

TITLE:

**Verbal communication competences of Roma pupils as a condition for their school success**

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ABSTRACT:

The subject of this dissertation is the school success of Roma pupils at the beginning of primary education and the obstacles that Roma pupils encounter in this period. The aim of the dissertation is to find out how the verbal-communicative competences of Roma pupils are influenced by the communicative language in the family and what influence it has on the pupil's school success. This main objective has been operationalised into individual partial objectives, which correspond in their nature to the linguistic levels of communicative competence and define a specific dimension of the investigation. A qualitative case study approach characterized by a combination of different information gathering techniques was used to process data from Roma pupils. It was mainly observation, interviews and document analysis – namely of the results of the Battery of Tests to determine the status of the linguistic levels of Czech among Roma pupils in the first grade. It is a non-standardized instrument that was created for the purpose of this dissertation. The work is useful mainly in the overall picture of the conditions of the formation of the language code of the Roma child and demonstrates what all is involved in it. The results of the empirical research may enable teachers to gain a better insight into the teaching of the Czech language and to become aware of the basis for some of the errors in the speech of Roma pupils. However, it can also help pedagogical and social workers, as well as all persons and institutions interested in supporting education of Roma pupils, to change their perspective on what is affecting Roma pupils and students on their way to education and thus enable them to better target their interventions.

KEYWORDS:

Roma pupil, school success, first grade, teacher, Romani language, language barrier, bilingualism, language interference, communicative competence, integration, inclusion, educational approaches.