

ABSTRACT

The present work studies English optative sentences introduced by *if only* and *I wish* and their Czech translation counterparts. Optative sentences introduced by *I wish* are followed by a nominal content clause and those introduced by *if only* represent subordinate clauses with the matrix clause being absent. The main aim of the present thesis is the analysis of the Czech translation counterparts, particularly the means that are used for translation with regard to the orientation of the wish, i.e. wishes referring to the present, to the future and to the past. The possible translations include structures with lexical predicators, sentences introduced by Czech optative particles, non-finite constructions as well as other structures that semantically express the discourse function of wish. In addition, attention is paid to the un/realizability of the wish and its influence on the translation. The analysis is performed on one hundred examples – 50 introduced by *if only* and 50 by *I wish*– which were excerpted from the parallel corpus InterCorp being accessible through the Czech National Corpus website.