

The theme of this thesis is the ability of independent written expression in Russian of secondary school students. The objective of the thesis is to find out the level of this ability of 2nd and 3rd-year students of selected Prague and out-of-Prague secondary schools. In the empirical research I have found out, with the help of the analytical criteria made with the purpose of evaluating the new "maturita" written assignments, how successful the students were in the individual evaluated aspects of writing. The research is both quantitative and qualitative. The sources of information in the research are students' pieces of writing and questionnaires. Overall, the students achieved very good results in the research. They need to improve especially in vocabulary/spelling and grammar. Third-year students need more practice in writing texts of 130 words and more.

KEY WORDS:

- > independent written expression
- > the new "maturita" examination (school-leaving examination)
- > structured written assignment
- > independent written expression evaluating criteria