

Abstract

The present bachelor thesis studies the acquisition of Spanish phonemes /d/ and /g/ pronounced by Czech and Slovak speakers. The theoretical section contains a general description of the phonemes in contrast with the Czech and Slovak languages and describes the process of second language acquisition from a phonological point of view. The practical section deals with the acoustic analysis of target consonants in different contexts by using the Praat program. We evaluate the occurrence of each variant on twelve recordings of students and compare them with the pronunciation of native speakers. The results confirm that the transfer of L1 phonological knowledge plays an important role in the acquisition of L2 Spanish phones. Students mostly experience difficulties to spirantize the studied phonemes and to use a dental pronunciation of the /d/. The research also provides evidence about the factors which have the greatest influence on the correct acquisition of the consonants.

Key words

Spanish, Czech, Slovak, phonetics, language acquisition, Praat, pronunciation