

The aim of this theoretical/empirical study was to observe whether and how the position of a text on the oral-literate continuum changes in simultaneous interpretation and to find out whether this change is dependent on the direction of interpreting, i.e. whether it is different when interpreting into language A and language B.

The study was inspired by a similar experiment, presented as an M.A. thesis by Miriam Shlesinger in 1989. However, this study was carried out using a different language combination (Czech being the source and English being the target language in all cases). Compared to Shlesinger's study, the above-mentioned aspect of directionality of interpreting was also incorporated.

In the theoretical part, attention was focused on two main areas. The first one was the area of orality and literacy. In this section, an attempt was made to synthesize the existing information about this subject. The terms 'orality' and 'literacy' were defined from different points of view and the differences between spoken and written texts on the one hand, and oral and literate text on the other hand, were described. At the end of this section the characteristic features of literate and oral texts were discussed.