Abstract

The diploma thesis deals with communication between the child and his/her father. The first part defines basic theoretical terms and summarizes the results of previous research trying to explain the principles of child language acquisition and outline the central features of child-directed speech. The theoretical part is based on information from scientific publications that suggest possible causes of differences between the father’s and the mother’s child-directed speech.

The second part of the thesis consists of individual case studies focusing on the analysis of the audio recordings of natural father-child communication. All participating families signed an informed consent. The recordings were transcribed according to the transcription format of the CHAT system, which is a part of the CHILDES acquisition database. The chapters concerning communication strategies and selected pragmatic, lexical, and syntactic features of the father’s child-oriented speech were compared to the findings in the scientific literature. Due to a lack of research results in the Czech language environment, mainly Slovak publications were used for the comparison.

Keywords

communication, father, child, father’s child-oriented speech