Abstract

This thesis examines the conceptualization of life in the lyrics of Czech popular songs of 1960s. The thesis derives theoretically and methodologically from cognitively and culturally-based approaches to language, especially from the theory of conceptual metaphor and metonymy (e. g. Lakoff and Johnson) and the concept of language as a picture of the world (school of Lublin).

At first the thesis analyses the semantics of lexeme life. The analysis is based on the data from dictionaries and it reaches the basics of the linguistic picture of life as it is anchored in common language. Simultaneously the thesis works with the picture of life (in contrast with death) how it is served in the literature about Czech folk culture.

The main part of this study consists of almost a hundred interpretations of lyrics from the examined period, which depict human life in its various stages and forms (through oppositions of life - death, youth - old age, etc.). The analysis follows relevant semantic elements which participate on its conceptualization. The thesis describes systematically and in detail particularly metaphors (structural, ontological and orientational), metonymy, and also the image schemes which are associated with life (scheme of JOURNEY, CYCLE). The attention is paid to their specific language implementation.

Keywords

cognitive linguistics, Linguistic Picture of the World, conceptualization, metaphor, metonymy, image schema, live, song, pop music, lyrics