency and value of this work. The conclusion reflects the main results of the study and the conclusions drawn on their basis. The section should consist of summarizing points summarizing the completed dissertation. The conclusions in the conclusion represent the answers to the tasks set in the study, so the number of conclusions should correspond to the number of tasks. It is allowed to give two conclusions for one task.

In conclusion, after the conclusions, the **scientific novelty and practical significance** of the research results are also prescribed. When presenting the

scientific novelty of the conducted research, it is necessary to show the difference between the results obtained from the known ones, classify the degree of novelty (for example: first obtained, improved, further development, etc.), reveal the essence of the new results. The scientific significance of the results of the work is determined by the extent to which they develop scientific ideas about a particular phenomenon, clarify the essence of mechanisms, phenomena, processes, how they contribute to the development of science, the formulation of new research. *The volume of the conclusion should be approximately 2-3 pages.*

When describing the practical significance, information is provided on the *practical application of the results obtained or recommendations for their use.*

For example:

The scientific novelty of the research results consists in For the first time received..... For the first time installed.....

The practical significance of the research results. Open patterns can be applied in

MAKING A BIBLIOGRAPHIC LIST

After the conclusion, it is customary to place a bibliographic list of references in the master's thesis.

The selection of sources on the topic of the master's thesis is carried out by the student independently. The supervisor only helps him to determine the main directions of the work, indicates the most important scientific sources that should be used when writing it, explains where they can be found.

The bibliographic list includes all documents used by the author when writing a scientific work, regardless of their medium, including electronic publications and Internet resources. In the master's thesis, the author should rely on both domestic and foreign sources, **including those from the last 5 years.**

The list of sources used may include the author's publications of the undergraduate (articles, abstracts, conference materials), links to which are present in the text of the work. The list of references in a master's thesis usually **includes at least 45-50 titles.**

Information about sources should be arranged in the order in which references to sources appear in the text of the work, numbered in Arabic numerals without a dot and printed with paragraph indentation. When compiling a list of references, it is necessary to follow certain rules for the *design of bibliographic records.*

Examples of bibliographic descriptions of sources:

Book with one, two or three authors:

1. Rips, L. J. Lines of thought: central concepts in cognitive psychology / L. J. Rips. – New York ; Oxford : Oxford Univ. Press, 2011. – XXII, 441 p.

2. Nakamura, J. Flow Theory and Research / J. Nakamura, M. Csikszentmihalyi // Oxford Handbook of Positive Psychology / ed. : C. R. Snyder, S. J. Lopez. – Oxford, 2009. – P. 195–206.

3. Happiest People Revisited / E. Diener [et al.] // Perspectives on Psychological Science. – 2018. – Vol. 13, № 2. – P. 176–184.

Journal article:

1. Diener, E. Subjective well-being / E. Diener // Psychological Bulletin. – 1984. – № 95 (3). – P. 542–575.

2. Muresanu, D. F. Neuroprotection and Neuroplasticity – A Holistic Approach and Future Perspectives / D. F. Muresanu // J. of Neurological Sciences. – 2007. – Vol. 257, №1/2. – P. 38–43.

3. Yeagle, E. H. Highest Happiness: An Analysis of Artists' Peak Experience / E. H. Yeagle, G. Privette, F. Y. Dunham // Psychological Reports. – 1989. – Vol. 65, № 2. – P. 523–530.

Electronic resources:

1. Davis, S. Contagious Learning: Drama, Experience and Perezhivanie [Electronic resource] / S. Davis, K. Dolan // International Research in Early Childhood Education. – 2016. – Vol. 7, № 1. – Mode of access: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305209198_Contagious_learning_Drama_experience_and_perezhivanie. – Date of access: 12.12.2020.

2. Veresov, N. Perezhivanie as a Theoretical Concept for Researching Young Children's Development [Electronic resource] / N. Veresov, M. Fler // Mind, Culture and Activity. – 2016. – Vol. 23, № 4. – Mode of access: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305419024_Perezhivanie_as_a_Theoretical_Concept_for_Researching_Young_Children%27s_Development. – Date of access: 16.12.2021.

All sources included in the list of references should be referenced in the text. References to sources in the text of the dissertation are made by bringing the number in accordance with the bibliographic list. The source number in the list is enclosed in **square brackets**.

For example:

According to positive psychologist Martin Seligman, a happy life in the long run is determined by the following formula: happiness + flow + awareness = a happy life [1, p. 35]. (here 1 is the number of the source in the list, 35 is the page number).

If a link is given to several sources, then their numbers are separated by semicolons in parentheses, for example: [1; 2; 13].

Citation rules

1. The text of the quotation must be enclosed in quotation marks and is given in the grammatical form in which it is given in the source (while preserving the peculiarities of the author's writing).

2. The citation must be complete, without arbitrary reduction of the quoted fragment and without distortion of meaning.

3. Each quotation must be accompanied by a link to the source, with mandatory indication of the page numbers in the source.

APPENDICES

The appendix may contain documents, tables, illustrations and other materials that contribute to the disclosure of the provisions of the study. Applications are designed as a continuation of the work on subsequent pages, placing them in the order in **which links appear in the text**.

The pages on which the applications are placed continue the general numbering of the work.

Each application should start with a new page with the word “appendix” in the upper right corner. The application must have a meaningful title located in the center of the line.

If there is more than one application in operation, they are designated sequentially. *For example, Appendix A, Appendix B, etc.*

If necessary, the text of each appendix can be divided into sections and subsections, numbered within each appendix as follows: A.1.2, B.1.2.

Illustrations, tables and formulas placed in the application are numbered within each application, for example: “Figure A.2” (the second figure of the first appendix); “Table B.1” (the first table of the second appendix).

Issues related to the preparation of a master’s thesis that are not defined in these recommendations are resolved in accordance with the Instructions (Instructions on the procedure for organizing the execution and protection, registration of abstracts, term papers (term papers), diploma projects (theses), master’s theses, approved by order of the Rector of the P.M. Masherov VSU of 05.04.2024 No. 91).

STAGES OF PREPARATION OF THE MASTER’S THESIS

THE ALGORITHM FOR COMPLETING A MASTER’S THESIS:

№	The Sequence of Actions	and the terms of preparation of the master’s thesis
1	Definition of the topic of the master’s thesis. The topic should be relevant, correspond to the current state and prospects of development of science, technology and culture. The topic of the master’s thesis and scientific supervisors are approved by the order of the rector of the university.	Within a month from the beginning of the training. for a master’s degree program with a period of study of 1 year - no later than the end of the first semester of study.

2	Development and coordination of the work writing schedule. The undergraduate student, together with the supervisor, develops an individual plan.	Within a month from the beginning of the training.
3	Receiving the task form for the master's thesis according to its topic and signing the assignment from the supervisor.	Within a month from the beginning of the training.
4	Completion of the master's thesis according to the schedule approved with the supervisor. The process of completing a master's thesis consists of the following stages: 1) preliminary stage; 2) research stage; 3) design stage. The current control of the implementation of the individual work plan of the undergraduate is carried out by the supervisor and the department to which the undergraduate is assigned. The undergraduate is obliged to come to the scientific supervisor for consultations on the master's thesis, as well as to report on the work carried out and its compliance with the plan.	According to the schedule
5	Provision of a master's thesis completed and executed in accordance with the current requirements to the supervisor and reviewer.	no later than one month before the scheduled protection date.
6	Provision of work to the department in electronic format for verification in the " Anti-Plagiarism " system.	no later than 2 weeks before the scheduled protection date.
7	Collecting all necessary signatures on the title page (supervisor, head of the department).	1 week before the pre-defense
8	Binding of the final version of the work. The master's thesis is drawn up in the editorial and publishing department of the P.M. Masherov VSU in a binding using the Metalbind method with the application of the university logo on the cover. The order of the documents in the binding: 1. Master's thesis 2. Task for the master's thesis. 3. Review of the supervisor. 4. Review. 5. Certificate of the results of the anti-plagiarism test.	One week before the protection date

9	Submission to the department of bound work and USB with an electronic version.	One week before the protection date
10	Preparation of a ppt and report for the defense of a master's thesis	5 days before protection
11	Successful defense of the master's thesis. Obtaining a diploma of the established sample	according to the approved deadlines

THE PROCEDURE FOR DEFENDING A MASTER'S THESIS

The final stage of the master's thesis is its public defense.

The public defense of the master's thesis is conducted by the State Examination Commission (SEC). Students who, when mastering the content of the master's degree program, have fully completed the curriculum and the individual work plan of the undergraduate are allowed to public defense. Receiving negative feedback on the content of the master's thesis from the supervisor and/or reviewer is not an obstacle to submitting the master's thesis for public defense and conducting a public defense procedure.

No more than 30 minutes are allowed for the defense of one master's thesis.

The master's thesis is defended at an open meeting of the SEC with the participation of the chairman of the commission and at least half of its members. Persons present at the defense of the master's thesis and who are not members of the SEC cannot ask questions to the undergraduate and influence the course of the defense.

The procedure and regulations for the defense of a master's thesis are established by the chairman of the SEC and include:

- a student's report (no more than 15 minutes) using information technology;
- announcement of the supervisor's review of the master's thesis and the reviewer's speech (announcement of his review);
- questions from the members of the commission and the answers of the undergraduate;
- the answers of the graduate student to the comments of the reviewer (if any).

The Chairman of the SEC announces the topic of the master's thesis, the surname of the author, the supervisor and the reviewer. Then the word is given to the undergraduate.

After completing the defense of master's theses, the SEC continues its work in a closed meeting: they evaluate the results of the defense of the master's thesis and decide on awarding the appropriate academic master's degree to students and issuing a diploma.

The results of the final certification in the form of a master's thesis defense are evaluated with the marks **“defended” with a mark in points** on a ten-point scale or “did not defend”.

The decision to mark the completion and defense of a master's thesis is made by a majority of the members of the SEC by open vote. With an equal number of SEC members offering different marks, the proposal of the chairman of the SEC is decisive.

Upon completion of the necessary documentation, undergraduates who have defended their master's theses and all invited persons are invited to the auditorium. The Chairman of the SEC summarizes the results of the protection of works, reads out the marks issued by the commission, notes particularly successful works, makes proposals for publication or implementation in production, announces the decision to award a master's degree and congratulates the masters on completing the final state certification.

In the case when the master's thesis is considered not protected by the decision of the State Commission, the commission determines whether the graduate student can submit the same work for re-defense with revision determined by the commission, or he is obliged to develop a new topic. A graduate student who has not defended a dissertation is allowed to re-defend it no earlier than in the next academic year.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A PRESENTATION AND A REPORT FOR THE DEFENSE OF A MASTER'S THESIS

THE UNDERGRADUATE determines the text of the report together with the supervisor. Figures are provided in the report if they are necessary to prove and illustrate the conclusions.

The text of the speech should reflect:

- the relevance of the topic;
- the degree of its study;
- the theoretical and methodological provisions on which the master's thesis is based;
- the results of the analysis on the problem under study; a list of the provisions of the work that are the subject of protection.

Recommendations for preparing a presentation (ppt) for protection

To visually accompany the defense report, the undergraduate prepares a presentation (**10-15 slides**) or a handout, including **the following elements**:

- title page (title of the work, full name of the undergraduate, full name of the supervisor);
- general characteristics of the work;
- provisions submitted for defense;

- illustrative material (tables, graphs, diagrams, etc.) that are necessary for a graduate student to substantiate the provisions submitted for defense;
- main conclusions and conclusion;
- practical recommendations or research perspectives.

The basic principles of preparing a computer presentation are conciseness, clarity, relevance, visibility (emphasizing key points), memorability (reasonable use of animation effects).

EVALUATION OF THE MASTER'S THESIS DEFENSE

The master's thesis is evaluated on a differentiated ten-point scale.
The Commission issues a mark based on the following criteria:

- relevance of the topic of the master's thesis;
- the degree of compliance of the content of the master's thesis with the topic and the individual work plan of the undergraduate;
- logical construction of the material;
- completeness and consistency of the critical review and analysis of the literature on the topic of the master's thesis;
- the completeness of the description of the calculation methodology or the research carried out, the presentation of their own calculated, theoretical and experimental results, the reliability of the expressions and data obtained;
- completeness of the psychological interpretation of the analysis results;
- solving all the tasks set and achieving the research goal;
- scientific novelty of the provisions submitted for protection;
- the presence of reasoned conclusions based on the results of the master's thesis;
- the practical significance of the master's thesis, the possibility of using the results obtained;
- the quality of the shortcomings of the master's thesis;
- the quality of the presentation at the defense and the ability to conduct a scientific discussion.

Additional criteria: the results of the master's thesis have been tested at scientific and practical conferences and the act of implementing the research results.

The mark “ten” is set if:

- the author of the master's thesis demonstrates a clear understanding of the theoretical essence of the problem under study;
- the dissertation is carried out in strict accordance with the topic, object, subject, purpose and objectives, the chosen methodology;
- the text of the dissertation is analytical in nature;
- the text of the dissertation testifies to the undergraduate's ability to work with scientific sources, critically analyze their content;

- the text contains links to the latest scientific research (including foreign ones);
- the sample corresponds to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- adequate research methods and methodologies have been applied;
- research methods meet all psychometric requirements and/or are taken from reliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing adequate to the tasks set were used, while the following should be applied: descriptive and comparative statistics; statistics of interconnectedness and dependence;
- the results obtained in the empirical part of the dissertation are accompanied by a full-fledged psychological interpretation of the data;
- the provisions submitted for defense are characterized by high scientific novelty and significance, fully reflect the purpose, objectives and results of the study;
- the final conclusions of the master's thesis are reliable and justified by the analysis of the material;
- the text of the master's thesis, the list of references, appendices are designed in accordance with the requirements;
- the results of the master's thesis are confirmed by the publications of the undergraduate (articles, theses, materials) included in the list of references, and/or acts of implementation of the research results presented in the appendix;
- the report on the defense of the master's thesis is characterized by logic, consistency and persuasiveness, includes a reasoned justification of the chosen research methods, qualified use of scientific terminology;
- the answers to additional questions are detailed and justified, they indicate the scientific competence of the undergraduate in the problem under study and his broad erudition.

The mark “nine” is set if:

- the author of the master's thesis demonstrates a clear understanding of the theoretical essence of the problem under study;
- the dissertation is carried out in strict accordance with the topic, object, subject, purpose and objectives, the chosen methodology;
 - the text of the dissertation is analytical in nature;
 - the text of the dissertation testifies to the undergraduate's ability to work with scientific sources, critically analyze their content;
 - the text contains links to the latest scientific research (including foreign ones);
 - the sample corresponds to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
 - adequate research methods and methods have been applied;
 - research methods meet all psychometric requirements and/or are taken from reliable psychological sources;

- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing adequate to the tasks set were used, while the following should be applied: descriptive and comparative statistics; statistics of interconnectedness and dependence;

- the results obtained in the empirical part of the dissertation are accompanied by a full-fledged psychological interpretation of the data;

- the provisions submitted for defense are characterized by scientific novelty and significance, fully reflect the purpose, objectives and results of the study;

- the final conclusions of the master's thesis are reliable and justified by the analysis of the material;

- the text of the master's thesis, the list of references, appendices are designed in accordance with the requirements;

- the results of the master's thesis are confirmed by the publications of the undergraduate (theses, materials) included in the list of references, and/or acts of implementation of the research results presented in the appendix;

- the report on the defense of the master's thesis is logical, consistent and convincing, includes a reasoned justification of the chosen research methods, qualified use of scientific terminology;

- answers to additional questions the questions are detailed and justified.

The mark “eight” is set if:

- the author of the master's thesis demonstrates a clear understanding of the theoretical essence of the problem under study;

- the dissertation is carried out in strict accordance with the topic, object, subject, purpose and objectives, the chosen methodology;

- the text of the dissertation is analytical in nature;

- the text of the dissertation testifies to the undergraduate's ability to work with scientific sources, critically analyze their content;

- the text contains links to the latest scientific research (including foreign ones);

- the sample corresponds to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;

- adequate research methods and methods have been applied;

- research methods meet all psychometric requirements and/or are taken from reliable psychological sources;

- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing adequate to the tasks set were used, while the following should be applied: descriptive and comparative statistics; statistics of interconnectedness and dependence;

- the results obtained in the empirical part of the dissertation are accompanied by a fragmentary psychological interpretation of the data;

- the provisions submitted for defense are characterized by scientific novelty and significance, fully reflect the purpose, objectives and results of the study;

- the final conclusions of the master's thesis are reliable and justified by the analysis of the material carried out in the dissertation;
- the text of the master's thesis, the list of sources used, applications are designed in accordance with the requirements;
- the report on the defense of the master's thesis is characterized by logic, consistency and persuasiveness, includes a reasoned justification of the chosen research methods, appropriate use of scientific terminology;
- the undergraduate student mostly correctly and convincingly answers additional questions.

The mark “seven” is set if:

- the author of the master's thesis mainly demonstrates an understanding of the theoretical essence of the problem under study;
- the implementation of the master's thesis is carried out mainly in accordance with the topic, object, subject, purpose and objectives, the chosen methodology;
- the text of the dissertation, in general, is descriptive;
- the text contains references to scientific research, the contents of which are used in the master's thesis at the level of descriptions, rather than analysis and generalizations;
- the master's thesis testifies to the undergraduate's ability to work with scientific sources;
- the sample corresponds to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- adequate research methods and methods have been applied;
- research methods meet all psychometric requirements and/or are taken from reliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing were used, in general, corresponding to the tasks set;
- the results obtained in the empirical part of the dissertation are accompanied by a fragmentary psychological interpretation of the data;
- the provisions submitted for defense are characterized by scientific novelty, but in general they state already known patterns or do not fully reflect all the tasks and conclusions of the study;
- the final conclusions of the master's thesis are reliable and justified by the analysis of the material carried out in the dissertation;
- the text of the master's thesis, the list of sources used, applications are designed in accordance with the requirements with minor flaws;
- the report on the defense of the master's thesis is logical and convincing, includes justification of the chosen research methods;
- the undergraduate student mostly correctly and convincingly answers additional questions, insufficiently using the scientific categorical apparatus.

The mark “six” is set if:

- the author of the master's thesis generally understands the theoretical essence of the problem under study;

- the implementation of the master's thesis is carried out mainly in accordance with the topic, object, subject, purpose and objectives, but the undergraduate does not strictly adhere to the chosen methodology;
- the master's thesis is descriptive;
- the sample corresponds to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- research methods and techniques are not fully adequate to the methodology;
- research methods meet all psychometric requirements and/or are taken from reliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing were used that do not fully correspond to the tasks set;
- the list of sources used is sufficiently complete, the bibliographic review indicates, in general, the necessary study of the literature on the problem of the master's thesis;
- the results obtained in the empirical part of the dissertation are accompanied by a superficial psychological interpretation of the data;
- the provisions submitted for defense, in general, state already known patterns or do not fully reflect all the tasks and conclusions of the study;
- the final conclusions of the master's thesis are generally reliable, but insufficiently substantiated;
- the text of the master's thesis, the list of sources used, the appendices are designed in general in accordance with the requirements with minor flaws;
- the report on the defense of the master's thesis is generally logical and convincing;
- the undergraduate student mostly answers additional questions correctly, but incorrectly uses the scientific categorical apparatus, has difficulty justifying the chosen research methods.

The mark “five” is set if:

- the author of the master's thesis does not sufficiently understand the theoretical essence of the problem under study;
- when completing a master's thesis, the undergraduate does not adhere to the chosen methodology, there are discrepancies between the topic, object, subject and the purpose and objectives of the study;
- the master's thesis is abstract in nature;
- the sample corresponds to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- research methods and techniques are not fully adequate to the methodology;
- not all research methods used meet psychometric requirements and/or are taken from reliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, statistical data processing methods were used that do not fully correspond to the tasks set;
- the results obtained in the empirical part of the dissertation are accompanied by a superficial psychological interpretation;

- the list of sources used is not complete enough, does not include the latest scientific research (or includes links to sources without mention in the master's thesis);
- the provisions submitted for defense do not differ in scientific novelty and significance or do not fully reflect all the tasks and results of the study;
- the final conclusions of the master's thesis are generally reliable, but not substantiated;
- the text of the master's thesis, the list of sources used, appendices have some deviations from the requirements;
- the report on the defense of the master's thesis is generally consistent, but contains logical flaws;
- the undergraduate student has difficulty answering additional questions, incorrectly uses the scientific categorical apparatus, cannot justify the chosen research methods.

The mark “four” is set if:

- the author of the master's thesis reveals a superficial awareness of the topic of his master's thesis;
- the execution of the master's thesis is not carried out in accordance with the chosen methodology;
- the master's thesis is abstract in nature;
- the sample does not fully correspond to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- research methods and techniques are not fully adequate to the methodology;
- not all research methods used meet psychometric requirements and/or are taken from reliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, statistical data processing methods were used that do not fully correspond to the tasks set;
- the results obtained in the empirical part of the dissertation are accompanied by a superficial psychological interpretation of the data;
- the list of sources used is narrow and mainly contains references to educational and reference literature;
- the provisions submitted for defense do not differ in scientific novelty and significance or do not fully reflect all the tasks and results of the study;
- the final conclusions of the master's thesis are unfounded;
- the text of the master's thesis, the list of sources used, appendices have some deviations from the requirements;
- the report on the defense of the master's thesis consists of a set of separate abstracts, does not differ in sequence;
- the undergraduate student has considerable difficulty answering additional questions or refuses to answer them.

The mark “three” is set if:

- the dissertation does not meet the general requirements, the procedure for preparing, rules and registration of the dissertation is violated;

- the author demonstrates a superficial awareness of the topic of his master’s thesis;
- the theoretical chapter is a compilation of various fragments of borrowed texts;
- the sample does not correspond to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- the research methods do not meet the psychometric requirements and/or are taken from unreliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing that do not correspond to the tasks set were used;
- the provisions submitted for defense do not correspond to the purpose, objectives and learned research results;
- in the empirical part of the dissertation there is no psychological interpretation of the data;
- the report on the defense of the master’s thesis consists of a set of separate theses, does not differ in sequence;
- the undergraduate student has considerable difficulty answering additional questions or refuses to answer them.

The mark “two” is set if:

- the dissertation does not meet the general requirements, the procedure for preparing, rules and registration of the dissertation is violated;
- the author demonstrates a superficial awareness of the topic of his master’s thesis;
- the theoretical chapter is a compilation of various fragments of borrowed texts;
- the sample does not correspond to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- research methods and techniques are not adequate to the methodology;
- the research methods do not meet the psychometric requirements and/or are taken from unreliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing that do not correspond to the tasks set were used;
- there are no provisions submitted for defense, or they do not correspond to the purpose, objectives and results of the study;
- the dissertation is a scattered fragments of text, rough sketches that do not add up to a finished text;
- the report on the defense of the master’s thesis consists of a set of separate theses, does not differ in sequence;
- the undergraduate student has significant difficulties answering additional questions or refuses to answer them.

The mark “one” is set if:

- the dissertation does not meet the general requirements, the procedure for preparing, rules and registration of the dissertation is violated;
- the author demonstrates a superficial awareness of the topic of his master’s thesis;

- the theoretical chapter is a compilation of various fragments of borrowed texts;
- the sample does not correspond to the methodology, goals and objectives of the study;
- research methods and techniques are not adequate to the methodology;
- research methods do not meet psychometric requirements and/or are taken from unreliable psychological sources;
- when analyzing the results of the study, methods of statistical data processing that do not correspond to the tasks set were used;
- there are no provisions to be defended, or they do not correspond to the purpose, objectives and results of the study;
- the empirical chapter consists of scattered fragments of text, rough sketches that do not add up to a finished text;
- the report on the defense of the master's thesis consists of a set of separate theses, does not differ in sequence;
- the undergraduate student has considerable difficulty answering additional questions or refuses to answer them.
- the commission found the inconsistency of the dissertation (plagiarism), or information about plagiarism is displayed in the review.

The marks “three” – “one” are unsatisfactory.

APPENDIX A – FORM OF THE TITLE PAGE OF THE MASTER’S THESIS

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT “VITEBSK STATE UNIVERSITY
NAMED AFTER P. M. MASHEROV”
Faculty of Social Pedagogics and Psychology
Department of Psychology

Approved for defense
«__»____20__
Head of department
____S.L. Bogomaz

MASTER’S THESIS

(title of the dissertation topic in capital letters)
Specialty 7-06-0313-01«Psychology»

_____,
(full name of a student)

(course, group number)

Academic advisor:
_____,
(full name)

(position, academic degree, title)

Vitebsk, 202_

APPENDIX B – AN EXAMPLE OF THE FORM OF THE CONTENT OF THE WORK

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APPENDIX C – THE FORM OF THE SUPERVISOR'S REVIEW OF THE MASTER'S THESIS

REVIEW of the Master's thesis

(title of the dissertation topic)

(full name of the author of the master's thesis)

Specialty _____

The content of the review:

The supervisor notes in the review:

- *relevance of the research topic;*
- *completeness of the presentation of the material, reasonableness;*
- *the author's specific personal participation in the development of the provisions and obtaining the results set out in the dissertation, the reliability of these provisions and results;*
- *the degree of novelty, scientific and practical significance of the research results;*
- *the economic and social significance of the results obtained;*
- *approbation and extent of use of the main provisions and results of the work.*

The positive sides are noted, special attention is paid to the existing and previously noted shortcomings that were not eliminated by the undergraduate, the degree of independence of the author, his skills in working with scientific literature and organizing experimental research, the validity and significance of the results, the possibility of their application.

Scientific adviser:

(position , academic degree, academic title)

(full name)

« ____ » _____ 20__ г.

(signature)

APPENDIX D – THE FORM OF THE REVIEW OF THE MASTER’S THESIS

REVIEW of the Master’s thesis

(title of the dissertation topic)

(full name of the author of the master’s thesis)

Specialty _____

The content of the review:

The reviewer indicates:

- *assessment of the relevance of the research topic, achievement of the goal in terms of expediency and sufficiency of the undertaken research;*
- *the consistency of the construction of the material;*
- *assessment of the completeness and consistency of the critical review and analysis of the literature on the topic of the master’s thesis;*
- *a mark of the reliability of the results obtained;*
- *the presence of reasoned conclusions based on the results of the study;*
- *practical significance, the possibility of using the results obtained;*
- *disadvantages and weaknesses of the Master’s thesis;*
- *comments on the design of the work and the style of presentation of the material.*

In the final part of the review, it is recommended to note the degree of influence of the noted shortcomings on the qualification qualities of the master’s thesis, to formulate a conclusion about whether this work meets the requirements. The reviewer can express his opinion on the assessment that the work deserves.

Receiving a negative review does not deprive a graduate student of the right to defend a master’s thesis.

Reviewer:

(position, academic degree, academic title)

(full name)

« ____ » _____ 20__ г.

(signature)

[illegible]

Educational publication

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