

STATEMENT

by **Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva** –

Associate Professor at the Preschool Pedagogy Department

at the Faculty of Pedagogy of PU „Paisii Hilendarski“

on a dissertational work for awarding the educational and scientific degree „doctor“

by: field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences

professional direction 1.3. Teaching Pedagogy in...,

doctoral program Teaching methodology in Bulgarian language and literature at the "Elementary School Pedagogy" Department of the Faculty of Education.

Author: Ralitsa Zivkova Koleva

Topic: „The comic book and the literary teaching of bilingual students in the 4th grade“

Research supervisor: Prof. Ph.D. Margarita Todorova Terzieva from University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, PMO department.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student

By Order No. P-21-634. from 19.03.2024 by the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" (PU) I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury to ensure a defence procedure of a dissertational work on the topic: "The comic book and the literary teaching of bilingual students in the 4th grade" for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3. Teaching Pedagogy in..., doctoral program Teaching methodology in Bulgarian language and literature. The author of the dissertation is Ralitsa Jivkova Koleva - doctoral student in part-time study at the Department of "Elementary School Pedagogy" of the Faculty of Pedagogy with supervisor Prof. Dr. Margarita Todorova Terzieva from the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, "PMO" department.

The set of electronic materials presented by Ralitsa Zhivkova Koleva is in accordance with Art. 36 (1) of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the PU and includes the following documents: a request to the Rector of the PU to disclose the procedure for the defence of a dissertation; CV in European format; protocol from the departmental council related to reporting the readiness to open the procedure and preliminary discussion of the dissertational work; dissertational work; abstract; list of scientific publications on the topic

of the dissertation; copies of scientific publications; declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents.

The doctoral student has attached 13 publications on the topic of the dissertational work.

Ralitsa Koleva completed her higher education at PU "Paisii Hilendarski", majoring in Bulgarian philology (with a teaching license). She holds a master's degree in Language and Literary Development at preschool and primary school age and in Applied Psychology at PU „Paisii Hilendarski“. She has 23 years of experience in the specialty.

2. Relevance of the topic

The developed dissertational work is extremely relevant because it offers a new approach in bilingual reading teaching; new technologies in the educational process in Bulgarian language and literature from preschool age to the junior high school stage; affirms the communicative focus of language teaching in general via comic books; offers a new option to increase the reading motivation, because in the comic book there is less text, more imagery and the child does not bother looking at the page, especially if it has learning problems.

3. Knowing the problem

Doctoral student Ralitsa Koleva has made a competent analysis of the state of the problem, concluding with reasoned conclusions and a position on individual issues. Proof of this is the author's methodical model with a number of applications: *creation of replicas; making up stories; dramatization; subtext detection; text creation.*

4. Research methodology

The chosen research methodology allows achieving the set goal, and the tasks solved in the dissertation receive an adequate answer. Among the methodological ideas, *the compilation of comic books based on literary works is particularly valuable; project-based learning through comic books; compilation of comic books based on a given communicative-speech situation; a game with comic book cards;* which directly correspond to the formation of the ability to read with understanding, and hence to improving the technique of reading and making sense of the content of the literary work.

The created rich educational environment implies a high degree of integrity of the dissertational work, visible even in the theoretical part: "Comic books, literature and arts for children - intersections and divergences".

5. Characterization and evaluation of the dissertational work and contributions

The proposed dissertational work „THE COMIC BOOK AND THE LITERARY TEACHING OF BILINGUAL STUDENTS IN THE 4TH GRADE“ is significant because the educational potential of the comic book in literary teaching from 1st to 4th grade and its application in conditions of bilingualism is considered. The process of research work is refracted through the lens of opportunities to develop a key skill, namely reading comprehension.

An indisputable contribution is the author's package, which includes the use of a variety of educational methods, approaches and teaching techniques, which imply an active knowledge-position and motivation of the students.

6. Evaluation of the publications and personal contribution of the doctoral student

On the topic of scientific research, 13 (thirteen) articles have been published, which show the results of applied methodological options in the dissertation and analyse the empirical data regarding the educational process success in reading and the inclusion of children from minority ethnic groups into the world of fiction.

7. Summary

The author's abstract was prepared according to the requirements of the regulations for the acquisition of academic degrees of PU "Paisii Hilendarski" and the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. It is in a volume of 37 pages and reflects the main results achieved in the dissertation.

8. Recommendations for future use of dissertation contributions and results

I recommend Ralitsa Koleva to make the results of the scientific research worthy to a wider circle of teachers by publishing them as a monograph or teaching aid.

CONCLUSION

Due to the above, I confidently give my *positive assessment* of the conducted research, presented in the dissertational work, the summary and the achieved results and contributions, and *I propose to the honourable scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree „doctor“* to **Ralitsa Zivkova Koleva** in the field of higher education: 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3. Teaching pedagogy in ..., doctoral program Teaching methodology in Bulgarian language and literature.

24.04.2024

Statement by:.....

Ass. Prof. Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva