

My bachelor thesis will deal with the English infinitive in adverbial function and its translation counterparts in Czech. An infinitive in adverbial function mostly expresses purpose, effect, intention, cause or concession, in the beginning of the clause it may function as a conjunct or style disjunct. In Czech, these adverbial functions are implied mainly by a finite dependent clause.

The main aim of the theoretical introduction is, firstly, to describe and analyse functions of the infinitive in English syntax. The infinitive will be presented in a broader context, i.e., within the concept of complex condensation, especially with the focus on its grammatical qualities. A comparison between English and Czech condensators will be made, as the analytical and synthetic nature of those languages, respectively, represents fertile grounds for comparison. English, with its preference of nominal constructions and reduced dynamism of the finite verb will be compared with Czech, where the lack of preference for nominal constructions can be observed.

Further on, we will examine the difference between finite and non-finite verb forms in order to illustrate their properties and point out the syntactic and morphological differences between the two. Distinction between the grammatical categories will prepare the ground for the distinction between the two verb forms. This distinction shall be crucial for understanding the actual character of the non-finite verb form as such.

Lastly, the infinitive itself will be considered. The infinitive as a nominal clause element and its syntactic functions will then be determined, and focus will be put on the infinitive in adverbial function. Semantic roles of the adverbial infinitive will be described and criteria for their analysis will be considered.