

Appendix A

Protocol for interview

BA IN ELT THESIS: FINISHED DOCUMENT AND DEFENSE Cohort or student ID: _____
Mark exact date or month and year.

Started BA: _____ Finished BA: _____ Started writing thesis: _____ Finished writing thesis: _____

Personal Timeline

1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

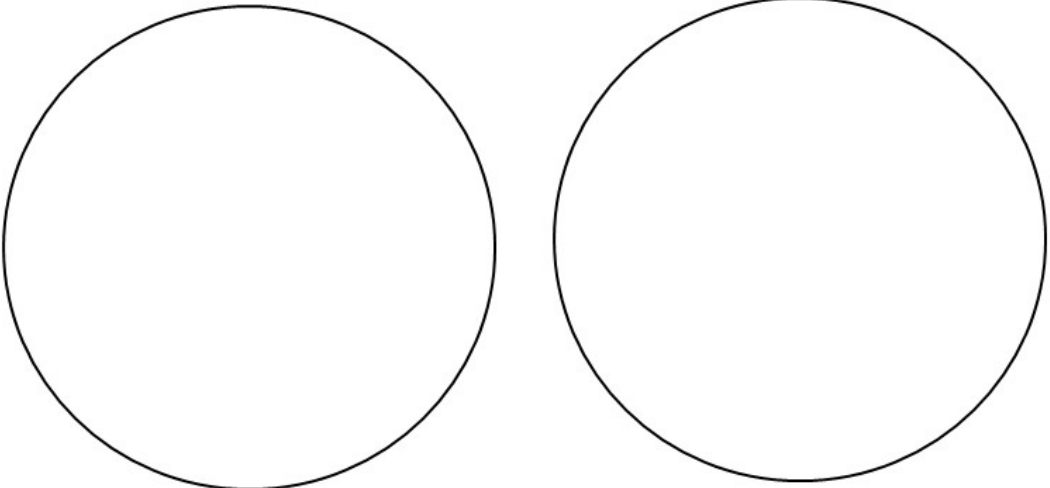
⇒

BA IN ELT THESIS: FINISHED DOCUMENT AND DEFENSE Cohort or student ID: _____

Write ME/I in the center of each circle. Write the names of 5-7 people who were around you at the beginning and at the end of your thesis writing process.

Thesis writing: the beginning

Thesis writing: the end



Guiding questions

Thank you for coming. I am interested in you because you finished your BA thesis. Congratulations. The purpose of these interviews is to inquire about the factors / elements that helped and inhibited the writing of your thesis, as well as the specific actions you undertook to achieve thesis completion.

(Show timeline and calendars to each participant) Can you please fill in these dates? Cohort, year / date finished studies, start the thesis and finished thesis dates. If you would like to take this worksheet with you to make a note of more accurate dates, you can do so and come back / send it later. How do you feel now about having finished your thesis?

(Show calendars that display the time thesis writing took them) These are the years / months of your life which were dedicated to writing your thesis. Would you like to share what was going on with you / your life while you were writing your thesis? Are there any events / moments that you remember happened / were happening during that period of time? Could you please mark these moments / events in these calendars? Which of these events do you remember the most? Did they affect the writing of your thesis in any way, either positively or negatively?

Think about the people at that time; did anyone affect / influence your writing thesis performance? **(Show the two circles diagram)**. Who was helpful or unhelpful? Who was motivating / demotivating?

Now, I am going to ask you about the actual writing of your thesis. If you do happen to remember anything related to the previous questions, feel free to bring up your comment. Here is a copy of your thesis **(hand over thesis from the library)**. Again, congratulations. As you possibly remember, you left a copy of it in the library as part of your titulación requirements. Do you have any comments before I start with the questions? Any comments you would like to make? Thank you.

Ok. First, do you remember how your thesis is structured? How many or which chapters is it divided in? Do you remember what they are called? Did you write your chapters "in order"?

Now, how hard or easy was it to write each chapter? Which chapter took you the longest? Was there any factor (event / person) which prevented you from writing? Was there any situation that you had to overcome / which required your attention? How did you manage to retake writing? Was writing your thesis helpful for you in any way? Did it help you focus your attention, or did it help you forget about a problem you had at least momentarily?

Can I ask you about your health? Were you healthy / feeling healthy at the time you were writing? Did you notice any change in your well-being? Did you have any minor aches or recurring pains while writing your thesis?

Can you describe the place(s) where you performed the writing of your thesis? **(Show pictures of students using a computer / the library)**. How comfortable was your seat? What could you see from where you were sitting? What tools, office equipment, and stationery items were available to you? How did you make up for unavailable things?

How did you manage your reading and writing (notebooks / photocopies / online searches / cards / printings)? How did you go about correcting your work? What did you do right after you got feedback about your writing? How did you proceed? Was your reading / writing, would you say, fluent / frequent / massive / thin / sporadic? How would you describe your reading / writing?

Is there anything else you would like to share with me? Do you have any questions for me? Would you like to tell me more about another appointment?

Thank you very much for your generous time.

