

# Colour terms in three languages: their distribution and function

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## ABSTRACT

Czech, English and Dutch colour adjectives are examined on the basis of InterCorp and other data to establish their equivalence where the very different numbers representing the three languages readily point to some major overlap in interlingual relations. The most conspicuous cases are discussed against the background of the typological features of these languages. There exist some familiar differences, such as the Czech *červený-rudý* corresponding to a single English equivalent, *red*, or the Dutch *rood*, although other, less familiar discrepancies may be found as well, such as the Dutch *roos-roze* for *pink*, *růžový*, occurring mostly in compounds.

Out of the three basic sentence functions of adjectives which may be (1) attributiva tantum, (2) predicativa tantum, or have (3) non-specialized function, it is the last use (3) that is chosen for a further examination based on the available corpus data, as colour terms occur in all standard syntactic positions. However, only the predicative use of these colour adjectives is focused on as it appears to be special and not much research interest has been paid to it in general. Overall, the research did not produce a sufficient number of examples to allow detailed conclusions.

## KEYWORDS

colour universals, parallel corpus, Czech, English, Dutch

## 1. COLOUR TERMS: INTRODUCTION

If a comparison cannot be made directly between two objects, any other comparison is mostly viable only where a clear tertium comparationis (a third element) providing a platform of reference between the two (or more) objects is available. This tertium comparationis is external to the objects compared, in contrast to a direct comparison where one of the objects becomes such a (third) element of comparison. In the case of colour terms it is reasonable to leave aside the possibility of measuring the physical wavelength of a particular colour as it would not tell us much anyway, even though it is possible. Such information would be only general and impossible to relate to a specific human language perception of colour. In the case of colours or, rather, colour names, this tertium comparationis is then only a particular colour name in a particular language, nothing more as there is no external standard available. In languages, as we know, the situation is far from simple, offering few exact counterparts between them. We may recall the pioneering research by Berlin and Kay (1969) and the subsequent protracted discussion of the issue of possible colour name universals and their distribution over languages.

The goal of the present study, a comparison of the basic colour terms in three languages, Czech, English and Dutch, based on the InterCorp, one of the largest non-

Internet multilingual parallel corpora (Čermák, in print), may seem to be limited, as the number of language pairs (compared in both directions) is small and the number of texts is small too (three original texts with translations: Kundera for Czech, Adams and Rowling for English, and no original text for Dutch, only Dutch translations from Czech and English). Hence, the data used here is not quite balanced. Unfortunately, at the time of writing (spring 2012), there was no suitable Dutch original available in the InterCorp that would be translated into the other two languages. Still, if we take this study as a preliminary fact-finding probe, preceding larger-scale research, it might actually be seen as a good start, however modest. It is obvious that each of the three languages examined will, in turn, serve as a *tertium comparationis*. Typologically, it may be useful to note that each language displays different features, representing three dominant language types and their dominant traits, inflectional (Czech), isolating (English) and agglutinative (Dutch).

The general functional framework for adjectives is simple, including those used either

- (a) attributively only, i.e. before nouns and related to them (*attributiva tantum*, e.g. *very*, *upper*, *sheer*), or
- (b) predicatively only, i.e. after a predicate verb (*predicativa tantum*, e.g. *afraid of*, *fond of*), or, finally, having
- (c) both functions and, therefore, not functionally specific (e.g. *interesting*, *metallic*); this group involves most adjectives.

It will be interesting to find out where the colour terms stand in this framework.

The main questions to be asked are:

Is the number of basic colour terms the same in all three languages?

What are the observable differences between the equivalents?

What is the distribution of the colour terms in the three languages?

The first and the second question will be answered in detail during the analysis of the results obtained, while a general outline of the distribution of the colour terms (the last question) will be offered in Section 2 below. However, a preliminary answer to the first two questions, based on common sense and experience, is obvious: the number of colour terms is not the same and there are, accordingly, many differences between the languages in colours and their equivalents.

Any analysis of a language pair, based on translation, must allow for mismatches. They are either due to the translator's mistake, oversight or unusual interpretation of the text when the translator chose to view it somewhat differently and diverge from, say, a standard dictionary equivalent and general expectation. The isolated status of such mismatches (some of which will be pointed out in the following) is indicated by their low frequency of use. Obviously, they can hardly be recognized as standard translation counterparts.

By way of a warning it must be said that only those equivalents were inspected that were identified automatically by the PARK software used in the InterCorp, with

some manual input behind it, however. There is no way to know the margin of error caused by this procedure; in the following, it will be bracketed under the general label *omission*.

## 2. BASIC COLOUR TERMS AND THEIR COMPARISON

It is an interesting task to compare a very small sample of a language in a rather well-defined area, such as the three texts and the colour terms used here and their translations or translation equivalents. It is even more interesting to observe their distribution following, basically, from the nature of the texts and the specific topics dealt with. In this respect the distribution is due to chance only. To see how different the distribution is from the perspective of an objective tertium comparationis of sorts, we will compare the text distribution of the colour terms using two basically objective and general standards.

One is offered by the results of Berlin and Kay's (1969) universal research study based on more than 100 languages. Their original finding was that there is a numeric scale of various colour terms in various languages starting with as few as two and ending with 11 and more, namely

***black, white, red, green, yellow, blue, brown, purple, pink, orange, grey***

This scale should, however, be read in an inclusive way. To demonstrate this, two signs will be used, namely a slash / (denoting possible alternatives, i.e. 'or', but also inclusion of both or all items) and an arrow ← (denoting inclusion on the scale, meaning that any term occurring on the scale to the left of the one chosen must obtain in the particular language as well). Thus

***black/white ← red ← green/yellow ← blue ← brown/purple/pink/orange/grey***

means that any language which has a name for *blue* must also have all of the colour terms to the left of *blue* on the scale. Despite lengthy discussions, this pattern of colour term occurrence in languages has been generally proved universal, while it is stressed that the occurrence of colour terms in individual languages is relative. This strongly goes against the primitive view that since people around the world have the same eyes they will (a) perceive the same colours, and (b) call them the same way. While (a) is indisputable, (b) is not true as the results of specific research studies covering languages ranging from Czech, Finnish to Australian languages demonstrate. The situation is highly variable and differs from language to language (see also Omniglot web-page [www.omniglot.com/language/colours/index.php](http://www.omniglot.com/language/colours/index.php)).

The scale of English colour terms above is in fact general and representative of any language and so can serve as a standard. In Czech it corresponds to

***bílý, černý, červený, zelený, žlutý, modrý, hnědý, purpurový, růžový, oranžový and šedý, or***

**bílý/ černý ← červený ← žlutý/ zelený ← modrý ← hnědý ← růžový/ purpurový/ oranžový / šedý.**

As we shall see later, there are many alternative names used for the same colour in one language, one example is the notorious problem of two names for *red* in Czech, *červený* and *rudý*. This kind of splitting the same small semantic space into two or more alternative (and basically synonymous) names is familiar from many languages (e.g. two words in Russian for the English *blue*, etc.). This is not to say that there are no other synonyms for *red* in Czech (in fact, there are at least ten to be found there). But the existence of the Czech *červený* and *rudý* is a different case.

The second standard to be used for comparison is the frequency of these colour terms in a frequency dictionary. Comparing their frequencies with the data in the Czech frequency dictionary and recalculating them according to a balanced distribution by the ARF formula (average reduced frequency, see Čermák and Křen 2004; Čermák and Křen 2011), we get a very different picture, the frequencies being far from the same. The simple, traditional frequency is, basically, similar to that found for English (in Section 4 below) or, remotely, to the sequence found in the InterCorp data. Also their frequency scale has nothing in common with the universalist scale posited by Berlin and Kay, indicating, for example, that the terms *black* (*černý*) and *white* (*bílý*) are far from being top colour terms; in fact they are preceded by a number of other, more frequent terms. The frequency dictionary gives the following scale (ARF)

**růžový** (2303), **hnědý** (2148), **rudý** (2243), **žlutý** (1532), **modrý** (927), **zelený** (798), **červený** (687), **černý** (398), **bílý** (383), **šedý/šedivý** (2534), **fialový** (00).

It may be surprising that the name for *pink* (*růžový*) has the highest frequency of all; no data for *violet* (*fialový*) are due to the size of the dictionary used (the 2011 one used here has only 5000 lemmas, although it is based on a much larger dictionary from 2005, with 50 000 lemmas; both derive from a very large corpus of 100 million words).

However, the obvious starting point for the general framework is English, because of its familiar status and offering at the same time a minimum of terms, with only ten basic language terms used. The adjectives inspected using a mutual interlingual comparison are (starting with English): *black*, *white*, *green*, *red*, *yellow*, *blue*, *grey/gray*, *pink*, *brown*, *violet*.

Some considerations had to be applied to the choice of the basic colour terms and its limitations. Thus, the English term *purple*, one of the basic universals, is not included in the choice of colours used for the examination as in Czech it is split into several equivalents with a very low frequency (*nachový*, *purpurový*, *brunátný*, *rudý*; all of them were found in the InterCorp to translate the English *purple*, although none is dominant). Another decision to be made, to illustrate at least one more of the minor problems, concerned the word class membership problem. In English it is often a problem to distinguish a noun from an adjective: these cases of homonymy (homomorphy) had to have a limiting influence here. This is notoriously illustrated by *orange* which is both a noun (fruit) and adjective (colour), however they might be related.

After taking all these issues into consideration, the distribution of the selected universal colour terms in the Czech and English originals and their Czech, English and Dutch translation counterparts were investigated, correlated and quantified, and the results are presented in Table 1 below.

English		Czech		Dutch		Total
black	97	černý	106	zwart	108	311
white	65	bílý	59	wit	86	210
green	57	zelený	58	groen	48	163
red	44	červený	28	rood	59	131
		rudý	21			21
yellow	27	žlutý	30	geel	32	89
blue	25	modrý	26	blauw	28	79
grey/gray	23	šedý/šedivý	23	grijs	24	70
pink	21	růžový	17	roos	21	59
brown	15	hnědý	11	bruin	11	37
violet	4	fialový	5	paars	15	24
				lila	3	3
	378		384		435	1197

TABLE 1: The distribution of colour terms (as the tertium comparationis) in the InterCorp texts

In practical terms, although Czech is mainly a target language in two translations from English (Adams, Rowling), and in only one case a source language (Kundera), the Czech colour terms will be examined first with respect to the distribution and nature of their translation counterparts of colour terms, or rather their equivalents, in the other languages.

### 3. THE CZECH COLOUR TERMS AND THEIR COUNTERPARTS

Owing to the equivalents occurring in the InterCorp, the original number of 10 colours in English increased to 11 in Czech. This is due to the overlapping use of two terms corresponding to *red*, namely *červený* and *rudý* in Czech (a distinction mentioned above that is lacking in English), which are not significantly different in frequency, however. On the other hand, two names for *grey*, namely *šedý* and *šedivý*, are just historical and stylistic variants of one term only. Although the frequency order of these adjectives is the sum total of the use by the three authors of the three texts only and does not tell us anything about the real general frequency, it may at least suggest certain preferences. Hence the final number of 11 terms, presented in decreasing frequency order that are used here, is the following (without any lemmatization):

**černý** (106), **bílý** (59), **zelený** (58), **žlutý** (30), **červený** (28), **modrý** (26), **šedý/šedivý** (23), **rudý** (21), **růžový** (17), **hnědý** (11), **fialový** (5).

Let us first have an illustration of the first occurrences of *bílý* (*white, w/Wit*) where the correlation is so far rather regular (although the original PARK windows look different).

**Bílý-White-Wit (Czech-English-Dutch):** first examples in context (the original search starting from Czech)

**1-CZ-** *To, co slyšel, se dalo přirovnat k pocitu člověka, jenž se dívá na černou siluetu dvou tváří, a najednou zjistí, že je to vlastně obrázek **bílé** svíčky.*

**EN-** *He was experiencing the aural equivalent of looking at a picture of two black silhouetted faces and suddenly seeing it as a picture of a **white** candlestick.*

**NL-** *Hij onderging het auditieve equivalent van het gevoel dat je krijgt als je naar een plaatje van twee zwarte silhouetten van gezichten kijkt , en je in de ruimte ertussen plotseling een **witte** kandelaar ziet.*

**2-CZ-** *„To to ale bylo snadné,“ libuje si člověk, a protože ještě nemá dost, dokáže, že černé je **bílé**, a na nejbližším přechodu ho zajede auto.*

**EN-** *“Oh, that was easy,” says Man, and for an encore goes on to prove that black is **white** and gets himself killed on the next zebra crossing.*

**NL-** *“Dat was even simpel,” zegt de mens en als toegift bewijst hij dat zwart **wit** is en wordt overreden op het eerste zebra-pad.*

**3-CZ-** *V kabině obdélníkového půdorysu převládala **bílá**. Velikostí se místnost blížila menší restauraci.*

**EN-** *The cabin was mostly **white**, oblong, and about the size of a smallish restaurant.*

**NL-** *Het vertrek was grotendeels in **wit** uitgevoerd , langwerpig en had de grootte van een klein restaurant.*

**4-CZ-** *Seděla na gauči a upřeně se dívala na maličkou klíčku, jejíž obsah byl jejím posledním a jediným požitkem se Zemí — dvě **bílé** myšky. Prosadila tehdy, že jí Zafod dovolil vzít je s sebou.*

**EN-** *She sat on a couch and stared at a small cage which contained her last and only links with Earth — two **white** mice that she had insisted Zaphod let her bring.*

**NL-** *Ze zat op een bank en staarde naar een kleine kooi die het laatste en enige bevatte dat haar met de Aarde verbond — twee **witte** muizen.*

The standard view in the PARK software is vertical, allowing for as many columns as the screen can accommodate. Here, only three columns (Czech, English, and Dutch) for the same data are used to illustrate the output.

intercorp_cs	intercorp_en	intercorp_nl
To, co slyšel, se dalo přirovnat k pocitu člověka, jenž se dívá na černou siluetu dvou tváří, a najednou zjistí, že je to vlastně obrázek ==bílé== svíčky.	He was experiencing the aural equivalent of looking at a picture of two black silhouetted faces and suddenly seeing it as a picture of a white candlestick.	Hij onderging het auditieve equivalent van het gevoel dat je krijgt als je naar een plaatje van twee zwarte silhouetten van gezichten kijkt , en je in de ruimte ertussen plotseling een witte kandelaar ziet.

„To to ale bylo snadné,“ libuje si člověk, a protože ještě nemá dost, dokáže, že černé je ==bílé==, a na nejbližším přechodu ho zajede auto.	“Oh, that was easy,” says Man, and for an encore goes on to prove that black is white and gets himself killed on the next zebra crossing.	“Dat was even simpel,” zegt de mens en als toegift bewijst hij dat zwart wit is en wordt overreden op het eerste het beste zebra-pad.
V kabině obdélníkového půdorysu převládala ==bílá==. Velikostí se místnost blížila menší restauraci.	The cabin was mostly white, oblong, and about the size of a smallish restaurant.	Het vertrek was grotendeels in wit uitgevoerd, angwerpig en had de grootte van een klein restaurant.
Seděla na gauči a upřeně se dívala na maličkou klíčku, jejíž obsah byl jejím posledním a jediným pojitkem se Zemí — dvě ==bílé== myšky. Prosadila tehdy, že jí Zafod dovolil vzít je s sebou.	She sat on a couch and stared at a small cage which contained her last and only links with Earth — two white mice that she had insisted Zaphod let her bring.	Ze zat op een bank en staarde naar een kleine kooi die het laatste en enige bevatte dat haar met de Aarde verbond - twee witte muizen.

TABLE 2: The PARK software view of the data

Studying adjectives does not require much context, as a rule, although it can also be easily enlarged in the software used. Here, a default automatic solution restricting it to one sentence is offered.

The most frequently used Czech adjective **černý** (106, black) corresponds, surprisingly, to the English *black* in slightly over half of the uses (56×) only, some of which are compounds such as *black-haired*, the rest being different. However, *dark* as the closest equivalent next to *black* is used (31×); in addition, there have been six omissions. The expected intuitive correspondence one to one has thus not been found.

The Czech-Dutch comparison seems to be only slightly better, yielding *zwart/e* (64×), the other equivalent was *donker/e*, although once *duister* was used, too; the rest are omissions. However, Dutch equivalents include, here and elsewhere, a number of compounds, such as *zwartgallig* (*gepeins*, i.e. thoughts), *inktzwart* (*meer*, i.e. lake), *pikzwart* (*haar*, i.e. hair, *ballen*, i.e. balls), *gitzwarte* (*lichaam*, i.e. dragon body). The 5 uses of compounds in Dutch are typical and do not generally correspond directly to the counterparts in the other languages. Rather, it is the translator's clever interpretation of the original texts.

**Bílý** (59, white), coming second in text frequency, has a rather safe equivalent in the English *white* although it was once left out and once the equivalent *silver* appeared. A notable exception, as expected, was found, here and elsewhere, in the translation of idioms and set phrases. Thus the Czech idiom *za bílého dne* is rendered as *in (broad) daylight* where no colour term is used.

Almost the same holds for Dutch (*wit/witte* including the inflected form), where, however, 4 omissions were found and one unexpected equivalent *bleek* (i.e. pale), although that is also due to an idiom (collocation), i.e. *Haar lippen waren bleek*, translating *Her lips were white*. Similarly the Czech idiom *za bílého dne* mentioned above is translated differently, namely by *op klaarlichte dag* using no colour term.

The third most frequent Czech adjective is **zelený** (58, green). It also has a rather safe equivalent in the English *green* which was used as a translation counterpart in almost all cases. The two infrequent exceptions are one omission and one alternative equivalent *emerald*.

The Dutch translation, too, consistently used the expected equivalent pair, *groen/groene* (the longer being the inflected form), except for two cases with no equivalent. Also, compounds such as *donkergroen*, *lichtgroen*, *gifgroen*, *felgroen*, *smaragdgroen*, etc., were frequently employed.

**Žlutý** (30, yellow) has a significantly lower frequency of use, having, basically, always the same English equivalent *yellow*, with one exception where a compound is used, namely *sandy-haired* (2×).

Dutch is similar in using *geel/gele* with only two omissions and, interestingly, one different option *rossig/e* appearing unexpectedly where the English has the compound *sandy-haired*.

**Červený** (28, red) has its basic equivalent in the English *red* although it is left out three times or translated by *scarlet* (4 times). There is, however, one odd mismatch between the English *black* in the original and the Czech translation using *červený*, presumably due to an oversight on the part of the Czech translator. There is, however, a far greater problem in correspondence here, as has been signalled above, owing to the continuum of the English (and Dutch) *red* being split in Czech into two names, *červený* and *rudý* (see below). Hence, any comparison has to take into account both Czech terms corresponding, basically, to only one term in English and Dutch.

The equivalence of the Dutch *rood/rode* is similar to that of the English *red*, showing the same *červený-black* mismatch and one omission.

**Modrý** (26, blue) remarkably has the safest, one hundred percent correlation with the English *blue*, and the same holds for Dutch *blauw/e*.

**Šedý/šedivý** (23, grey) has, likewise, almost a default equivalent in the English *grey/gray* (the former appears to be the more frequent in use in Britain, the latter is generally regarded as the US spelling variant). Interestingly, *gray* is more frequent than *grey* (14:9), which may be indicative of where the translation was published. There is also one omission.

The Dutch counterparts are not so straightforward, however. The basic equivalent is *grijs/grijze*, but *grauw* is used twice alongside one typical compound *staalachtig* and one omission.

**Rudý** (21, red), corresponding to the English *red*, is slightly less frequent than its competitor *červený* (see above); another equivalent, *scarlet*, is also found (2). The omissions of *rudý* are due to the non-occurrence of a colour term in the idioms used in the original English text which are translated by an equivalent using *rudý* in Czech, such as *blush up to his ear* (*byl rudý až za ušima*) or *face like a gigantic beet*, a special case being *flushed faces*.

In Dutch, the basic equivalent is *rood/rode* although twice *paars* is used, too; there is one omission recorded. Again, due to the absence of a colour term in the original English, no equivalent colour term is used corresponding to the *een reusachtige biet* (*gigantic beet*), either.

The remaining three colours are, due to their low frequency, rather marginal.

**Růžový** (17, pink) has always the English counterpart *pink*, although Dutch uses *roos/roze* and in one case *blos*. The variant *rozen*, found in compounds only, is homonymous and is related to *roos* (flower rose).

**Hnědý** (11, brown) is *brown* in English, another found equivalent being *maroon* in two cases, while Dutch has *bruin*; the only occurrence of *zwart* is an odd mismatch.

Finally, **fialový** (5, violet) corresponds to the English *violet* mostly, although also to *mauve* (4:2), while Dutch has *lila* and *paars* (3:2).

#### 4. THE ENGLISH AND DUTCH COLOUR TERMS AND THEIR CZECH COUNTERPARTS

Naturally, due to the uneven number of represented colour names and almost no one-to-one correspondence (i.e. strict colour-to-colour correlation), the Czech colour equivalents of the English and Dutch colour terms may not seem (a) to be the same numerically and (b) to be equally represented unlike in Section 3.

While no systematic attempt will be made here to go into details as to (b), the answer for (a) is the different number of colour terms, i.e. 10 in English and 11 in Dutch, which has certain consequences. We will now reverse the starting point of view, which in the previous section was that of the Czech language. While there Czech was used as the (first) tertium comparationis, in the following the function of tertium comparationis will be performed by English and Dutch, respectively.

Looking first at the same data starting from **English**, it may be surprising to find that the overall figures reflecting the number of occurrences are not the same, either. They are in descending order as follows

**black** (97), **white** (65), **green** (57), **red** (44), **yellow** (27), **blue** (25), **grey/gray** (23), **pink** (21), **brown** (15), **violet** (4).

Likewise, the figures for **Dutch** are different:

**zwart** (108), **wit** (86), **rood** (59), **groen** (48), **geel** (32), **blauw** (28), **grijs** (24), **roos** (21), **paars** (15), **bruin** (11), **lila** (3).

To offer at least some explanation for this, let us notice two factors. The first one, the existence of *červený-rudý* in Czech (both signifying *red* in English or *rood* in Dutch), has been mentioned above. On a closer look, the English and Dutch names should numerically be roughly the same but they are not. The discrepancy is to be sought in the number of other alternative colour names used in English, such as *scarlet*, *purple* and some omissions.

The other factor is the special situation with the distribution of colour names that are covered in both Czech and English by a single term, namely *fialový* and *violet*. The situation is not unlike that of the two Czech equivalents of *red*. The Dutch language uses *paars* and *lila* here (found in a 15:3 ratio) and in some cases, also *roos* (which, however, basically corresponds to *pink*).

Obviously, due to the absence of strict one-to-one correspondence, any detailed analysis would lead inevitably outside the (only seemingly) closed circle of 10/11 colours and that was not the aim of this study. Thus the Dutch *paars* would elicit also *nachový* and *purpurový* in Czech (not included in the analysis), etc.

Finally, yet another factor explaining some of the differences is the **word class membership** following from the word-formation potential. Czech, typologically an inflectional language, allows rich derivation where in other languages there might be other possibilities. Thus such cases as *turn/grow red* in English correspond to the Czech *rudnout*, where the original adjective *rudý* (*red*) has been changed into a verb. Similar instances are represented by *zčervenat* (*turn red*) and *zezelenat* (*turn green*).

## 5. FUNCTIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE ADJECTIVES DENOTING COLOUR IN THE THREE LANGUAGES

The last question raised in Section 1 concerned the functional distribution of colour adjectives. Although none of the adjectives belongs to the type *predicativum tantum*, it was somewhat surprising to find that in spite of the adjectives being occasionally used in the predicate, i.e. following a verb, such use is rather marginal. The overwhelming majority of occurrences (out of the total of almost 400 examined in Czech) represent attributive use, i. e. the structure **Adjective + Noun**.

Only 3 adjectives out of 11 were found in the predicate and then in only 9 cases (the examples are given in Czech, in the other two languages the picture is the same). These nine occurrences include *bílý* (3×), *zelený* (2×) and *šedivý* (4×). The specific examples of the structure used, namely **Verb + Adjective**, involve verbs of general meaning, primarily the copula *být* (*to be*) found 7 times, and the verb *vypadat* (*look*). From the functional point of view the distribution of colour adjectives thus shows the ratio of about 1 : 40 (predicative vs. attributive use). It seems, then, that colour terms are typically attributive adjectives.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

The total of some 1200 occurrences of 11/10 colour terms in the Czech, English and Dutch texts may not be enough for in-depth research but that was not the goal. Instead, the study, meant as a probe into a largely unknown field, reveals some basic possibilities of investigation that should be followed up by further research. It shows primarily what the specific and detailed equivalents of 11 initial Czech colour adjectives in the other two languages are like and the strength of these individual correlations.

Surprisingly, only *modrý-blue-blaauw* were found to exhibit an exclusive and fool-proof correlation, the strongest among all of the investigated colour terms, i.e. a **one-to-one correlation**, while the rest displayed, to a varying degree, a **one-to-many correlation**.

Thus, on a general level, the expectation that languages do not correspond to each other in any simple and straightforward way has been confirmed.

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## ONLINE SOURCES

InterCorp:

<http://www.korpus.cz/intercorp/>

**INTERCORP BOOKS:**

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