

ABSTRACT

The thesis deals with students of the fourth and fifth grades of primary school. The subject of the research is their knowledge and understanding of selected phraseological units, namely weather lores and proverbs.

In the theoretical part of the thesis the most important terms of phraseology as a linguistic discipline are defined. The characteristic of idioms is explained as well as their meaning. Various criteria according to which phraseologisms can be classified are presented. Furthermore, the thesis deals with possible variants and variations of phraseological units. Last but not least, the theoretical part of the thesis offers insight into the influence of the family environment and primary school on the child's knowledge of idioms.

The practical part elaborates the research survey, which was carried out using a quantitative research method – a questionnaire. The questionnaire was preceded by an analysis of Czech language textbooks, which focused on the occurrence of idioms and ways of working with them. The survey form focuses on weather lore and proverbs and contains three different types of tasks. In the first one, students connect the beginnings and endings of idioms. In the second type of task, students complete unfinished idioms. In the last type of task, students are asked to explain their understanding of the selected idioms. First, a pilot investigation was carried out involving 27 participants. After that, 407 respondents from Prague and other city schools took part in the main survey. The evaluated responses showed that 76 % of all pupils surveyed knew the selected idioms, but only 55 % of them understood and could explain them.

KEYWORDS

idiom, phraseology, weather lore, proverbs, primary school student, questionnaire