

**Abstract (in English):**

In many studies there was demonstrated that word's imageability – the ability of a word to produce a mental image of its referent – affects the processing of its inflection (e.g. Prado – Ullman, 2009), its acquisition (e.g. McDonough et al., 2011) and the acquisition of grammatical morphemes (Smolik, in press). This thesis builds on the Smolik's paper, and its goal is to test whether the imageability of a word's stem influences the acquisition of its inflections in Czech children. Word imageability ratings and ratings of other variables that were assumed to affect the process of the acquisition of word inflections, were collected, then questionnaires were distributed to parents to examine how the forms of chosen words are acquired by children. The focus was on the acquisition of nominative plural of nouns, present tense in second person and past tense of verbs. The results show that the imageability significantly predicts the age of acquisition of the nominative in singular and all observed forms of verbs. The absence of the imageability effect on the acquisition of nominative in plural may be due to the overall high imageability and thus reduced variability of ratings in nouns in our dataset. Two possible explanations of the imageability effect on the acquisition of morphological suffixes are given. One possibility is that the highly imageable words save the mental resources and that the saved resources may be used for the formation of the inflected form or for formulating the construction of which the word form is a part. The other explanation is that the highly imageable words are more easily stored in semantic memory and more easily retrieved – children may forms of highly imageable words better memorize, retrieve and hence start to produce earlier than forms of lowly imageable words. The implications and consequences of the possible explanations and the influence of the other possible factors that may be connected with imageability effect are discussed in detail.