Abstract

The thesis deals with verbal prefixes and the analysis of their usage in texts of non-native speakers of Czech. The theoretical part provides an overview of verbal prefixes and their grammatical-lexical functions. The main focus is on prefixes from the point of view of Czech as a foreign language: it describes the issues related to the use of verbal prefixes in the texts of non-native speakers and the ways in which verbal prefixes are presented in teaching materials for foreigners. It also introduces the Czech National Corpus and other online tools as supplementary materials for studying Czech prefixed verbs.

The analytical part of the thesis focuses on mapping the usage of verbal prefixes in written texts of non-native speakers of Czech at the B2 level and proposes compensatory exercises for practicing the identified problematic phenomena. The research is based on data from the CzeSL-SGT learner corpus. The corpus exercises are based on the SYN2020 representative corpus of Czech. The thesis includes examples of the use of prefixed verbs in texts of non-native speakers. Verbal prefixes are characterized in terms of semantics, with an emphasis on error analysis of prefix usage.

The analysis results show that prefixes with the richest semantics have the highest representation in learner texts, while prefixes with a low number of meanings appear much less frequently. In the usage of verbal prefixes by non-native speakers, spelling errors, redundant use of prefixes, and prefix substitution are observed. There is evident negative transfer from the students' mother tongues, and there is also a tendency to use perfective verbs inappropriately instead of imperfective ones. The analysis results indicate a lack of understanding among non-native speakers of the semantic differences between prefixes. Therefore, the thesis emphasizes the importance of studying word-formation tools in Czech for foreigners to develop students' ability to distinguish fine semantic nuances of prefixes in connection with different verbs.

Key words

verbal prefixes, aspectual pairs, Czech as a foreign language, learner corpus, level B2