

## **Abstract**

The thesis focuses on lexical retrieval in bilinguals' first language. The aim of the work is to follow up on the research conducted abroad which has shown that lexical retrieval in the first language of bilinguals is slower than lexical retrieval in matched monolinguals. The present thesis is based on an experiment consisting of a verbal fluency task and a picture naming task; the participants were 152+120 students of the Faculty of Arts of Charles University with varying levels of their L2 (ranging from speakers with low proficiency in L2 to almost balanced bilinguals). In contrast to the previous research, this project thus views L2 proficiency as differentiated along a scale. The results of both tasks suggest that lexical retrieval in native speakers of Czech with high proficiency in L2 is not slower than in matched speakers with low proficiency in L2. Analysis of reaction times in the picture naming task also indicates the involvement of frequency and cognate effects.