

## Abstract

This diploma thesis examines functions of the modal verb *should* in nominal content clauses introduced by the conjunction *that*. The Czech counterparts of the English sentences are considered as well. The research focuses on the so-called putative *should* which occurs after main clauses with directive, epistemic, attitudinal, evaluative and volitional expressions. *Should* expressing intrinsic (root) modality (expressing permission, obligation or ability) is left out of account. The work pays attention to the basic classification of nominal content clauses deriving from a verbal form alternating with putative *should*. Two kinds of putative *should* will be dealt with, namely *should* after directive and volitional expressions which could have its alternative form in the present subjunctive and *should* after epistemic, attitudinal and evaluative expressions which could possibly alternate with the indicative. The work examines these verbal forms in relation to the intentional modality of the sentence in an independent form (e.g. declarative, interrogative or imperative sentence).

The work is divided into two parts: theoretical and practical. The theoretical part of the work describes the basic classification of all central modal verbs in English and putative *should* in terms of its relation towards the indicative and present subjunctive. Ambiguity is mentioned as well, as it is a fairly common case with this type of *should*. The practical part of the work encompasses an analysis of 200 examples of *should* whose subordinate clauses are introduced with the conjunction *that*. The examples are divided into groups and subgroups according to their nature. The research material includes 200 examples of putative *should* and their Czech equivalents excerpted from the parallel corpus InterCorp. (<http://www.korpus.cz/Park/selectCorp>)

The goal of the research is to determine where the differences between putative *should* possibly alternating with the present subjunctive and indicative are reflected in Czech, i.e. the usage of the conjunction *aby* vs *že*. The verbal and temporal forms in the case of alternation are considered as well. Finally, the work will also define borderline cases which do not display the difference of these forms.