

Beginning section of this thesis named Regional languages in the French education system is focused on a terminology concerning regional languages. Further content is focused on the history of languages in France since the Roman campaign on Gaul territory and the latinization of this region until the democratization of regional languages towards regular French. An important role in French education system development was played by education laws that are thoroughly discussed in text of this thesis. The current distribution of regional languages in France and teaching of these languages in French schools is described in the next part of the thesis. This part is primarily focused on the four regional languages: Basque, Breton, Catalan and Occitan. Laws that permitted the education of regional languages in France and facilitated the foundation of institutions intended to support these regional languages are also covered within this section. The research of today's state of Occitan in everyday life of Nîmes residents is covered in final part of this thesis. Occitan was chosen as the representative model of regional language. For the research have been used questionnaires to find out that Occitan is still living even though it is only known by the elder generation.