

Abstract:

The thesis has two aims. The first aim is to find out how are motion events expressed in Czech and Japanese. The second aim is to observe how are the translators of literature between those two languages able to deal with the issues arising from the typological difference described by the linguist Leonard Talmy. The thesis consists of a theoretical and a practical part. In the theoretical part I explain the typology of languages according to Leonard Talmy based on what information about movement is carried by the verb root and what is expressed on the adverbial development. Then I introduce several reactions to his theory and the development of the discourse surrounding it. The theoretical part is concluded with summary of the means of expression of motion events in Czech and Japanese themselves.

In the practical part I conduct my own research by a corpus study of comparing the expression of motion events. The excerpt data consists of examples from three works of fiction in Czech and three works in Japanese and their translations. The analysis focuses on the means of expressing the manner and the direction of the movement. In the conclusion I sum up the results and compare the tendencies of the corpus data with Talmy's predictions.

key words: motion event, motion verbs, verb semantic typology, corpus linguistics, parallel corpus