Abstract

The English verb *need (to)* belongs to the class of verbs which show characteristics of both modal and lexical verbs. The aim of the study is to provide a description of the verb with respect to its semantics, use and grammatical features. The first theoretical part summarizes theoretical findings about the verb *need (to)* and marginal modals and modality in general. Furthermore, it briefly touches upon the issue of expressing modality in Czech. The empirical part is then based on the analysis of selected examples extracted from the English-Czech part of the parallel corpus InterCorp. The analysis examines the proportion of the use of *need* and *need to* and the means of their translation in Czech – whether the corresponding Czech sentences include modal verbs, modal adverbs, verbal or verbo-nominal constructions meaning *potřebovat* or completely different means.