Abstract
This diploma thesis presents a contrastive description of reporting clauses in present-day original Czech and American fiction (published and awarded in 2010-2015). The examined reported clauses are limited to direct speech marked with a conventional means of punctuation. Based on six samples of fiction, three American ones and three Czech ones, this thesis examines reporting verbs, their diversity, the nature of the subject of reporting clauses, modification by adjuncts, the presence of an object expressing the addressee and the position of reporting clauses with respect to their reported clauses. It also scrutinizes the instances of leaving the reporting clause unexpressed and of certain transient forms. The ascertained values are then compared with a translatology paper on the same topic.

The findings of this thesis confirm that while Czech reporting clauses strive for diversity by a number of means, English reporting clauses strive for inconspicuousness.

This thesis attempts to contribute to a better understanding of reporting clauses. The outlined findings may be helpful especially to translators and fiction writers.