

Problem of metaphors in Czech Sign Language is handled from a cognitive linguistic approach to language point of view, especially in term of the conceptual metaphor theory, which was formulated by Lakoff and Johnson. The explanation of specifics of the iconic and metaphoric mapping in signed languages is based on recent theoretical works dealing with American Sign Language. Principles of metaphors behavior in signed languages are illustrated on many metaphoric linguistic expressions from Czech Sign Language, which realize eight conventionally conceptual metaphors -

(1) orientational metaphors: MORE IS UP, GOOD IS UP, POWERFUL IS UP, THE FUTURE IS AHEAD, THE PAST IS BEHIND, (2) ontological metaphors: MIND IS A CONTAINER, IDEAS ARE OBJECTS and (3) structural metaphor: COMMUNICATION IS SENDING.