

Abstract

The present thesis is concerned with the phenomenon of language transfer of fluency in spontaneous speech of advanced learners of English, whose first language is Czech. Particularly, it considers the transfer of speech rate and two selected speech management strategies: filled pauses and repeats. These strategies commonly occur in the speech of native speakers. Non-native speakers, however, tend to overuse these and the difference in distribution as compared to native speech can negatively influence their fluency. The thesis examines the hypothesis that speech rate and the use of filled pauses and repeats are affected by transfer from L1 alongside increased planning pressures, leading to overuse of these strategies in the speech of advanced learners and the differences in distribution. The data for analysis were taken from English and Czech recordings of eight advanced learners.