

Abstract

The main aim of this bachelor thesis was to describe prosodic phrasing in the TV debate genre in the context of comparing Czech with American English. The aim was to find similarities and differences between the two languages/cultures in the area of phrasing and to see if inter-individual or intra-individual differences are greater than the differences between the situation in Czech and American English. 4 different sets of recordings of televised political debates (Nedělní partie and Arizona Horizon's), 2 Czech and 2 English, were analyzed, with a total of 14 speakers, two of whom, the moderators, were repeated in the same debate, bringing the total number of speakers to 12. The data for the analysis were provided by the Phonetic Institute of the Faculty of Arts of Charles University under the COCODA principle. For each speaker, the number of words, syllables and vowels per phonemic clause was analysed. To extract the resulting data, I used scripts from the phonetic software Praat. The shortest and longest phrases were also examined in an attempt to figure out if these phenomena are somehow generalizable in this genre of conversational speech. The results of this research show that although speakers differ within language groups, the personality of some individuals and the environment in which the debate takes place are even more relevant in this case.