

Abstract

Classical languages - Latin and Greek - have been influencing the vocabulary of the Czech language throughout its independent development. Both languages contribute to the process of creating new words to a large extent even today. This does not apply only to terminologies of various scientific fields but also to the naming of phenomena and facts of our everyday life. In connection with globalization and the general effort for language internationalization, classical languages, thanks to their flexibility and ability to link with domestic and foreign word-forming components, are very intensively involved in neology. The aim of this dissertation is to demonstrate how high the level of understanding of word-forming components from Latin and Greek is shown by students in the 1st and 4th year of the four-year general grammar school, and to what extent possible unfamiliarity prevents them from a correct understanding of similarly formed expressions. The tool for determining the scope of knowledge among students was a didactic test administered at five four-year grammar schools in the Czech Republic, and every time, for comparison, in all parallels of the 1st and 4th year. The results of the research may help to improve the didactic processing of the curriculum in Czech language classes, and to enhance cross-subject integration with other disciplines such as physics, biology, history or foreign languages.

Keywords

Prefixes, prefixoids, Latin word-forming components, Greek word-forming components, foreign words in Czech