

**Abstract:**

The goal of this text is to describe the origin of the vocabulary of two Romance languages; Portuguese and Spanish. After the theoretical part, I would like to summarize the composition of the vocabulary of both languages. Also, I would like to describe the main factors which influenced both languages in past and including today. Other task will be description of historical, political and economical aspects which caused these differences in the vocabulary.

Indisputable fact is that Spanish and Portuguese are Romance languages, and it is not surprising for us that the most part of the vocabulary comes from Latin. However, Germanic and Arabic languages had also significant impact. Moreover, the native inhabitants of America, Africa and Asia, who lived in the „newly“ discovered parts of the world, played role in the vocabulary of these two (not just these) European nations.

In modern age the influence of other European powers is increasing. This applies for example for French (fashion, gastronomy), Italian (art, music, gastronomy), English (new technologies, computer science, science, sport), etc.

The outcome of this work should be the summary of which languages and nations most affected the vocabulary of Portuguese and Spanish languages and where we can find the biggest difference between them. Also I would like to describe why these differences occurred.

Key words: lexicology, vocabulary, Portuguese, Spanish