

Secondary prepositions constitute an interesting field of study, making it possible for the class of prepositions to expand. In the present thesis we shall try to address several questions which pose themselves in connection with this sub-class. The class appears to be heterogeneous with respect to the origin, semantic characteristics, and the degree to which the prepositions can be considered well-established or of a more ad hoc, occasional nature. This may also be influenced by the style of the text in which they are used.

We shall focus on secondary prepositions in contemporary British newspapers, comparing their occurrence in the quality papers and in tabloids. We shall compare our findings with the situation in contemporary Czech newspapers, using Mladá fronta DNES and Blesk as sources of excerption.

In the Czech language secondary prepositions seem to be a typical feature of technical style where the phenomena examined has to be expressed absolutely precisely. Secondary prepositions have been penetrating from the scientific functional style into other styles, mainly to journalistic texts. Hence, the main goal of our dissertation will be collection of language material (secondary prepositions) from English newspaper and its further analysis observing the criteria stated in further sections of this work to find out if secondary prepositions represent a common device of English journalistic style.

Our research will be conducted by comparing two types of newspapers – broadsheets (The Daily Mail) and tabloids (The Sun). Owing to such different character of these newspapers we expect to obtain very different results from each newspaper.