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Anglické existenciální a existenciálně-
-lokativní konstrukce (*there + be*) a jejich
české protějšky

English existential and existential-locative
constructions (*there + be*) and their Czech
counterparts

BAKALÁŘSKÁ PRÁCE

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Abbreviations

Adv	adverbial
CD	communicative dynamism
Exist	existential
Exist-loc	existential-locative
FSP	functional sentence perspective
NP	noun phrase
PP	prepositional phrase
S	subject
V	verb
VP	verb phrase
HP	<i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i>
EP	<i>The English Patient</i>

1. Introduction

The area of English existential and existential-locative constructions with *there* in the position of subject raises many questions, ranging from determining the syntactic role of *there* itself to the various types of extensions these constructions may take as well as their role in functional sentence perspective (FSP). Their Czech counterparts are also worth considering as there are no formally similar means in Czech. Moreover, we hope to demonstrate that the translations into Czech may draw our attention to certain features of the English *there* constructions which come into focus due to the differences between the two languages, especially on the level of FSP.¹ This thesis analyses different types of English *there* constructions and their Czech counterparts. It attempts to provide an analysis of these constructions based on their formal features and their function, with regard to the corresponding syntactical structures in Czech.

The material analysed here was drawn from two English novels, Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient* and J.K.Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, and their translations to Czech. We used *Paraconc*, parallel concordance software which makes it possible to view simultaneously parallel segments of English texts and their Czech translations.² There were excerpted one hundred examples of English *there* constructions together with their Czech equivalents. The theoretical basis of the thesis is provided mainly by *Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny* (Dušková, 1994) together with *The Cambridge Grammar of the*

¹ The means of indicating the degree of communicative dynamism (linear modification, context, semantics, intonation) are employed in different ways in Czech and in English. While In Czech the FSP function is the main word-order principle, in English the fixed word order may hinder the role of linear modification as a FSP factor. The *there* constructions are therefore one of the means English has at its disposal to remove the subject from its pre-verbal position.

² The thesis is a part of the research project Czech National Corpus and Corpora of Other Languages, the English Section, MSM 0021620823; <<http://ucnk.ff.cuni.cz>>

English Language (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002) and *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (Quirk et al., 1985).³

³ For other studies used, see Sources.

2. Theoretical background

Generally, the English existential (Exist) and existential-locative (Exist-loc) constructions are used to express the existence of an entity/object/idea or its existence in a certain space and/or a period of time. They have a presentative nature, which means that they introduce new information into the discourse. The terms 'existential' and 'existential-locative' are used for the constructions in which the function word *there* and the existential verb *be* are combined. These represent an autonomous sentence type with the clause pattern $S_{\text{existential}} \text{ there-V } be-S_{\text{notional}}$. However, there may be found combinations of *there* with other, mostly intransitive, verbs.⁴ In such constructions, referred to as "presentational clauses" in *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1402-3), asserting the existence of something or someone is conveyed by the verb. They maintain the general presentative character of *there* constructions. In this thesis, the term '*there* constructions' is used to designate sentences with *there* in the position of subject.

In this chapter the constitutive elements of *there* constructions are described, including the subject *there*, the nature of their notional subject and its modification, and the verb *be* as well as other verbs that may occur in its place. A survey follows of the functions of *there* constructions.

⁴ Quirk et al. claim the use of transitive verbs in Ex sentences to be rare (e.g. ?*There struck me a sudden idea.* - the question mark indicates that native speakers are unsure about the acceptability of the construction). However, he approves of the interpretation that examples with passives may be regarded as special cases of *be* existentials, e.g. *There was a gold medal presented (to the winner) by the mayor.* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1409)

2.1 The form of *there* constructions

2.1.1 *There*

In the Exist and Ex-loc constructions *there* occupies the position of subject and thus acts as a constitutive clause element of these sentence types. Unlike the adverbial demonstrative *there* that has a full pronunciation [ðɛə], the existential *there* has a reduced pronunciation [ðə]. It is not rare for the adverbial *there* to occur together with the existential *there* in one sentence; such cases clearly show the difference in the functions of the two words, e.g. *There are some quite ordinary trees there, and some real grass.* (Dušková, 1994: 392) Quirk et al. point out that "the absence of locative meaning is indicated by the acceptability of the existential sentence with *here* co-occurring with introductory *there*: *There's a screwdriver here.*" (Quirk et al., 1985: 1405)

The subject interpretation of *there* is further supported by the fact that it is repeated as the subject in tag questions, e.g. *There's no pleasing him, is there?* (Dušková, 1994: 393), and in short replies to *yes/no* questions, e.g. *Is there any news? - No, there isn't.* (ibid.) It can also act as secondary subject in infinitive, gerund and participial clauses, e.g. *I don't want there to be any misunderstanding. He was disappointed at there being so little to do. There having been trouble over this in the past, I want to treat the matter cautiously.* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1405)

Jindra adds yet another type of *there*, the one that is used in idiomatic expressions or as an interjection and a means of emphasis: *One false step, and there you are. There now!* (Jindra, 1965: 224)

In her *Note on 'there is'* Dušková makes a remark regarding the disagreement as to the syntactic role of *there*. There are two main opposing conceptions concerning the function of *there* in the English syntax. The first of them is put forward by

Quirk et al., who identify *there* as a subject. The second is presented in the studies of Poldauf, Jindra and Kirkwood, who treat it as a fixed formula or an introducer. (Dušková, 1999: 87) As has already been stated, Dušková's *Mluvnice angličtiny na pozadí češtiny*, which inclines to the understanding of *there* as a subject, is the primary reference text of this thesis and the analysis carried out here is grounded on its approach.

2.1.2 Verbs in *there* constructions

The most common verb in *there* constructions is the lexical verb *be* which involves in itself the assertion that the subject of the predication *exists*.⁵ Although *be* is by far most frequently used here, there are other, mostly intransitive, verbs that may occur. These usually express position or being (*exist, live, sit, lie*), coming into view or happening (*occur, develop, happen, sound*), movement (*float, run, move*), and the last group includes aspectual verbs such as *begin, remain, persist*. According to *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* the *there* clauses with verbs other than *be*⁶ differ from the Exist *there + be* constructions "with respect to the felicity conditions that apply to the occurrence of definite NPs as displaced subject" (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1402), with definite NPs occurring more readily as displaced subjects in the constructions with verbs other than *be*:

*President Clinton appeared at the podium (...). Behind him there stood/*was the Vice President.*

While we only introduce the NP *the Vice President* into the discourse in this sentence, we expect the addressee to be aware of his existence and thus the NP is addressee-old. (ibid.)

In the combination with verbs other than *be* *there* may be left out on condition that the sentence begins with an adverbial. Dušková comments on the proximity of these sentences to the corresponding structures in Czech; the word order is inverted in both languages: *On the hill (there) stands an old abbey. / Na kopci stojí malé opatství.* (Dušková, 1994: 395).

⁵ Dušková discusses the *there* constructions under the heading of copular predication. (Dušková, 1994: 353 ff)

⁶ *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* calls combinations of *there* with other verb than *be* 'presentational constructions.' (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1402)

Passive constructions with *there* are not very common as they involve transitive verbs, which rarely occur in *there* clauses. Dušková highlights the position of the past participle as crucial in disambiguating the passive from a participial postmodification of the notional subject.⁷ (Dušková, 1999: 93) However, an example is given by Quirk et al. in which the past participle occurs in a position behind the notional subject and still the construction is regarded as passive: *There was a gold medal presented (to the winner) by the mayor.* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1409) The passive interpretation may be supported by the semantics and valency of the verb here, it is ditransitive, and also by expressing the agent of the verbal action. The *there* passive may even occur in perfect tenses: *There's a new grammar been written.*⁸ (ibid.) In any case, passives in these constructions are rare and very formal.

Both *be* and other verbs may be modified by modal verbs: *can*, *may* and *should* are frequent but other modals (*must*, *dare*, *ought to*) may be found, too. (Erdmann, 1990: 74) As for the passive *there* constructions, combinations with modals are feasible too, e.g. *There may be found some precious paintings in his collection.*

Let us now mention briefly the progressive form and its occurrence in *there* constructions. Quirk et al. claim that, similarly to the passives, the progressive conjugation is not very common. (Quirk et al., 1985: 1409) Progressive forms of purely Exist or Exist-loc constructions with *be* seem incorrect, even when referring to an instantaneous situation. Compare: *What happened is a tragedy but we're being strong.* / **There are being seven people (in the class) at the moment.* In contrast,

⁷ Dušková claims that in the case of passives, the entire predication precedes the subject. See also 2.1.2.

⁸ Here the reduced 's represents *has*, not *is*. Such use would be ungrammatical: **A new grammar is been written.* Quirk et al. identify the source of confusion as 's being a contracted form of both *has* and *is*. (Quirk, 1985: 1409)

the progressive of other verbs than *be* sounds acceptable, Quirk et al. give the following example: *There were a dozen hungry people standing in the rain. / There were standing in the rain a dozen hungry people.* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1409) However, applying Dušková's criteria, the former instance could also be analysed as a present participle postmodifying the NP *a dozen hungry people*.⁹

Quirk et al. call such VPs "divided" and put them in opposition to another interesting type with past participle that is typical of informal usage: *There's a parcel come for you.* or *There's a new history of Indonesia published.* These are separated from the divided VPs because if *there* is left out, we are concerned with a completely different type of construction: *A parcel has come for you* (not *is come*) and *A new history of Indonesia has been published* (not *is published*). (Quirk et al., 1985: 1404)

⁹ *Muvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny*, p. 355, see also 2.1.2.

2.1.3 The notional subject

The notional subject (S) of *there* constructions represents the new piece of information that is introduced into the discourse. Its newness is determined not only by the position in the rhematic part of the sentence but also by other means among which the most prominent are the indefinite article and some classes of quantifiers. Postmodification of the notional S is very common, too, and it is mainly realized by a relative clause, a present or past participle or an infinitive (Dušková, 1994: 394). The left hand extension of the subject will be discussed first.

2.1.3.1 Determiners in the subject noun phrase

The non-generic indefinite article *a/an* with singular count nouns and the zero determiner with non-count nouns and plural count nouns determining the S indicate its newness in the text, and the presence of this feature often makes the use of *there* construction obligatory. This applies especially if the subject noun phrase (NP) denotes an abstract entity: *There was peace in the region.* (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1397) It is possible to use a construction without *there* if the indefinite NP denotes a physical entity: *A furniture van was in the drive.* / *There was a furniture van in the drive.* (ibid.) However, it is necessary to say that such a NP often contains another, definite, NP within itself and so it no longer expresses a completely new item of information: *Two copies of Sue's thesis are on my desk.* / *There are two copies of Sue's thesis on my desk.* The addressee is likely to know about *Sue's thesis* from previous discourse and so only the fact that there are two copies of it on the desk is new for him. Huddleston and Pullum talk about "a new token of a previously known type" being introduced in such cases. (ibid.)

The notional S with definite reference is not wholly excluded from *there* constructions. Nevertheless, there is always the requirement that it must express addressee-new information. For instance, if the construction is used as a 'reminder' of something that might have been temporarily forgotten by the listener, the definite article can be used on the grounds of a situational anaphora:

A: *I can't imagine what I'm going to make for dinner tonight.*

B: *Well, there's the leftover meatloaf.*

(Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1398)

The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language also points out an interesting occurrence, limited to informal English, of the demonstrative *this* as a "false definite," when it corresponds to the meaning of the indefinite article: *Last week there was this strange dog wandering around...*¹⁰ (Huddleston, Pullum, 20002: 1399)

Dušková provides other contexts in which the definite reference can be used, namely the enumerations, e.g. *Coming into Canterbury, I loitered through the old streets ... There were the old signs, the old names over the shops, the old people serving in them.* and instances of situational uniqueness: *There is always John, of course.* (Dušková, 1994: 393) The use of the definite article may also be due to uniqueness indicated by premodifiers in the subject NP, e.g. *There is the oddest-looking man standing at the front door.* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1405)

Quantifiers in the role of determiners of the notional S have a high degree of CD and so they help to convey the newness of the subject. Firstly, numerals can be used to bring into the discourse the information about the number of the entities. Secondly, we can use *many* to express the existence of an

¹⁰ *This* is definite in form but indefinite in meaning here.

indefinite number of entities or the existential quantifier *some* as a plural counterpart of the indefinite article. Thirdly, the negative quantifier *no* may be employed to form a negation of the constructions with *there*.¹¹ (Dušková, 1994: 393)

There is a/one/no mistake in the exercise.

There were fifteen/many/some/no students in the classroom.

2.1.3.2 Postmodification in the subject noun phrase

The first of the above mentioned types of postmodification of the S of *there* constructions are the relative clauses. They can modify the notional S both in all types of *there* clauses. Interestingly, we can omit the relative pronoun in the subordinate clause, even if it is its subject: *There's a man (who) lives in China.*¹² This, together with the possibility to have a different tense in each part of the sentence, approximates the relative clauses in *there* constructions to cleft sentences. Compare: *It is the book (that) he bought yesterday.* and *There are some planets that were discovered by the ancients.* (Quirk, et al., 1985: 1407)

Another feature shared by both cleft sentences and *there + verb + relative clause* is the possibility to negate either part of the complex sentence. In the latter case, we can even negate both parts. Also, postmodification by a relative clause is commonly used to emphasize a negative: *There's nothing (that/which) I can do about it.* (Quirk, et al., 1985: 1407)

¹¹ Huddleston, Pullum also note upon the limited usage of other quantifiers: "NPs determined by the proportional quantifiers *most* and *all* or the universal distributive quantifiers *each* and *every* are subject to pragmatic restrictions on their occurrence as displaced subjects. ... As with definite NPs, ..., there is no categorical ban on displaced subject NPs determined by *most*, *all*, *each*, and *every*. Under conditions that are not yet well understood, such NPs can also appear in existential clauses, as in *I think that's probably still a NASA job because of the number of contractors involved. In firing room two, there's every contractor we've got, just about, over there.*" (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002:1401).

¹² However, such sentences are acceptable only in colloquial English.

The problems that may arise concerning the postmodification by a present participle are connected to its being a part of progressive forms of tenses. One of the examples Jindra presents to illustrate the attributive nature of present participle is formed by a verb with an optional object, e.g. *There was a boy singing a Christmas carol at my door last night.* (Jindra, 1965: 229) The dispute whether a past participle in the same position is a passive or not is easier to solve. We identify the construction as passive only if the past participle is between *there* and the notional subject, e.g. *There has been raised the question of abnormal expenses.* This purely formal use of *there* is quite rare, though. Nevertheless, the participle tends to follow the notional S and in such a position is regarded as a postmodifier: *There is an edition printed in large type.* (Dušková, 1994: 356)

In both postmodifying present and past participles influence of the constructions is so profound that the notional S separates the verb *be* from the participle and consequently the notion of a progressive form or a passive is suppressed. The participle being split from the verb becomes an attributive part of the NP. (Jindra, 1965: 231)

The last to be mentioned is the postmodification by the infinitive. The postmodifying infinitive can be paraphrased by a postmodifying infinitival relative clause, which suggests a close relation between the two constructions. In the following pair of sentences, the latter is very formal and rather awkward but their meanings are identical:

At last there was something to write home about.
At last there was something about which to write home.
(Quirk, et al., 1985: 1407)

The notional S may alternatively be postmodified by an appositional clause, e.g. *There was a rumour that I was married*

to a film star., or by a prepositional phrase (PP), e.g. *There are many exceptions to this general rule.* or an adjective phrase, e.g. *There were no stars visible.* (Dušková, 1994: 394)

Huddleston, Pullum speak about predicative extensions of the notional S, including the adjectival phrase, as being very limited. The predicative extension in the *there* construction must denote a temporary state (as opposed to a permanent feature) and it cannot usually be realized by a NP. The constraints are clear from the following examples, respectively: *There were two delegates deaf.* / *There were two delegates employees of the sponsor.* To conclude, only the adjectives that normally occur after the predicate are felicitous in *there* sentences, e.g. *absent, available, worth, right, empty, sick,* etc. (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1394)

Listed above are the main means of determination and modification of the notional S of *there* constructions in general. Some minor tendencies in this area are dealt with in the section on the classification of these constructions.

2.2 The function of *there* constructions

The reason for using *there* constructions has already been stated: depending on the verb, they are used to express the existence, emergence or a certain activity of an entity under some local and/or temporal circumstances. Their form allows the speaker to present some new information to the addressee in accordance with the principle of end-focus which is defined by Greenbaum, Quirk as processing "the information in a message so as to achieve a linear presentation from low to high information value." (Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990: 395) This section discusses the function of *there* constructions as a tool for complying with the end-focus principle.

This principle is based on the assumption that it is common to provide in a discourse a point that can be clearly identified and unambiguously understood by the addressee and from this point to progress to the information that is new for him. The 'provided point' has a low communicative value and the new information has a high communicative value. This variation in degree of communicative value among different sentence elements is referred to as communicative dynamism (CD) and it is usual for its range to increase from low to high, i.e. to present the focus of our message at the end of an utterance. (Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990: 395) Working together with the principle of end-focus there is the principle of end-weight that is defined by Quirk et al. as "the tendency to reserve the final position for the more complex parts of a clause or a sentence" (Quirk et al. 1985: 943). The result of the combined influences of these two factors is that the thematic part of a clause, which usually stands at the beginning, is expressed by less complex and shorter constructions than the clause-final focal part. (ibid.)

A similar concept used in Czech is the functional sentence perspective (FSP). FSP is a distribution of different degrees

of communicative dynamism (CD) to the sentence elements. FSP identifies the theme of a sentence, which includes the elements with a low degree of CD, and the rheme (or focus), in which the sentence elements that carry the highest degree of CD are concentrated. (Valehrachová, 2002: 15)

In affirmative sentences the S proper of *there* constructions is extraposed behind the verb. By allowing the postverbal position of the S proper *there* plays an important role in the FSP of an English sentence. The notional S of the *there* constructions is usually addressee-new information and it carries a higher degree of CD than the verb, hence it belongs to the rhematic part of the sentence. That is the moment when *there* is employed as a means that fills the position of S and consequently enables the extraposition of the notional S of the sentence in correspondence with the end-focus principle.

Although in Czech there is no direct counterpart of *there*, the addressee-new S may also occur in the postverbal position in Czech existential sentences due to the free word order. In English there are also other means of indicating the high degree of CD of the notional S besides the existential sentences; these are further discussed in section 2.1.3.1.

Instead of *there*, the position of the theme may also be occupied by a NP subject preceding the verb *have* in the so called *have-existential* device. (Quirk et al., 1985: 1411) This construction corresponds to the type of Exist and Exist-loc sentences with the pattern *there + be + S + predication*. Compare: *There is a taxi ready.* /*The porter has a taxi ready.* (ibid.) Quirk et al. draw our attention to the fact that although it is possible to predict the tense of *have* in the latter construction, prediction regarding the notional S does not go beyond stating that it is considerably involved in the existential proposition. Indeed, it is impossible to specify what the involvement of it will be; it can be either agentive,

as in The porter has a taxi ready. or it can be a recipient if we paraphrase You have a taxi ready.¹³

¹³ For further discussion of *have* existentials see Quirk et al., 1985: p.1411.

3. Types of *there* constructions

There are two major categories of *there* clauses, the main criterion for their division being the verb. Either it is the lexical *be*, or there is another verb, in which case the construction is referred to as "presentational."¹⁴ The grammars we have used in this thesis further classify the type with *be*, yet each in a different manner. Dušková's *Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny* identifies four types of the existentials, depending on the extension of *there + be* by a local adjunct (if there is any) and on the semantics of the notional S. Following these criteria, *there* clauses may be classified into existential clauses (Exist), existential-locative clauses (Exist-loc), actional *there* clauses, and modal *there* clauses. This classification will be our point of departure in the analysis below. (Dušková, 1994: 353-5) However, it is interesting to take into account other systems of classification too. For example, *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* presents the subdivision of *there* clauses into bare and extended existentials. The former may be extended by an optional adjunct, in the latter, on the other hand, the adjunct (or complement) is obligatory. The approach of Quirk et al. differs slightly from both the above mentioned classifications: the clauses with *there* followed by verbs other than *be* are discussed under the heading of existential sentences. *There + be* combinations are then further subclassified into bare existentials, existentials with relative and infinitive clauses and existentials with initial space adjuncts.

¹⁴ A term used by Huddleston, Pullum.

3.1 The Existential type (Exist)

In existential *there* clauses (Exist) the verb *be* expresses the basic existential proposition and therefore it can be substituted by the verb *exist*, which is quite rare, though. Exist type cannot occur without *there* in the position of subject, compare: *Contrary to popular belief, there are many more than five senses. /*Contrary to popular belief, many more than five senses are.* (Dušková, 1994: 353) Existentials very often occur with an optional locative adverbial (Adv_{loc}). However, even if the adverbial is in the initial position, *there* cannot be left out.¹⁵ Dušková gives the following example: *there was no sign of life in the house/ *in the house was no sign of life.* (Dušková, 1994: 354)

At this point let us briefly mention two of the subclasses of bare existentials presented by Huddleston, Pullum. Firstly, they distinguish a construction which contains an implicit locative in itself: *There is plenty of ice-cream (in the fridge/here/etc.).* (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1393) We can trace some proximity between this subtype and the Exist with an optional Adv_{loc} mentioned in the previous paragraph, because even if it does not express the adverbial explicitly, it is clear from the context or situation where the ice-cream or the sign of life is/is not. E.g. *'I'll go to the kitchen and bring a dessert. There's plenty of ice-cream, would you like some?'*

The sentence *Is there a bus to the library?* (ibid.) can either be interpreted as inquiring about the existence of bus service to the library, which would be the more common explanation, or it could represent a special type in which the construction with a lexical verb is replaced by *there + be* for brevity's sake. Compare with the version with the lexical verb: *Does there run a bus to the library?*

¹⁵ Compare with Ex-loc in 3.2.

3.2 The Existential-locative type (Exist-loc)

Having the clause pattern *there + be + S + Adv_{loc}*, this type of construction expresses the existence of an entity in a certain place and/or at a certain time and the Adv is always obligatory in its matrix. Dušková emphasizes the contrast between this type and the non-existential locative type that merely indicates spatial or temporal localization of the subject. Compare: *There is a girl in the waiting-room. / The girl is in the waiting room.* (Dušková, 1994: 354)

As it is clear from the example given, the subject in the locative sentence (*the girl*) has a definite reference because without *there* the FSP of the locative sentence has changed (Dušková, 1999: 89). The subject is the element constituting the theme of the clause here and the Adv is the rheme, whereas in the Exist-loc the subject (*a girl*) belongs to the rhematic part, which is indicated not only by the post-verbal position of the notional S but also by the indefinite article marking the it as a new piece of information. Compare:

Exist-loc:	There is a restaurant on the top floor. V nejhořejším poschodí je restaurace.
Loc:	The restaurant is on the top floor. Restaurace je v nejhořejším poschodí.

As we can see, the distinction shows itself clearly in Czech which employs a different word order for each of the constructions. (ibid.) In English it is possible for the adverbial in an Exist-loc sentence to occur in the initial or final position without a change in the FSP.

The subject in the locative type is usually determined by a definite article. Indefinite article, on the other hand, is typical of the Exist-loc (as well as other *there* constructions)

in which it is in accordance with the newness of the notional S presented in the clause.

Another distinction we can draw is between the Exist-loc and the Exist type. We have already stated that the Exist may be extended by an optional Adv_{loc}, often in initial position, and that *there* in such sentences remains obligatory. In contrast, it is possible to leave out *there* from the Exist-loc, putting the adverbial into initial position and thus transforming the construction to a non-existential locative: At the back of the house there is a tennis court. / At the back of the house is a tennis court. (Dušková, 1999: 91) If it is isolated, the latter sentence sounds rather unnatural; such locative clauses are typically a part of a sequence. This is also implied by the nature of the adjunct, which connects the construction to the preceding context. Dušková notes that sentences in which *there* is omitted after the initial adjunct are to be found in written English, more specifically in local descriptions in which the Exist-locs often follow one other. (ibid.) Jindra sees the constructions without *there* as an interference of the syntactic and stylistic plans of the language because a change in a syntactic pattern is made for the style's sake here. (Jindra, 1965: 228)

Dušková claims there is proximity between Exist-locs and possessive constructions with *have*. The possibility to transform Exist-loc into the possessive construction with *have* is limited to the sentences in which the semantic relationship between the adverbial and the notional S corresponds to the relationship possessor-possessed: There is no post office in the village. / The village has no post office. The relationships between a whole and a part and between a bearer and a feature may also be included, e.g. there are twelve inches in a foot/ the foot has twelve inches. Even if these conditions are fulfilled, it is sometimes necessary to add a local Adv semantically identical with the subject for the

construction to be transformable, compare: There was brass plate on a door. /*A door had a brass plate. / A door had a brass plate on it. (Dušková, 1994: 354)

3.3 The Actional type

This type of construction does not include a verb explicitly denoting an action but it is the nature of the notional S that does, e.g. *There was a click in the lock.* (Dušková, 1994: 354) The S can be a noun (typically deverbal), as in the previous example, or a gerund: *Or there was tree-climbing, roof-climbing, story-telling.* (Dušková, 1994: 355) Although the agent of the action may be expressed by a PP, it is not obligatory in the syntactic matrix of this type. The Actional type is often used to express atmospheric conditions, e.g. *There was a flash of lightning*, and it may also serve to introduce on the scene other events or phenomena, e.g. *There was a crash.* Sentences in which the S is a NP expressing perception are also included, e.g. *There was a smell of damp leaves ad moss.* The corresponding construction in Czech is the subjectless clause: *There was the sound of footsteps.* / *Bylo slyšet kroky.* (ibid.)

Apart from the *there* construction, English employs another syntactic-semantic structure for expressing states of the weather, viz. the construction with empty *it*, e.g. *It rained heavily yesterday.* (Dušková, 1999: 95) Although these two constructions could be seen as alternatives, compare *There was a heavy rain yesterday.*, there are some constraints on the choice of the construction, as Dušková points out in her Note on 'there is' (ibid.). It seems that the form with *there* is more felicitous when there is a qualifying premodification of the NP, e.g. *There was a heavy snow/ lot of rain last night*, whereas the empty *it* is preferable with subjects that are not modified, e.g. *It is raining.* (ibid.)

3.4 The Modal type

The last of the types of *there* constructions presented by *Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny* is the one implying modality. There is usually a gerund in the position of the notional S, e.g. *There is no knowing what she may say.* or an infinitive postmodifying a S that is often negative or preceded by a negative quantifier, e.g. *There is nothing to fear.* (Dušková, 1994: 355) We will have a brief look at both.

Erdmann claims that the gerunds most often occur in the fixed expression *there + be + no + -ing*; *no* can occasionally alternate with *any* and *be* is in the present or past tense. Modal auxiliaries are rare in this case, however, the construction has "implicit modality in the sense of CAN." (Erdmann, 1990: 96) The objects of the gerunds range from pronouns to finite clauses, e.g. *...there was no stopping her/ ...there was no doubting the sincerity,* etc. The implicit modality is retained even if the verb does not have a direct object, e.g. *there's no going back.*

The modals do not occur in the construction with infinitive either, as it is a non-finite clause, but modality in this type is determined by the context. Erdmann assigns an appositive function to the infinitive after nouns such as *cause, need, opportunity*, e.g. *There's no need to run away.* As we have stated in the section on the notional S, the *to* infinitive can also have the function of a relative clause.¹⁶ Erdmann mentions this and adds that a passive infinitive can occur exclusively in this function (Erdmann, 1990: 107). For example, the sentence *There are many things to be discussed..* can be paraphrased as *there are many things that must be discussed.* The infinitive can also be related to an adverbial relative occurring after NPs denoting place, time, reason or manner (ibid.), e.g. *There is plenty of space to hide/ where we can hide.*

¹⁶ See section 2.1.3.

4. Material and Method

The sentences containing the *there* constructions and their Czech counterparts that are analysed in this thesis were excerpted from two works of English fiction, *The English Patient* by Michael Ondaatje and *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* by J.K.Rowling and their Czech translations.

Both texts constitute a part of the English Section of the parallel corpora of Czech and other languages being currently built as a part of a research project at the Faculty of Arts.¹⁷ The excerpts were obtained using the concordance software for parallel texts Paraconc. The initial 50 *there* clauses from each novel and their Czech counterparts were selected for further analysis. Since the parallel corpus is not grammatically tagged, this entailed searching first for all occurrences of the word *there*, and sorting them manually afterwards to distinguish between the adverbial *there* and the existential *there*.

The *there* clauses obtained will be analysed according to the criteria given in the previous chapter and discussed in terms of their syntactic structure and corresponding Czech structures as well as their functions.

All sentences used for the analysis are listed in the Appendix.

¹⁷ Czech National Corpus and Corpora of Other Languages, the English Section, MSM 0021620823; <<http://ucnk.ff.cuni.cz>>

5. Analysis

Firstly, we have analysed the syntactic structure of the excerpted *there* constructions. We have focused on the constitutive clause elements of these sentences, the notional subject and the verb, as well as on their possible extension realized by an adverbial. Following there is a classification of the semantic types of *there* constructions we have determined in the analysed material.

5.1 The notional subject

We shall focus on the structure of the noun phrases constituting the notional subject of the English *there* constructions (the determiner, modification and the type of head) in relation to the syntactic function, form and position of their Czech counterparts.

5.1.1 Determiners in the subject noun phrase

As expected, indefinite and zero articles have emerged as the largest group of NP determiners in the excerpted sentences. Other determiners are represented only marginally but they will be also discussed in this section.

Table I: Determiners in the subject noun phrase

Reference	Determiner	Σ	%
non-generic indefinite	Indefinite article	31	33.00
	Zero article	21	22.30
	Pronouns	33	35.10
non-generic definite	Definite article	4	4.30
	Pronouns	5	5.30
TOTAL		94	100.00

5.1.1.1 Indefinite and zero articles

The indefinite and the zero articles express non-generic indefinite reference, introducing the referent of the notional subject on the scene.

Table II: Czech counterparts of English notional subjects with indefinite and zero articles

Syntactic function	Position	Σ	%
subject	initial/medial	4	7.40
	end	37	68.50
object	initial/medial	4	7.40
	end	3	5.60
verb	initial/medial	1	1.85
	end	5	9.25
TOTAL		54	100.00

The indefinite and zero articles were the determiners used most frequently with the notional S of the Exist-loc type, where the subject referent is introduced as located in a certain space and/or period of time. In the following examples, the head of the subject NP is constituted by a common noun referring to a concrete object. In both examples the head has an attributive premodifier (exx. 1,2).

1 There was a bare tree about four yards away. (EP 18)

Necelé tři metry odtud stál holý strom.

2 There was a bearded head beside him... (EP 11)

...byla vedle něho hlava s vousem.

The notional S is rhematic, as signalled in English by the indefinite article and the position in the sentence. In the Czech counterparts of these *there* constructions the main means of expressing the FSP function of the equivalent of the English

subject is the word order: the Czech counterpart is typically the subject in end-position (as in exx 1,2,3).

The head of the NP determined by the indefinite article can also be postmodified so that the addressee receives more information about the S (apart from its location). Sentence 3 comprises the non-restrictive appositional definite NP *the aajej* which particularizes the more general NP *a whirlwind*; both elements of the appositional relationship are then postmodified by the underlined relative clause

3 There is a whirlwind in southern Morocco, the aajej, against which the fellahin defend themselves with knives. (EP 9)

V jižním Maroku existuje vichr ádžidž, kterému se feláhové brání noži.

The indefinite article often appears with singular count nouns that constitute the notional S of the actional type of *there* constructions:

4 Then suddenly there is a crash as the water arrives bursting around her. (EP 15)

A najednou rachot a voda se na ni valí proudem.

The actional type of English *there* constructions whose subject is determined by the indefinite or zero articles may be reflected in Czech in the subjectless verbal clause (exx 4, 5). In ex.4 the nominal representation of the action is retained in the subjectless nominal clause in Czech (*a najednou rachot*), in ex.5 the Czech counterpart is a subjectless reflexive construction whose predicate corresponds to the English notional S.

5 There would be a hush... (EP 12)

Začalo se volat po klidu...

The presentative nature of the indefinite article determining the notional subject (coming into view or hearing) may be further supported by an adverbial - cf. *suddenly/najednou* in ex. 4 above.

The *there* clauses with zero article may be translated into Czech by sentences consisting of both the subject and predicate (exx. 6,7). Due to the nominal expression of the action in English (*drownings, phone calls*) the agent of the action is not expressed. In Czech, where the action is expressed by a finite verb predicate, the agent is referred to by the indefinite pronoun *někdo* in the syntactic function of the subject.

6 There were continual drownings... (EP 42)

Stále někdo v bouři tonul...

7 There were constant phone calls into that room. (EP 47)

Do toho pokoje pořád někdo telefonoval.

Also, the subjects in both the above examples are premodified by adjectives. Interestingly, these are reflected in the adverbs that modify the predicates in the Czech equivalents. This fact supports the idea that there occurs a certain transition on a higher syntactic level - not only is the English notional subject transposed into the verbal predicate in Czech but analogically, its adjectival modifier changes into a corresponding adverbial modifier of the predicate.

5.1.1.2 Pronouns

The notional subject may be determined by a pronoun. By far the most frequent are the indefinite pronouns, particularly the negative quantifier *no* that appeared in all types of *there* constructions. Other quantifiers in the role of determiners are

the existential *some* and other expressions of indefinite quantity, and the demonstrative pronoun *this*.

Table III: Czech counterparts of English notional subjects determined by pronouns

Syntactic function	Position	Σ	%
subject	initial/medial	4	11.80
	end	20	58.80
object	initial/medial	1	2.90
	end	4	11.80
verb/verbo-nominal predicate	initial/medial	2	5.90
	end	3	8.80
TOTAL		34	100.00

The most frequent Czech counterpart of the English subject determined by an indefinite pronoun is a subject in end-position and, only occasionally, in initial position. Marginally, there appears a direct object in end-position and the subject may also be transposed into the predicate in Czech.

The negative quantifier *no* is reflected in various ways in the Czech counterparts. In the Czech equivalents of different types of *there* constructions the verb is negated and the subject is modified by the negative pronoun *žádný*. The structure is the same for equivalents of the Ex type (ex. 8) and the actional type (ex. 9):

8 There was no stamp. (HP 21)

Na obálce nebyla žádná známka.

9 There would be no faint tickings or clickings to signal danger... (EP 34)

...žádné slabé tikání ani cvakání nebude signalizovat nebezpečí.

There are also cases where the determiner *no* is reflected in the Czech negative pronoun *nic* followed by an adjective that

reflects the original notional subject. Especially in the Exist type, the subject is expressed by an abstract noun that is mirrored in Czech as a nominal part of a verbo-nominal predicate, again in end-position:

- 10 ..., there is no permanence to it. (EP 32)
..., není to nic trvalého.

In ex.11 the meaning of the negative quantifier is paralleled by the Czech preposition *beze* (without). The subject NP of the English sentence is reflected in Czech as an adverbial of manner. Note the initial position of the Adv, which identifies its attachment to the verb and disambiguates the meaning of the sentence and compare with the alternative construction where the Adv is placed finally.

- 11 There was no light with him as he ran along the dark hall. (EP 36)
Beze světla běžel dlouhou chodbou.
→ ?Běžel dlouhou chodbou beze světla.

Only rarely have we found other pronouns functioning as determiners; these usually have their counterparts in attributes premodifying the subject in the Czech sentences, e.g. in ex. 12 where the quantifier *little* is reflected in a Czech adjective. The demonstrative pronoun *this*, expressing uniqueness due to cataphoric reference, was used only once; the subject is defined by the postmodifying restrictive relative clause here (ex. 13). The use of *this* as a determiner of the notional S is rather colloquial, which is reflected in Czech in the relative pronoun *ktorej*.¹⁸

¹⁸ Huddleston, Pullum identify such use of *this* as a false definite; the subject NP is definite in form but its meaning is equivalent to one determined by the indefinite article. (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002: 1401)

12 There seemed little demarcation between house and landscape... (EP 22)

Zdálo se, že existuje jen malá hranice mezi domem a krajinou...

13 See, there was this wizard who went...bad. (HP 30)

To byl totiž čaroděj, kterej...Dal se na špatnou cestu.

5.1.1.3 The definite article

We have encountered only a small number of NPs involving the definite article *the* (4 out of 100), all of them postmodified. One of the typical occurrences of *the* in *there* constructions is an enumeration of entities in the subject NPs of consecutive sentences. The enumeration is further stressed by the repetition of the *there* construction in English and the parallel Czech structures with the same verb of existence. In exx. 14 and 15 we are concerned with situational definiteness, being given the proper names of winds that refer to a single referent in each case.¹⁹ The postmodifying non-restrictive relative clauses only provide us with more information here.²⁰ In Czech both NPs are subjects in end-position and postmodified by subordinate relative clauses as well:

14 There is the africo, which has at times reached to the city of Rome. (EP 3)

Existuje i africo, který občas zasáhne i město Řím.

15 There is the hot, dry ghibli, which rolls and rolls and produces a nervous condition. (EP 4)

Existuje i horký, suchý ghibli z Tunisu, který se valí a vyvolává úzkostné stavy.

¹⁹ The names of winds are always used with the definite article in English.

²⁰ Compare with ex. 14.

In two occurrences of the definite article the NPs comprise postmodification by PPs introduced by *of*. Note that in the following example, the postmodifying PP *of tanks and jeeps* from ex. 16 is transposed into an agentive subject in Czech, while the head noun *movement* constitutes the verbal predicate of the Czech sentence. The adjectival premodifier of the English notional subject changes into an adverbial modifier in Czech, accordingly (cf. exx 6,7 above).

16 ..., there had been the manic movement of tanks and jeeps. (EP 6)
 ..., šíleně se tu hnaly tanky a džípy.

5.1.2 Modifiers in the subject noun phrase

Premodifiers, including adjectives and present and past participles, appeared in 30% of the analysed sentences. In Table IV, the Czech syntactic counterparts of English premodifiers are in bold, in the following brackets there is the Czech syntactic counterpart of the English subject in the relevant NP. '(+S)' in the third column indicates that the subject has been added to the Czech translation of the construction.

Table IV: Czech syntactic counterparts of English premodifiers

	At(S)	At(O)	At(+S)	Adv(V)	V(S)
English premodifier	Σ	Σ	Σ	Σ	Σ
adjective	15	3	2	4	0
past participle	2	0	0	0	1
present participle	0	0	0	0	3
adverb + past participle	2	1	0	0	0
TOTAL					33

As expected, the attribute proved to be the most frequent counterpart of the English premodification. The modified NP, whether functioning as the subject or the object of the Czech sentence, usually appears in end-position.

In two of the analysed sentences an indefinite or negative pronoun has been added to the Czech counterparts constituting the head of the Czech subject NP postmodified by the attributive adjective.

17 There was some little waltz... (EP 38)

...,bylo cosi hravého.

18 ...there seemed to be no feudal spirit... (EP 33)

..., že v něm není nic feudálního.

The transposition of the adjectival premodifier of the S to an adverbial premodifier of the verb in the Czech counterpart has already been commented upon in 5.1.1.1. The past participle occurs mainly as an attribute of nominal elements in Czech, of the subject and the object, while the present participle is always reflected in the predicate. The past participle in ex. 19 is modified by an adverbial which is also reflected in Czech. The present participle in ex. 20 is mirrored in subordinate relative clause placed sentence-finally due to its complexity and a high degree of CD.

19 ...there seemed to be a lot of strangely dressed people...

(HP 5)

...nemohl si nevšimnout, že na ulici je spousta podivně oblečených lidí.

20 There had been a flying motorcycle in it. (HP 13)

...byla v něm motorka, která létala.

In contrast with the rather uniform Czech counterparts of the English premodifiers the postmodifiers of the English

subject are reflected in many more ways in Czech, as pre- or post-modifiers (cf. Table V).

Table V: English postmodifiers and the position of their Czech counterparts

	Czech premodifiers	Czech postmodifiers	Other
English postmodifier	Σ	Σ	Σ
PP	5	19	2
present participle	4	3	0
past participle	5	5	1
relative clause	0	14	1
infinitive	1	5	1
gerund	0	1	0
TOTAL	15	47	5

Prepositional phrases form the largest group of English postmodifiers. The table indicates that their counterparts usually occupy the postmodifying position in Czech. Among prepositions appearing in these phrases are *in*, *to*, *about*, etc. *Of* usually introduces genitive PP. This is reflected in the Czech postmodifying attribute (in genitive case) which is not in concord with the subject, as in the following examples:

- 21 Then there was a great scraping of chairs... (HP 43)
 Ze všech stran bylo slyšet hlasité šoupání židlí...
- 22 There was no promise of solution or victory... (EP 35)
 Neexistoval příslib řešení nebo vítězství...
- 23 There is not even a grain of light. (EP 19)
 Není tu ani zrnko světla.

Note that in exx. 21 and 22 both notional subjects are deverbal nouns and the *of*-genitives here result from the transformation of the subject and object of the underlying

sentence, respectively: *the chairs were scraping/ to promise solution or victory*. We have identified a subjective genitive in ex. 21, objective genitive in ex. 22 and ex. 23 contains an example of a partitive construction with the uncountable noun *light*. All phrases belong to the rhematic part of the sentences; however, the position of the *of*-phrase after the subject (and consequently after the verb) is obligatory in the English *there* construction while in Czech we could put the NP at the beginning of the sentence, i.e. *Šoupání židlí bylo slyšet ze všech stran*. Consequently, with the NP in the thematic part, the FSP would change.

Another large group of postmodifiers comprises relative clauses. In these sentences, the introductory *there* clause directs the hearer's attention to the notional subject followed by information in the relative clause. (Erdmann 1990: 102) More than 70% of the identified relative clauses are restrictive; the non-restrictive relative clauses modify antecedents with definite reference, e.g. ex. 24:

24 There is the africo, which has at times reached to city of Rome. (EP 3)

Existuje i africo, který občas zasáhne až město Řím.

The Czech counterparts occupy exclusively the postmodifying position. We can distinguish two types here - the first are relative clauses introduced by a relative pronoun (*který/jenž* and their declensions) that directly follows the antecedent (cf. ex. 24), and the second are independent declarative clauses into which the *there* construction is transposed. The latter group contains exclusively counterparts of English restrictive relative clauses. As we can see in ex. 25, the emptied nature of the English *be* is demonstrated well in Czech, where the lexical verb of the English dependent relative clause acts as the only predicate of the sentence. The

distribution of CD in the Czech sentence parallels that of the English notional subject NP, with the relative clause carrying a higher degree of CD than the head noun.

- 25 There were some tribes who held up their open palms against the beginnings of wind. (EP 23)
Některé kmeny dokonce nastavovaly otevřené dlaně vzhůru proti zdvihajícímu se větru.

The present and past participles postmodifying the subject have their counterparts mainly in the Czech verb. Less common are the adjectival counterparts of the participles, either in an attributive position (both premodifying and postmodifying) or as a subject complement in the construction with a copula.

Let us pay attention to the following example of a past participle reflected as the verb in Czech:

- 26 ...there will be books written about Harry... (HP 12)
...o Harrym se budou psát knihy.

Ex. 26 may raise the question whether the predicate is a part of a passive construction or a postmodifying attribute. Although the position of the participle would support the latter interpretation, it is possible to paraphrase the sentence without *there* unequivocally as passive - *books will be written*. Therefore we can assume that the construction is passive and *there* is used to achieve the final position of the rhematic subject. In Czech the reflexive passive is used.

A postmodifying present participle may also be interpreted as a part of a progressive verb form in many cases. We can test this by transforming the sentences to constructions without *there* containing a progressive form, as in ex. 27. This is also the construction used in the Czech translation.

27 There was a tabby cat standing on the corner... (HP 4)

→ *A tabby cat was standing on the corner...*

Na rohu ... stála mourovatá kočka.

If the construction is not feasible, the present participle is clearly a postmodifier. This is usually the case with state verbs, which do not normally occur in a progressive form. Compare ex. 27 with 28, where the semantic constraints on the verb *belong* make the paraphrase ungrammatical:

28 ...there had been a small fortune belonging to him.

(HP 49)

→ **...a small fortune was belonging to him.*

... mu patřilo malé jmění.

There is only a small number of postmodifying infinitives. In ex. 29 the attributive infinitive (with a subject expressed by the *for*-PP) after the noun *reason* has a similar function as a relative clause. The infinitival clause is reflected in Czech in the subordinate attributive clause:

29 ...there was no reason for them to come near him and Mrs.Dursley. (HP 10)

...nemají žádný důvod aby vyhledali jeho a paní Dursleyovou.

The infinitive in ex. 30 implies the modality of impossibility that becomes apparent in the Czech counterpart where it is expressed in the compound predicate:

30 There were too many doors to count leading off the hall... (HP 47)

Z dvorany vedlo tolik dveří, že se ani nedaly spočítat...

5.1.3 The Head

In the analysis of the heads of the subject noun phrases we have focused on the form and position of their Czech syntactic counterparts. Table VI presents the overview of sentence elements corresponding to the English heads regardless of the type of their determination and modification.

Table VI: Czech syntactic counterparts of the heads of the English subject noun phrase

Syntactic function	Position	Σ	%
subject	initial/medial	4	4.10
	end	64	66.00
object	initial/medial	5	5.20
	end	11	11.30
verb	initial/medial	3	3.10
	end	6	6.20
complement	initial/medial	0	0.00
	end	2	2.10
adverbial	initial/medial	1	1.00
	end	1	1.00
TOTAL		97	100.00

The majority of English notional subjects correspond syntactically to the subject in end position in the Czech sentence. In Czech the word order is employed as a means of signaling the rhematic FSP function of the subject, while in English this is achieved using the *there* construction and the semantic structure (cf. the post-verbal position of the subject *a girl/dívka* both in Czech and in English, and the indefinite determiner in English in ex. 31).

- 31 There was a girl standing... (EP 13)
 Stála tam dívka...

In four sentences the English notional subject noun corresponded to the Czech subject in non-postverbal position. The word order in ex. 32 is influenced by the FSP in Czech. It is the infinitival construction *to signal danger* that carries the highest degree of CD, and its Czech counterpart is placed in end position accordingly. The contextually bound adverbial (*on this kind of bomb/u tohoto typu bomby*) occupies the initial position in the Czech sentence.

- 32 There would be no faint tickings or clickings to signal danger on this kind of bomb. (EP 34)
U tohoto typu bomby žádné slabé tikání anebo cvakání nebude signalizovat nebezpečí.

As we can see in Table VI, we have identified five objects in Czech that either precede the predicate or occupy the position between the two elements of a compound verb form. The other, postverbal Czech objects reflecting the English notional subject nouns, are typically present in accusative constructions with the transitive verb *mít*, where they express the possessed entity.²¹ As well as allowing the presented information to be a part of the rheme, the verb is more semantically suitable than the Czech equivalent of the English *be*. It also incorporates the meaning of other sentence elements which are expressed separately in English, e.g. the adverbial *on him* in 33 is demonstrated merely by the grammatical person of the verb in Czech:

- 33 There was the cluster of known scars on him. (EP 5)
Má hromadu známých jizev.

²¹ At this point it is worth mentioning that the English there clauses are related to the possessive constructions with *have*. See also 3.2.

Another pattern we have identified with objects reflecting the head of the subject NP concerns English action nouns and their counterparts. The verb *be* in these constructions is mirrored in a transitive verb expressing perception complemented by the object of the perception, cf. the verb *uslyšel* with the object *zaklepání* in 34:

34 There was suddenly a loud tapping noise. (HP 35)

V tom uslyšel hlasité zaklepání.

Not surprisingly, most of the verbal counterparts correspond to the action nouns that constitute the notional subjects of the actional *there* constructions. The tendency in English towards nominalization, which is not so strong in Czech, may pose a problem here because the English action noun often has a stylistically awkward equivalent or it has to be paraphrased completely. Note the interjection converted into a noun in ex. 35 and its extensive reflection in Czech. Immediate translation of *smell* in ex. 36 would be quite unnatural in Czech, on the other hand the subject *něco* had to be added for the construction to work.

35 There would be a hush.... (EP 12)

Začalo se volat po klidu....

36 There was a horrible smell in the kitchen. (HP 19)

...něco v kuchyni strašlivě páchlo.

Two of the nominal heads have their counterparts in subject complements following the copula *be* in the verbo-nominal predicate. Both of the English subjects are abstract common nouns. One of the Czech complements is formed by an adjective and the one presented in ex. 37 below by a PP. Also

note the end-position of the Czech complement; reflecting the English notional subject, it bears the highest degree of CD.²²

- 37 There was no colour during those nights. (EP 24)
Ty noci byly bez jakékoli barvy.

We have also identified two cases of subjects being reflected in the Czech adverbials: an Adv of accompanying circumstances (cf. ex. 11) and an Adv of manner (ex. 38). Note that in ex. 38 the English subject is reflected in the Czech Adv while the postmodifying *of*-PP is reflected in the Czech subject.

- 38 There are two levels of long, narrow garden to the west of the house. (EP 43)
Západně od domu se táhne dlouhá úzká zahrada ve dvou úrovních.

As for the form of the heads of the English notional subject NPs, about 89% of them are common nouns, about 3% proper names, about 8% pronominal compounds and we have also encountered one gerund. Concerning the common nouns, about 23% of them are uncountable and the countable include 34% of plural nouns and 66% of singular nouns.

We have attempted to classify the nouns semantically into four categories. The nouns in the first category express actions/events and they typically correspond to Czech verbs. Nouns expressing abstract ideas, feelings and values form the second group that contains the highest number of uncountable nouns. The third category is formed by nouns describing the physical world, which tend to be localized by an adverbial in

²² The English adverbial *during those nights* transposed into the Czech subject is thematic (it is context-bound as marked by the demonstrative determiner, and its initial position in Czech corresponds to its lower degree of CD).

there constructions. The last, and largest, group contains concrete objects and entities, both animate and inanimate, usually determined by indefinite/zero articles.

5.2 The Verb

The issue of verb in the English *there* constructions has proved to be rather uncomplicated. Only four of the excerpted *there* constructions have a different verb than *be*; we have identified three uses of the verb *to seem* and one use of *to seek*. In comparison, Czech counterparts of the English predicates are much more varied because they often reflect other syntactic elements than the verb, such as the subject NP or its modifier. These are presented in Table VII. Further in this section there is a brief analysis of the Czech verbs that lack any immediate counterpart in the English constructions.

Table VII: Czech counterparts of the English verb and the elements of the English sentence they correspond to

English clause elements reflected in the Czech predicate		Position of the verb in the Czech sentence	Σ	Σ
verb		initial/medial	45	46
		end	1	
other clause elements	subject	initial/medial	4	9
		end	5	
	modifier	initial/medial	14	15
		end	1	
	adverbial	initial/medial	2	3
		end	1	
collocation with another clause element		initial/medial	18	27
		end	9	
TOTAL				100

In forty-six *there* sentences the choice of the Czech counterpart of the predicate verb is not influenced by any English clause element other than the verb. These Czech verbs comprise *být* (lexical verb), *být* (copula), *existovat*, *jít o*, *mít*.

Where the Czech predicate is not a direct counterpart of the English verb, its choice is based on another clause element. There seem to be two types of correspondences. Firstly, the Czech predicate is a transposed English clause element other than the verb. The clause elements reflected in the Czech predicate involve the notional subject noun (typically in actional *there* clauses), the modifiers of the notional subject (participial or clausal) or the adverbial²³ respectively).

Secondly, the choice of the English verb counterpart is collocationally conditioned by another English clause element (typically the notional subject) without being a direct translation of any part of the English sentence. These Czech verbs comprise verbs referring to the appearance of the subject on the scene or its introduction into the situation. Typical examples (with the subject conditioning the choice of the verb in brackets) include: *objevit se* (*pohyb*), *ozvat se* (*skřeky velbloudů*), *rozhostit se* (*ticho*), *táhnout se* (*dlouhá úzká zahrada*), *uslyšet* (*zaklepání*). In some examples, however, the collocation is quite loose, e.g. *stát* (*dívka, holý strom*).

Let us now briefly discuss the verbs according to their position in the sentence. The verbs in the initial position often merely assert the existence of the subject referent and there is no adverbial preceding it to provide information about the subject's spatial or temporal location. In such cases, there is a strong tendency for the subject to be postmodified,

²³ More on adverbials that correspond to the Czech predicates in the section 5.3.

e.g. by a relative clause, which may be quite extensive as in ex. 39:

- 39 There was a large birdcage, which had once held a parrot that Dudley had swapped at school for a real air rifle, which was up on a shelf with the end all bent because Dudley had sat on it. (HP 22)
Byla tu veliká ptačí klec, v níž kdysi býval papoušek, kterého Dudley ve škole vyměnil za opravdovou vzduchovku, a ta ležela na polici s hlavní úplně ohnutou, jak si na ni sedl.

At this point it is worth mentioning the verb *seem* and its counterparts which appear initially as well. It is interesting that regardless of the presence of the postmodifying infinitive *to be* in English, its counterpart does occur in Czech. This is due to the fact that the verb *seem* reflects itself in Czech as the verb of a main clause (*zdálo se*), whose subject is a nominal declarative clause where the predicate is formed by the verb of existence (*existuje, není*). Compare ex. 40 that contains merely the verb *seem* and ex. 41 with the extended predicate with their counterparts.

- 40 There seemed little demarcation... (EP 22)

Zdálo se, že existuje jen malá hranice...

- 41 ...,there seemed to be no feudal spirit... (EP 33)

Zdálo se, že (v něm) není nic feudálního.

The verbs occupying medial position are typically preceded by an adverbial, which appears initially in Czech sentences.

- 42 ...there was in one corner a permanently soaked armchair. (EP 7)

...v jednom rohu bylo křeslo trvale promáčené.

However, there are a few exceptions in which the verb is preceded by the S or at least by a pronominal antecedent of a postmodifying phrase or clause. The definite S in Czech reflects the adverbial in ex. 43, shifting the information presented by the English notional S *no colour* to the nominal part of the predicate of the Czech sentence.

43 There was no colour during those nights. (EP 24)

Ty noci byly bez jakékoli barvy.

The end position of the other verbs (concerning only XX sentences) reflects the high level of CD of the mirrored English notional subject. The end position is achieved by supplying a subject formed by the indefinite pronoun *někdo* (ex. 44) or the negative pronoun *nikdo* (ex. 45).

44 There were constant phone calls into that room. (EP 47)

Do toho pokoje pořád někdo telefonoval.

45 ...there was no thought of that at that time. (EP 35)

...v té chvíli na to nikdo nemyslel.

We will now move to the syntactic elements other than the verb that correspond to the Czech counterparts of the English verbs. One of these, the notional subject, has already been touched upon in 5.1.3, where we stated that it is typically formed by action nouns and we will not discuss it any further. As for the modifiers, all occurrences of present and past participles reflected as the Czech verbs share a common clause pattern in which the subject always appears in postverbal position, the verb often being preceded by an adverbial. Again, the verb helps to shift the subject to the focus of the sentence. However, the addressee-new NP is indicated not only by the focal position in English but also by the non-generic

indefinite reference it has. Both of these features are demonstrated by the word order in Czech, for example in 46, where the presence of the NP *dívka* in the focus of the utterance also suggests its newness:

46 There was a girl standing... (EP 13)
Stála tam dívka,...

There are a few examples of Czech sentences whose verbs reflect the predicates of subordinate clauses connected to the main *there* clauses. These include a restrictive relative clause (cf. ex. 25), an adverbial clause of time, where the subject is not expressed in Czech (cf. ex. 11), an object content declarative clause and a reduced relative clause.

We have mentioned the fact that some of the Czech verbs do not reflect any of the syntactic elements present in the corresponding English clause. Among these are mainly verbs expressing appearance of the subject on the scene, but also those expressing movement or position and verbs of perception. This is often due to the semantic constraints of the NP in the Czech subject which sometimes demands a predication that collocates with it. See a typical example of this phenomenon in ex. 47, where the English *be* is substituted by the transitive verb *uložit*, as the subject NP *her neatly packed suitcase* becomes the direct object in Czech:

47 ...where there was her neatly packed suitcase. (EP 21)
...kde si uložila svůj pěkně sbalený kufr.

Be may be substituted by the transitive verb *mít* in Czech and the English notional subject becomes the possessed object. The choice of the verb in ex. 48 is conditioned by the counterpart of the English notional S which usually collocates with the possessive verb *mít*.

48 ...he met a vampire in the Black Forest and there was a nasty bit o' trouble with a hag... (HP 45)

...v Černým lese narazil na upíry a měl tam vošklivej malér s nějakou ježibabou.

Concerning the form of the verbs in *there* constructions, we have encountered exclusively simple forms, most often of the past and present tenses (68% and 17%, respectively) and there have also been some occurrences of the past perfect tense (7%), as well as one occurrence of the present perfect and *will* for the future. We have identified three occurrences of verbs modified by *would* and *might*. In ex. 49, *would* is used to express future in the past:

49 He raised the rifle,..., deciding not to shoot in order to see if there would be other movement nearby. (EP 48)
Zvedl pušku,..., rozhodl se nestřílet, aby viděl, jestli se někde vedle neobjeví další pohyb.

Could expressing possibility of the verbal action is used in two sentences. One of these is an interrogative clause, a yes/no question, where the modal appears as the operator in the inverted word order with the existential *there* acting as the subject of the clause and the notional S following the verb *be*. Note that in ex. 50, the modality is expressed in the underlined main clause; the participial postmodification is transposed into the Czech subject dependent nominal declarative clause introduced by *že*:

50 Could there really be piles of wizard gold buried miles beneath them? (HP 41)

Bylo vůbec možné, že by se na míle hluboko pod nimi skrývaly hromady kouzelnického zlata?

Regarding the sentence types, most of the clauses are declarative. We have encountered only two interrogatives and one imperative sentence (ex. 51). It is the analytical type of imperative constituted by the auxiliary *let* followed by *there* in the position usually occupied by an object pronoun. The passive infinitive of the transitive verb *seek* suggests absence of the agent. The subject of the passive imperative of the transitive verb *seek*, *a young virgin*, then appears in the final position.

51 ...Let there be sought...a young virgin. (EP 16)

At vyhledají...dívku pannu.

Such use of *there* construction is formal and very rare. (Dušková 1994, 356)

The negation has already been commented upon in 5.1.1.2 in connection with the negative quantifier *no* which has proved to be a prevailing means of forming negation.²⁴ However, at this point we would like to mention the use of negative particle *not* which has appeared in mere 14.3% of the negative sentences, usually in a contracted form with the copula *be*. Both *no* and *not* are used to express clausal negation here. It seems that *not* appears only in the environment where the use of *no* is entirely ruled out. For example with the adverb *much* which may function as a determiner or head of a NP (ex. 52). Another factor triggering the use of *not* instead of *no* is the intensifier *even*.

52 ...there wasn't much room/ much left to do. (HP 14, 34)

...tak málo na něm bylo místa/ ...mnoho nezbejvalo.

²⁴ *No* is used in 78.6% of all negative sentences. Another means of forming negation is the negative pronominal compound *nothing* (7.1%).

The negations are also among the few examples of contracted verb forms to be found in the analysed sentences. Out of the total of four contractions, only one involves positive verb form.

5.3 The Adverbial

In this section we are primarily concerned with locative adverbials in the Exist and Exist-loc types. We have analysed the form of English adverbials and the syntactic function and position of their counterparts in the corresponding Czech sentences.

Table VIII: Czech counterparts of adverbials in there constructions

	Adv initial/medial	Adv end	Other element
	Σ	Σ	Σ
adverb	7	1	0
PP	20	0	2
Adv phrase	1	0	1
NP	1	0	0
TOTAL	29	1	4

As we can see from the table, by far the most frequent position of the Adv in Czech is at the beginning of a sentence, which suggests that it belongs to its thematic part.²⁵ This fact mirrors the role in FSP of the English adjunct- although it is often placed sentence-finally due to its complexity, it usually carries a low degree of CD. In ex. 53, the locative pinpoints the exact position of the notional S but ultimately, the most important piece of information is that there was not a single photo of the people. The thematic interpretation of the Adv in the house is supported by the semantic structure, the definite article marks the NP as known, while *no* functions as a rhematiser.

²⁵ Here we are concerned with non-emotional and non-emphatic utterances in which the theme tends to precede the rheme in Czech.

53 There were no photographs of them in the house. (HP 17)
V domě nebyla jediná fotografie jeho rodičů.

It seems that even if we omit the Adv in ex. 53, the spatial position of the S is still implied by the context. Indeed, in ex. 54 the location of the S is not present at all in the sentence, yet we find it in its Czech counterpart, which means that it must have been mentioned earlier in the text:

54 There were only two rooms. (HP 24)
V chatrči byly jen dvě místnosti.

Generally, even if there is no explicit Adv in English, one typically appears somewhere in the corresponding Czech clause, whose structure would not be feasible otherwise. At the same time, it helps to shift the S as much to the focus as possible. Therefore we can assert that it fulfills similar function as the *there* subject in English.

This is valid for both initial and medial Czech adverbials. It is worth mentioning that the several adverbials that have appeared sentence-medially in Czech (in the clause pattern V + Adv +S) reflect English adverbials following a modified subject. In many cases the Czech S is then postmodified, in ex. 55 by a relative clause:

55 There had been a flying motorcycle in it. (HP 13)
Byla v něm motorka, která létala.

Some of the other semantic types of adverbials we have encountered are temporal adverbials (cf. ex. 56) and an Adv of accompanying circumstances, most of them occupying the initial position in Czech.

56 There was shyness at first within both of them. (EP 46)

Zpočátku byli oba jaksi plaší.

Apart from adverbials we have also encountered Czech predicates reflecting the English Adv. Note the deverbal noun *sight* acting as a prepositional complement in the PP which forms the locative adverbial in ex. 57:

57 ...there wasn't a map in sight. (HP 4)

...žádný plán města nikde neviděl.

5.4 Semantic classification of *there* constructions

In the analysis of the semantic types of *there* constructions we have taken the classification from section 3 as our point of departure. In Table IX, the existential type is further divided into existential without any extension and existential with an optional locative/temporal adverbial. The other three types include the existential-locative type, the actional and the modal types. We have also added a small class containing constructions where *there* is used merely as a formal means or idiomatically. The criteria for classification are outlined at the beginning of each subsection.

Table IX: Semantic types of the analysed constructions

Type of construction		Σ
Existential	no extension	38
	with adverbial	22
Existential-locative		13
Actional		17
Modal		5
Formal		5
TOTAL		100

5.4.1 The Existential type

It had been expected that the majority of the excerpted constructions would fall in this category. The group of existentials without any extension contains sentences with the clause pattern $S_{\text{there}} + \text{be} + S_{\text{notional}}$. The verb *be* is used to assert the existence of the notional *S* which is typically formed by a common noun. The noun may semantically express a concrete object or entity or an abstract idea. In this type, the location of the *S* may be only implied in English, however, in Czech it is often necessary to add a locative *Adv* in the sentence, as in ex. 58:

58 There was a large birdcage... (HP 22)

Byla tu velká ptačí klec...

The second subtype is formed by the existential constructions with an optional adverbial. The most common *Adv* is the locative but we have also come across eight uses of a temporal *Adv*. This type bears formal resemblance to the Exist-loc construction, however, unlike the latter *there* is obligatory here, even if the *Adv* occupies sentence-initial position. Compare the sentences in ex. 59, the alternative sentence marked is not feasible. The clause in ex. 60 contains a *PP in five minutes' time* functioning as a temporal adverbial.

59 There was silence inside the hut. (HP 28)

→ *Inside the hut was silence./Silence was inside the hut.

V chatrči se rozhostilo úplné ticho.

60 There was a train to London in five minutes' time.

(HP 39)

Vlak do Londýna jel za pět minut.

5.4.2 The Existential-locative type

The criterion we have used to distinguish this type from the Exist with optional Adv consists in paraphrasing the sentence without *there*. If it is possible to leave *there* out, and transform the construction into a purely locative one, we can classify the sentence as Exist-loc with an obligatory Adv. Compare the original with the paraphrased sentence:

61 There was a bare tree about four yards away. (EP 18)

→ About four yards away was a bare tree.

Necelé tři metry odtud stál holý strom.

In comparison to the previous class, the Exist-loc type seems to have more severe constraints on the semantics of the notional S. Obviously, it is quite natural to give a closer localization of a concrete object or entity (e.g. the *tree* in 3) rather than of an abstract idea. As a result, the ratio of occurrence of these semantic categories of nouns in this type is 13:1.

5.4.3 The Actional type

The semantics of this type lies heavily on the action noun constituting the notional S. The nouns we have identified in this type may be roughly divided in the following subgroups: happenings and events (e.g. *drowning*), perceptions (e.g. *smell*) and acoustic/visual effects of coming into view/hearing (e.g. *flash*, *crash*). As we can see, these subjects may have various forms, including deverbal nouns, gerunds or interjections converted into nouns. Very often, the subject is reflected in the Czech verb or it at least tends to influence it semantically (e.g. *there were screams/ozvaly se skřeky*). Although according to Dušková the actional type is typically reflected in subjectless verbal clause in Czech, we have

identified only one such pair (cf. ex. 5). (Dušková 1994: 355) Regarding the verbs, it is important to mention that the Actional type stands out as to the semantic variety of the Czech counterparts of the existential *be*, because these reflect the various nouns comprising the notional subjects of the constructions.

5.4.4 The Modal type

We have traced a few sentences where the modality is not only implied by the context, which is quite typical of *there* constructions, but where the modal verb is actually present in the clause (the less common occurrence). Concerning the first group, the criterion for classification was paraphrasing the sentence with the corresponding modal verb, i.e. actually using the modal verb implied by the context or, as in the following example, by the notional S. In ex. 62 the negative quantifier and the gerund imply the intrinsic modality of absence of ability. Compare the original sentence with the alternative construction:

- 62 ...there was no escaping Dudley's gang, who visited the house every single day. (HP 18)
→ He couldn't escape Dudley's gang, ...
...ještě neunikl Dudleyho bandě, která se u nich scházela každý den.

The modality may also be implied by a postmodifying infinitive (cf. ex. 30). Note that ex. 62, as well as the constructions with the infinitive, express negative modality. The modals that occurred in three of the sentence are *could* and *might*, both used as means of epistemic modality, expressing possibility (cf. ex. 50).

5.4.5 The Formal type

We have put two types of constructions in this class. The first are those sentences where *there* is combined with other verbs than *be*, which renders it a mere formal means of achieving rhematic position of the notional S. (Dušková 1994: 395). The copular verb *seem* was used repeatedly and the transitive verb *seek* once. In the second type *there* is used idiomatically. The one occurrence we have come across is presented below. Note the inversion of the S (obligatorily expressed by a pronoun) and the verb. Interestingly, the present participle immediately follows *be*, however, we cannot classify it as a part of a progressive form, which is supported by the pause in pronunciation dividing *be* from the postmodifying participle. Note that in Czech, the presentational nature of *there he was* is expressed by the adverbial *zčistajasna*:

- 63 Dudley's gang has been chasing him as usual when, as much to Harry's surprise as anyone else's, there he was sitting on a chimney. (HP 15)

Dudleyho banda ho honila jako obvykle, když Harry ke svému vlastnímu překvapení - stejně jako k překvapení všech ostatních - zčistajasna seděl na komíně.

Conclusion

The analysis of the syntactic structure of the notional subject NP confirmed the indefinite and zero articles to be the most frequent determiners. Being used to introduce the S on the scene, they occur mainly with the common nouns denoting concrete entities in the Exist and Exist-loc types. The newness of the S in Czech is implied by the word order, in which it typically occupies the end position indicating its rhematic function. The indefinite article is also the prevailing determiner of the singular count nouns in the Actional constructions, whose Czech counterparts may be subjectless verbal or nominal clauses. The Actional constructions containing notional subjects determined by a zero article are usually reflected in Czech sentences containing both the subject and predicate; the predicate reflects the subject action noun and the subject is added to the Czech structure to express the agent of the verbal action. There is a tendency for the adjectival premodifiers of the English notional subjects to become the adverbial premodifiers of the corresponding Czech predicates.

Another determiner often appearing in the subject NP is the negative quantifier *no*. Interestingly, it has proved to be the most common means of forming negation in *there* constructions as opposed to the negative particle *not*. Again, Czech counterparts of subjects determined by *no*, or by the indefinite pronouns in general, are subjects in end-position. *No* is typically reflected in Czech negative pronoun *žádný* premodifying the corresponding nominal element in the construction with a negated verb. Subject NPs of the Exist type containing English abstract nouns determined by *no* may be reflected in the nominal part of the Czech verbo-nominal predicate.

Other pronouns in the subject NP occur only rarely, however, they may be mirrored in the premodifiers of the corresponding nominal element.

The definite article *the* appeared only in four subject NPs. Some of them express situational uniqueness (enumeration of proper names) or a cataphora, however, the final position of the mirrored subject is retained in all cases.

30% of the subject NPs are premodified, typically by an adjective or past participle which are reflected as attributes of the corresponding Czech subject or object in end position. Present participles have their counterparts in the Czech verbs which may sometimes constitute the predicates of relative clauses. Regarding the postmodification, the most frequent means used is a PP, often introduced by *of*, which is reflected in the Czech attribute in genitive case postmodifying the rhematic noun in end-position. Another postmodifying construction that obligatorily occurs sentence-finally is the relative clause. In *there* constructions we are concerned mainly with restrictive relative clauses, the non-restrictive are rare due to the small number of antecedents with definite reference. Czech counterparts of the relative clauses are of two types; either they are reflected in corresponding relative clauses or they are transposed to main clauses, their verbs acting as the predicates of the Czech sentences. Also reflected mainly in the Czech predicates are present and past participles. In English, their postmodifying nature may be tested by paraphrasing the construction by one without *there* to distinguish them from the progressive form or passive, respectively. Postmodifying infinitives also occurred, either as attributive infinitives with *for*-PP or expressing modality of the verbal action which was also reflected in their Czech verbal counterparts.

Analysis of the heads of the notional subject NPs proved the Czech subject in end-position to be their most frequent counterpart. The Czech subject appears sentence initially only

if it reflects the English elements that carry a low degree of CD, such as the adverbial. This fact also points to the main role in FSP of the free Czech word order. The subject head may also be reflected in the postverbal Czech object. This is achieved by the use of such verbs as the possessive *mít* or by transposing the English subjects formed by action nouns as the objects in constructions with verbs of perception. However, the action nouns are primarily reflected in the Czech predicates. Other counterparts of the abstract subjects include subject complements of the Czech predicates and adverbials. We have proposed four classes of subject nouns according to their meaning, these include nouns expressing actions/events, ideas and feelings, entities belonging to the physical world and finally concrete objects.

As for the verbs, the existential *be* is by far the most frequent one, only rarely alternating with *seek* or *seem*. *Be* is reflected in Czech either directly (as *být*, *existovat*, etc.) or indirectly. In such cases the Czech predicate is formed by the counterparts of other English sentence elements, e.g. by the notional subject or modifiers or it is formed by a verb that collocates with the counterpart of the English subject (i.e. mainly with the Czech subject but also object) and therefore it is more stylistically suitable than the direct Czech counterpart of *be*. These predicates include verbs expressing appearance on the scene, introduction to the situation and the possessive verb *mít*.

Regardless of what the original sentence element may be, the Czech predicates typically appear in the initial or medial position so that the subject occupies the end-position in accord with its higher degree of CD. This fact is demonstrated for example by the verbal counterparts of the English participles; in these constructions, the Czech subject is always in post-verbal position which is often supported by an initial adverbial. The verbs occurring in the final position

are those that reflect English action nouns forming the notional S. In these sentences the Czech subject is often 'supplied' in the form of the indefinite/negative pronoun *někdo/nikdo* which appears initially or medially and the verbal counterpart of the action noun appears finally, hence the increasing degree of CD throughout the clause is always retained.

The verbs are primarily in the past simple tense, marginally in the present simple. Occurrences of modification by the modal verbs *could* and *might* are very rare, however, modality of possibility/ absence of possibility is sometimes implied by other means. Interestingly, the negative particle *not* is used very rarely (negation is formed mainly by *no* in the position of determiner of the notional S). Similarly, the contracted forms of the existential *be* are exceptional.

The English adverbials appear sentence-finally due to their complex construction but they carry a low degree of CD; in Czech this is reflected by the initial position of their, mostly adverbial, counterparts. As we have stated, the AdvS occur in Czech even if their counterparts are not contained in the original sentence. As for their semantic types, we have identified mainly locative adverbials occurring in the existential-locative type and as optional adverbials in the existential type; apart from these, there are also cases of temporal adverbials. Majority of the English adverbials are formed by PPs.

We have distinguished five semantic types of constructions with *there*. Two of these, the Existential and Existential-locative types, are marked by the co-occurrence of *there* and the existential *be* as the constitutive elements, expressing the existence of an entity in certain conditions. Other types are the Actional, which is distinguished by the semantics of its notional subjects, and the Modal, in which a modality is expressed or implied. Finally, there is the Formal type which

includes sentences with other verbs than *be* and cases of idiomatic use of *there*.

The Existential type of *there* constructions appeared most frequently, in fifty-eight out of the hundred sentences. Its notional S is often formed by an abstract noun, but also by a concrete noun expressing animate or inanimate entity. The latter often appears in the Exist construction with an optional adverbial, in which *there* is an obligatory element.

The Existential-locative type occurred thirteen times and our criterion for distinguishing it from the Exist with optional Adv was paraphrasing it as a locative without *there*. It is mainly used to localize concrete objects and entities.

The core of the Actional type are the notional subjects comprising the noun expressing actions, happenings, perceptions, etc. These are typically deverbal nouns, but also gerunds and interjections that are reflected in the Czech predicate.

We have identified Modal constructions of both kinds, those that contain the modal verb as well as those that imply the modality by other means, e.g. by a gerund or by a postmodifying infinitive. There was the epistemic modality of possibility indicated in all these constructions.

The category of Formal type contains sentences with predicates formed by the verbs *seek* and *seem* and one occurrence of *there* used idiomatically, with the inverted word order of the notional S (comprised by pronoun *here*) and the existential *be*.

České resumé

Úkolem této práce bylo porovnat anglické konstrukce obsahující funkční slovo *there* v podmětové pozici a existenciální sloveso *být*, následované vlastním podmětem, s jejich českými protějšky. Tyto konstrukce mají tzv. prezentativní funkci, tedy funkci uvádění nové informace do diskurzu. Tato informace tvoří vlastní podmět této konstrukce a nese nejvyšší stupeň výpovědní dynamičnosti. Postverbální pozice podmětu, která odpovídá jeho rématické funkci, je docíleno právě iniciálním postavením *there*. Zajímalo nás, jakým způsobem se tento fakt odráží v češtině, která podobný prostředek aktuálního větného členění postrádá, a jakým způsobem se do ní konstrukce s *there* převádějí. Pomocí programu *Paraconc*, který umožňuje současně nahlížet cizojazyčný text i s jeho českým překladem, bylo excerpováno 100 příkladů těchto konstrukcí ze dvou beletristických děl, z knihy *Harry Potter a Kámen mudrců* J.K.Rowlingové a z románu *Anglický pacient* Michaela Ondaatjeho. Hlavními teoretickými zdroji této práce jsou *Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny* (Dušková, 1994) a *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (Quirk et al., 1985).

There se nejčastěji vyskytuje se slovesem *be*, s nímž tvoří konstitutivní členy typu existenciálního a existenciálně-lokativního, které oznamují existenci vlastního podmětu, resp. jeho existenci v určitém místě či čase. Dále je možno odlišit dva zvláštní typy konstrukcí s *there*: konstrukce dějové, jejichž vlastní podmět je tvořen dějovým substantivem a konstrukce modální, ve kterých je modalita zpravidla implikována kontextem nebo modifikátory. *There* se však může nacházet v kombinaci i s jinými slovesy, nejčastěji intranzitivními a také jako součást idiomatických vyjádření, v těchto případech má však jen formální funkci.

Jak již bylo řečeno, redukované *there* zastává v těchto konstrukcích pozici podmětu a odlišuje se tak od adverbialního *there*, se kterým se však může objevit v jedné větě. *There* lze považovat za podmět, protože se používá v dovětcích a krátkých odpovědích na zjišťovací otázky, stejně jako v roli sekundárního podmětu v polovětných vazbách gerundiálních, participiálních a infinitivních. (Dušková 1994: 393)

Repertoár sloves, která se vedle existenciálního *be* v konstrukcích s *there* objevují, zahrnuje slovesa vyjadřující existenci, pozici nebo pohyb (*exist, sit, float*), slovesa uvádějící na scénu nějaký jev (*occur, sound*) a slovesa vyjadřující fázovou modifikaci predikátu. Narozdíl od vazby s *be* lze *there* z vazby s těmito slovesy vypustit, začíná-li věta příslovečným určením. Pasivní konstrukce se objevují zřídka (tato slovesa bývají intranzitivní) a jsou formální; je vždy nutné odlišit, zda minulé příčestí patří k pasivní predikaci, pokud se nachází mezi *be* a vlastním podmětem, nebo vlastní podmět pouze postmodifikuje. Obdobné pravidlo se uplatňuje s příčestím přítomným, ačkoli průběhové tvary nejsou v konstrukcích s *there* běžné a příčestí tak většinou patří k postmodifikaci vlastního podmětu. V konstrukci se mohou objevit i modální slovesa, nejčastěji *can, may* a *should*.

Vlastní podmět má v těchto konstrukcích zpravidla negenerickou neurčitou referenci, která souvisí s jeho novostí, resp. s první zmínkou o daném referentu. Jeho determinátory tedy bývají nejčastěji člen neurčitý s počítatelnými substantivy v singuláru, resp. člen nulový v plurálu a s nepočítatelnými substantivy a některá neurčitá zájmena. Užití konstrukce s *there* je navíc obligatorní v případě, že vlastním podmětem je abstraktní substantivum, kdežto vyjadřuje-li podmět konkrétní, hmotný pojem, lze použít konstrukci bez *there*. Ačkoli determinace podmětu členem určitým není úplně vyloučena, musí tento vyjadřovat informaci, která je pro posluchače nová, např. připomínáme-li již zmíněný fakt, uvádíme-li výčet

několika podmětů nebo jedná-li se o podmět v situaci promluvy jedinečný. Z ostatních výrazů se užívají jak číslovky vyjadřující určité množství, tak neurčité kvantifikátory, např. *some, many, a lot of* apod. Častý je také výskyt záporného kvantifikátoru *no*, jehož se zde běžně užívá jako hlavního prostředku tvoření záporu (oproti záporce *not*, která je zde řídká).

Vlastní podmět konstrukcí s *there* může být různě premodifikován, nejčastěji adjektivem nebo minulým příčestím, a také postmodifikován. Jedním z prostředků postmodifikace jsou vztažné věty, typicky restriktivní. Roli minulého a přítomného příčestí jakožto postmodifikátorů jsme již zmínili; dalším způsobem postmodifikace je infinitiv. V postmodifikaci se objevují předložkové vazby, často po předložce *of*, ojedinele pak adjektivní fráze a přístavky.

Konstrukce s *there* umožňují uvádět do diskurzu informace v souladu s principem „end-focus“, podle něhož je v hovoru běžné postupovat od informací již známých k těm novým, resp. lineárně v souladu se stoupající výpovědní dynamičností. *There*, jakožto konstitutivní prvek větného typu nacházející se v iniciální pozici plní roli podmětu a zároveň tak umožňuje koncové, rématické postavení vlastního podmětu, tedy prvku s nejvyšší výpovědní dynamičností. Dalším faktorem působícím společně s „end-focus“ je princip „end-weight“, podle kterého jsou větné členy v preverbální části věty méně rozvětvené než členy v koncové pozici. Přestože čeština nemá žádný prostředek podobný *there*, je v ní možné docílit koncového postavení rématického podmětu pomocí volného slovosledu.

Jako první jsme provedli syntaktickou analýzu vlastního podmětu konstrukcí s *there*. Nejčastěji používanými determinátory jsou neurčitý a nulový člen a to jak v existenciálních a existenciálně-lokativních konstrukcích, kde většinou determinují konkrétní substantiva, tak i v konstrukcích dějových, jejichž podmětem bývají abstrakta a

gerundia. Českými protějšky těchto vět mohou být jednočlenné věty slovesné či věty jmenné, avšak nejčastěji se vyskytl typ, který obsahuje celou základní skladební dvojici, přičemž predikát sémanticky odpovídá dějovému jménu z anglické dějové konstrukce. Pokud je dějové jméno premodifikováno adjektivem, je analogicky premodifikován adverbium i český predikát.

Druhým nejvíce používaným determinátorem jsou zájmena, respektive záporný kvantifikátor *no*, který se zároveň projevil jako nejběžnější prostředek tvoření záporu v konstrukcích s *there*. Podobně jako podměty s neurčitým a nulovým členem, mají i podměty se zápornou determinací své protějšky v českých podmětech v koncové pozici. Samotné *no* přechází v záporné zájmeno *žádný* a projeví se také na záporném tvaru slovesa. Jiná zájmena jsou v podmětu řídká, ale zpravidla se v češtině stávají premodifikátory členu odpovídajícího anglickému podmětu.

Negenerickou determinaci určitou pomocí *the* měly pouhé čtyři podměty. *The* je použito ve výčtu vlastních názvů a také v kataforické referenci. Ve všech případech mají české protějšky (v koncovém postavení) rématickou funkci.

Premodifikátory, které se vyskytují asi u 30% podmětů, tvoří převážně adjektiva a minulá příčestí. Oba typy se v angličtině stávají přívlasky českých protějšků vlastního podmětu. Dále jsme rozlišili přítomná příčestí, která však nejčastěji přecházejí v české predikáty vedlejších vět vztažných postmodifikujících protějšky anglického podmětu. Postmodifikace je nejčastěji tvořena předložkovými vazbami s *of*, které se do češtiny reflektují jako neshodné přívlasky. Podobně se v rématu věty nacházejí i postmodifikující vztažné věty, které jsou zde vzhledem k neurčité referenci antecedentu většinou restriktivní. Tyto věty se v češtině projevují identicky, uvedené vztažným zájmenem *který/jenž*, nebo dávají vzniknout hlavním větám oznamovacím, jejichž přísudek odpovídá přísudku anglické vztažné věty. České predikáty také bývají

protějšky postmodifikujících přítomných a minulých příčestí a infinitivů, které implikují modalitu slovesného děje.

Rozbor prokázal, že řídicí člen podmětové substantivní fráze se nejčastěji odráží v českém podmětu v koncovém postavení, bez ohledu na typ determinace. Ten stojí na začátku věty pouze jako protějšek takových větných členů, které nesou nižší stupeň výpovědní dynamičnosti než vlastní podmět, tedy například příslovečných určení. Dále se anglický podmět reflektuje v předmětu přímém po tranzitivních slovesech jako *mít* a po slovesech smyslového vnímání. Výjimku tvoří podměty dějových konstrukcí, které se reflektují výhradně v českých predikátech.

Podmětová substantiva lze na základě jejich významu rozdělit do čtyř skupin. První obsahuje substantiva dějová, další třída zahrnuje abstrakta vyjadřující myšlenky a pocity, třetí skupinu tvoří jména označující svět kolem nás a poslední skupina obsahuje konkréta označující živé i neživé entity.

Nejběžnějším slovesem je existenciální *be/být*, v několika málo případech se vyskytla slovesa *seem/zdát se* (jakým) a *seek/hledat*. Anglické *be* je do češtiny převedeno buď přímo (jako *být, existovat, jít o*, atd.) nebo nepřímě. V takových větách se pak jako jeho české protějšky vyskytují slovesa, která významově odrážejí jiné členy anglické věty (např. podmět, modifikátory, příslovečná určení) nebo slovesa, která jsou podmíněna českým protějškem vlastního podmětu, např. *uslyšet (zaklepání)* či *objevit se (pohyb)*. Jedním ze sloves, která se v těchto spojeních objevují opakovaně je *mít*, např. *malér, důvod, televizi*.

České predikáty se vyskytují především na začátku a uprostřed věty, tak, aby podmět byl v rématu. Jedním z prostředků zajišťujících koncové postavení podmětu je například příslovečné určení v iniciálním postavení. Objeví-li se v koncovém postavení přísudek, jedná se o protějšek anglického dějového jména a českým tématickým podmětem se pak stává

neurčitě, resp. záporné zájmeno *někdo* nebo *nikdo*. Tak je v rámci věty vždy zachována stoupající výpovědní dynamičnost.

V analyzovaných větách se vyskytla slovesa především v minulém čase, ojediněle v čase přítomném. Modifikaci pomocí modálních sloves jsme téměř nezaznamenali (pouze ve třech případech se objevilo *could* a *might*), podobně výjimečná jsou i užití zápornky *not* a stažené tvary slovesa *být*.

Příslovečná určení mívají v angličtině koncové postavení, jsou často formálně složitá, avšak stupeň jejich výpovědní dynamičnosti je velmi nízký. Tento fakt se v češtině odráží tématickým postavením jejich přímých protějšků. Zajímavé je, že ačkoli se adverbialé nemusí vyskytovat v anglické větě, v odpovídající české konstrukci je často nepostradatelné. Většina příslovečných určení je lokativních, tyto jsou součástí existenciálního a existenciálně-lokativního typu; zaznamenali jsme ale i několik příslovečných určení času a způsobu.

Podle kritérií, která jsme nastínili výše jsme analyzované konstrukce rozdělili do pěti skupin. Zaznamenali jsme 58 případů použití existenciálního typu. Jeho podmětem jsou často abstrakta, ale i substantiva označující konkrétní živé bytosti. Substantiva označující neživé bytosti a předměty se vyskytují spolu s fakultativním příslovečným určením, které je blíže lokalizuje.

Jako existenciálně-lokativní jsme označili celkem 13 konstrukcí. Kritériem, podle něhož jsme tento typ odlišili od typu existenciálního s fakultativním příslovečným určením místa je test spočívající v parafrázi věty bez *there*. Můžeme-li *there* vypustit, čímž se věta změní na lokativní, jedná se o typ existenciálně-lokativní. Je-li však *there* nutné zachovat i při počátečním postavení příslovečného určení, je toto fakultativní a jde o typ existenciální.

Jak již bylo řečeno, dějový typ, který se vyskytl sedmnáctkrát, je určen přítomností dějového substantiva ve

vlastním podmětu; tato substantiva bývají odvozena ze sloves. Typickým protějškem těchto podmětů jsou české predikáty.

Ačkoli se mezi analyzovanými větami objevilo pouze pět příkladů modálního typu, byly použity oba způsoby vyjádření modalit slovesného děje. Ve třech případech se vyskytla modální slovesa (*might* a *could*) a v ostatních je modalita vyjádřena pomocí záporného gerundia v podmětu, resp. postmodifikujícího infinitivu. Ve všech větách se jedná o epistemickou modalitu možnostní.

Jako příklady formálního typu jsme klasifikovali věty obsahující slovesa *seek* a *seem* a větu, v níž je *there* užito idiomatically. Tato věta se vyznačuje inverzí vlastního podmětu, zde tvořeného zájmenem, a slovesa *být*.

Sources

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Appendix

Occurrences of there constructions excerpted from J.K.Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*:

1. The Dursleys had a small son called Dudley and in their opinion there was no finer boy anywhere.
Dursleyovi měli malého synka, který se jmenoval Dudley, a podle jejich názoru to byl ten nejúžasnější chlapec na světě.
2. When Mr. and Mrs. Dursley woke up on the dull, gray Tuesday our story starts, there was nothing about the cloudy sky outside to suggest that strange and mysterious things would soon be happening all over the country.
Když se onoho pošmourného, šedivého úterý, kdy náš příběh začíná, pan a paní Dursleyovi probudili, snad jenom zamračená obloha venku se zdála naznačovat, že po celé zemi se zakrátko začnou dít podivné a záhadné věci.
3. There was a tabby cat standing on the corner of Privet Drive, but there wasn't a map in sight.
Na rohu Zobí ulice stála mourovatá kočka, ale žádný plán města nikde neviděl.
4. There was a tabby cat standing on the corner of Privet Drive, but there wasn't a map in sight.
Na rohu Zobí ulice stála mourovatá kočka, ale žádný plán města nikde neviděl.
5. As he sat in the usual morning traffic jam, he couldn't help noticing that there seemed to be a lot of strangely dressed people about.
Jak vězel v dopravní zácpě, která tu byla každý den, nemohl si nevšimnout, že na ulici je spousta podivně oblečených lidí.
6. He was sure there were lots of people called Potter who had a son called Harry.
byl si jist, že je celá spousta Potterových, kteří mají syna jménem Harry.
7. There was no point in worrying Mrs. Dursley; she always got so upset at any mention of her sister.
Neměl žádný důvod přidělovat starosti paní Dursleyové, která se při každé zmínce o své sestře vždycky tak rozčílila.
8. Although owls normally hunt at night and are hardly ever seen in daylight, there have been hundreds of sightings of these birds flying in every direction since sunrise.
I když sovy normálně loví v noci a za denního světla je jen zřídkakdo zahlédne, od východu slunce byly spatřeny celé stovky těchto ptáků, kteří létali všemi směry.
9. "Owls... shooting stars... and there were a lot of funny-looking people in town today..."

"Sovy... meteority... a ve městě dnes byla spousta lidí, kteří vypadali divně..."

10. His last, comforting thought before he fell asleep was that even if the Potters were involved, there was no reason for them to come near him and Mrs. Dursley.

Poslední, čím se utěšil, než usnul také, byla jistota, že i kdyby se to Potterových nějak týkalo, nemají žádný důvod, aby vyhledali jeho a paní Dursleyovou.

11. He'll be famous -- a legend -- I wouldn't be surprised if today was known as Harry Potter day in the future -- there will be books written about Harry -- every child in our world will know his name!"

Bude slavný - stane se z něj legenda - vůbec by mě nepřekvapilo, kdyby se dnešnímu dni jednou říkalo Den Harryho Pottera - o Harrym se budou psát knihy - každé dítě v našem světě bude znát jeho jméno!"

12. Ten years ago, there had been lots of pictures of what looked like a large pink beach ball wearing different-colored bonnets - - but Dudley Dursley was no longer a baby, and now the photographs showed a large blond boy riding his first bicycle, on a carousel at the fair, playing a computer game with his father, being hugged and kissed by his mother.

Před deseti lety tam byly desítky snímků něčeho, co vypadalo jako veliký růžový plážový míč, na který někdo nasadil pletené čepičky s bambulkou v nejrůznějších barvách - jenže Dudley Dursley už nebyl malé dítě, a fotografie teď ukazovaly světlovlasého hromotluka, jak jede na svém prvním kole, sedí o pouti na kolotoči a hraje s otcem počítačovou hru, a jak ho matka objímá a líbá.

13. It had been a good one. There had been a flying motorcycle in it.

Byl to hezký sen a byla v něm motorka, která létala.

14. Harry put the plates of egg and bacon on the table, which was difficult as there wasn't much room.

Harry přinesl na stůl talíře s vejci a se slaninou, což nebylo nic snadného, tak málo na něm bylo místa.

15. Dudley's gang had been chasing him as usual when, as much to Harry's surprise as anyone else's, there he was sitting on the chimney.

Dudleyho banda ho honila jako obvykle, když Harry ke svému vlastnímu překvapení - stejně jako k překvapení všech ostatních - zčistajasna seděl na komíně.

16. If there was one thing the Dursleys hated even more than his asking questions, it was his talking about anything acting in a way it shouldn't, no matter if it was in a dream or even a cartoon -- they seemed to think he might get dangerous ideas.

Pokud Dursleyovi něco nesnášeli ještě víc než jeho zvědavé otázky, pak to byly jeho řeči o tom, že si něco počíná jinak, než by mělo, a nesešlo na tom, jestli to bylo ve snu nebo třeba

v kresleném seriálu - nejspíš si mysleli, že by ho to mohlo přivést na nebezpečné nápady.

17. There were no photographs of them in the house.
V domě nebyla jediná fotografie jeho rodičů.
18. Harry was glad school was over, but there was no escaping Dudley's gang, who visited the house every single day.
Harry byl rád, že školní rok skončil, tím ovšem ještě neunikl Dudleyho bandě, která se u nich scházela každý den.
19. There was a horrible smell in the kitchen the next morning when Harry went in for breakfast.
Příštího dne ráno, když Harry přišel na snídani, něco v kuchyni strašlivě páchlo.
20. Yet here it was, a letter, addressed so plainly there could be no mistake.
Nicméně dopis tu ležel, s adresou napsanou tak jasně, že to žádný omyl být nemohl.
21. The envelope was thick and heavy, made of yellowish parchment, and the address was written in emerald-green ink. There was no stamp.
Na obálce nebyla žádná známka.
22. There was a large birdcage, which had once held a parrot that Dudley had swapped at school for a real air rifle, which was up on a shelf with the end all bent because Dudley had sat on it.
byla tu veliká ptačí klec, v níž kdysi býval papoušek, kterého Dudley ve škole vyměnil za opravdovou vzduchovku, a ta ležela na polici s hlavní úplně ohnutou, jak si na ni sedl.
23. One thing was certain, there was no television in there.
Jedna věc byla jasná: televizi tam určitě nemají.
24. There were only two rooms.
V chatrči byly jen dvě místnosti.
25. There was a crash behind them and Uncle Vernon came skidding into the room.
Za jejich zády se ozvala hlasitá rána a do místnosti klusem dorazil strýc Vernon.
26. There was a pause.
Chvíli bylo ticho.
27. they couldn't see what he was doing but when he drew back a second later, there was a roaring fire there.
neviděli, co vlastně dělá, ale když se za okamžik zase napřímil, hučel tam už oheň.
28. There was silence inside the hut.
V chatrči se rozhostilo úplné ticho.
29. "I had no idea, when Dumbledore told me there might be trouble gettin' hold of yeh, how much yeh didn't know."
"Když mně Brumbál říkal, že s tím můžou bejt starosti, když tě

budu chtět vodvítz, neměl sem tušení, co všecko nevíš.

30. See, there was this wizard who went... bad.
To byl totiž čaroděj, kterej... Dal se na špatnou cestu.
31. There was somethin' goin' on that night he hadn't counted on -- I dunno what it was, no one does -- but somethin' about you stumped him, all right."
Ten večer se stalo něco, s čím nepočítal - nevím, co to bylo, a neví to nikdo - ale něco v tobě ho připravilo o všechnu sílu."
32. Hagrid looked at Harry with warmth and respect blazing in his eyes, but Harry, instead of feeling pleased and proud, felt quite sure there had been a horrible mistake.
Hagrid se zadíval na Harryho a oči mu zářily láskou a úctou; ale Harry, místo aby ho to potěšilo a naplnilo hrdostí, si byl jist, že jde o nějaký strašlivý omyl.
33. He brought the umbrella swishing down through the air to point at Dudley -- there was a flash of violet light, a sound like a firecracker, a sharp squeal, and the next second, Dudley was dancing on the spot with his hands clasped over his fat bottom, howling in pain.
Deštník v jeho ruce zasvištěl vzduchem a zamířil na Dudleyho - následoval záblesk fialového světla, zvuk, jako když praskne žabka, a pronikavé vykviknutí; pak už Dudley poskakoval na místě, oběma rukama si tiskl tučný zadek a skučel bolestí.
34. Meant ter turn him into a pig, but I suppose he was so much like a pig anyway there wasn't much left ter do."
Chtěl sem ho proměnit v prase, jenže myslím, že už byl praseti tolik podobnej, že tak jako tak mnoho nezbejvalo."
35. There was suddenly a loud tapping noise.
Vtom uslyšel hlasité zaklepání.
36. The hut was full of sunlight, the storm was over, Hagrid himself was asleep on the collapsed sofa, and there was an owl rapping its claw on the window, a newspaper held in its beak.
Bouře už skončila, Hagrid sám spal na zborčené pohovce a na okno tūkala pařátkem sova. V zobáku držela noviny.
37. Bungler if ever there was one.
Většího packala bys nenašel.
38. "Hagrid," said Harry, panting a bit as he ran to keep up, "did you say there are dragons at Gringotts?"
"Hagride," ozval se Harry a trochu supěl, jak musel utíkat, aby mu stačil, "říkal jsi, že u Gringottových jsou draci?"
39. There was a train to London in five minutes' time.
Vlak do Londýna jel za pět minut.
40. "Good," said Hagrid. "There's a list there of everything yeh need."
"Výborně," řekl Hagrid. "je tam seznam všeho, co potřebuješ."

41. Could there really be piles of wizard gold buried miles beneath them?
Bylo vůbec možné, že by se na míle hluboko pod nimi skrývaly hromady kouzelnického zlata?
42. Were there really shops that sold spell books and broomsticks?
Existovaly opravdu obchody kde by prodávali knihy zaklínadel a létací košťata?
43. Then there was a great scraping of chairs and the next moment, Harry found himself shaking hands with everyone in the Leaky Cauldron.
Ze všech stran bylo slyšet hlasité šoupání židlí a v příští chvíli už si Harry podával ruce s každým v Děravém kotli.
44. Doris Crockford shook Harry's hand one last time, and Hagrid led them through the bar and out into a small, walled courtyard, where there was nothing but a trash can and a few weeds.
Doris Crockfordová znovu a naposled potřásla Harrymu rukou a pak ho Hagrid vyvedl výčepem na malý dvorek mezi zdmi, kde byla jen popelnice a trochu plevele.
45. They say he met vampires in the Black Forest, and there was a nasty bit o' trouble with a hag -- never been the same since.
Říká se, že v Černém lese narazil na upíry a měl tam vošklivej malér s nějakou ježibabou - a vod tý doby se úplně změnil.
46. "Look," Harry heard one of them say, "the new Nimbus Two Thousand -- fastest ever --" There were shops selling robes, shops selling telescopes and strange silver instruments Harry had never seen before, windows stacked with barrels of bat spleens and eels' eyes, tottering piles of spell books, quills, and rolls of parchment, potion bottles, globes of the moon...
"Podívej," slyšel Harry jednoho z nich, "to je ten nový Nimbus 2000, vůbec nejrychlejší, co kdy -" Byly tu obchody, kde se prodávaly hábity, krámky s dalekohledy a s podivnými stříbrnými nástroji, jaké Harry ještě nikdy neviděl, výlohy plné soudků s netopýřími slezinami a s úhoříma očima, ledabyly nakupených stohů kouzelnických knih, psacích brků a rolí pergamenu, lahviček s lektvary a měsíčních globusů...
47. There were too many doors to count leading off the hall, and yet more goblins were showing people in and out of these.
Z dvorany vedlo tolik dveří, že se ani nedaly spočítat, a ještě další skřetově vodili návštěvníky dovnitř a vyprovázeli je ven.
48. It sloped steeply downward and there were little railway tracks on the floor.
Svažovala se strmě dolů a na podlaze byly malé kolejnice.
49. And all the time there had been a small fortune belonging to him, buried deep under London.
A po celý ten čas mu přitom patřilo malé jmění, ukryté hluboko pod Londýnem.

50. He didn't have to know how many Galleons there were to a pound to know that he was holding more money than he'd had in his whole life -- more money than even Dudley had ever had.

Nepotřeboval zjišťovat, kolik galeonů je za jednu libru, aby chápal, že má víc peněz, než měl za celý svůj život - ještě víc, než kdy měl i Dudley.

Occurrences of there constructions excerpted from Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient*:

1. He is watching her, waiting for her to say more, but there is nothing more about the English patient to be said.
Pozoruje ji, čeká, že mu Hana řekne něco víc, ale ta nemá nic, co by ještě o tom anglickém pacientovi dodala.
2. There was something about him she wanted to learn, grow into, and hide in, where she could turn away from being an adult.
Bylo na něm něco, co by ráda poznala, do čeho by ráda vrostla, skryla se v tom, kde by mohla přestat být dospělou.
3. There is the africo, which has at times reached into the city of Rome.
Existuje i africo, který občas zasáhne až město Řím.
4. There is the hot, dry ghibli from Tunis, which rolls and rolls and produces a nervous condition.
Existuje i horký suchý gibli z Tunisu, který se valí a valí a vyvolává úzkostné stavy.
5. There was the cluster of known scars on him.
Má hromadu známých jizev.
6. Earlier, when he had walked, his hands in his wet pockets, there had been the manic movement of tanks and jeeps.
Když tady šel prve s rukama v mokrých kapsách, šíleně se tu hnaly tanky a džípy.
7. One bomb crater allowed moon and rain into the library downstairs-where there was in one corner a permanently soaked armchair.
Kráter po jedné bombě umožnil měsíci a dešti vniknout dole do knihovny - v jednom rohu bylo křeslo trvale promáčené.
8. The man moved with a long, slow gait, so smoothly there was hardly a tilt in the bottles.
Muž kráčel dlouhými, pomalými kroky, tak klidně, že se lahvičky snad ani nenaklonily.
9. There is a whirlwind in southern Morocco, the aajej, against which the fellahin defend themselves with knives.
V jižním Maroku existuje vichr ádzidž, kterému se feláhové brání

noži.

10. Here there had been a lake.

Tehdy tam bývalo jezero.

11. There was a bearded head beside him in the shallow water of the Arno.

V nehluboké řece Arno byla vedle něho hlava s vousem.

12. There would be a hush, and the man would pull back from me, and all of them would watch him on the phone listening to the silence of the other voice, which we could not hear.

Začalo se volat po klidu a ten chlap ode mě couvl, a všichni ho pozorovali, jak v telefonu naslouchá tichu toho druhého hlasu, který jsme nemohli slyšet. Čí to byl hlas?

13. There was a girl standing, as if waiting for him, looking down at the keys she was playing.

Stála tam dívka, jako by na něho čekala, a hleděla na klávesnici, na které hrála.

14. There is probably some rare animal, Caravaggio thinks, who eats the same foods that this young soldier eats with his right hand, his fingers carrying it to his mouth.

A Caravaggio si v duchu říká, že snad jen nějaký vzácný živočich pojídá stejnou stravu jako tenhle mladý voják, který si ji prsty pravé ruky podává do úst.

15. Then suddenly there is a crash as the water arrives bursting around her.

A najednou rachot a voda se na ni valí proudem.

16. Whereupon his servants said, Let there be sought for the King a young virgin: and let her cherish him, and let her lie in this bosom, that our King may have heat.

Ať vyhledají králi, našemu pánu, dívku pannu, aby byla králi k službám a opatrovala ho; bude též uléhat po tvém boku a zahřívát krále, našeho pána."

17. There is even a small fern glued into it..

Je v něm dokonce přilepený i malý kousek kapradí.

18. There was a bare tree about four yards away.

Necelé tři metry odtud stál holý strom.

19. There is not even a grain of light.

Není tu ani zrnko světla.

20. At lunch there is Caravaggio's avuncular glance at the objects on the blue handkerchief.

Při obědě spočine Caravaggiův dobrácký pohled na modrém kapesníku, na tom, co na něm leží.

21. Within the villa she would step from rubble to a candlelit alcove where there was her neatly packed suitcase, which held little besides some letters, a few rolled-up clothes, a metal box of medical supplies.

Ve vile se vydávala přes rumišťe do svíčkou osvětleného

přístěnku, kde si uložila svůj pěkně sbalený kufr, v němž toho moc neměla kromě dopisů, trochy srovnaných šatů a plechové krabice s léky.

22. There seemed little demarcation between house and landscape, between damaged building and the burned and shelled remnants of the earth.

Zdálo se, že existuje jen malá hranice mezi domem a krajinou, mezi zničenou stavbou a spálenými a vybombardovanými zbytky země.

23. There were some tribes who held up their open palm against the beginnings of wind.

Některé kmeny dokonce nastavovaly otevřené dlaně vzhůru proti zdvihajícímu se větru.

24. There was no colour during those nights.

Ty noci byly bez jakékoli barvy.

25. There are villages he will travel into with them where there are no women.

Dostává se s nimi do vesnic, kde nejsou žádné ženy.

26. There are villages he will travel into with them where there are no women.

Dostává se s nimi do vesnic, kde nejsou žádné ženy.

27. We could have brought him out safely, of course, but nowadays there is no time to argue.

Byli bychom ho odtamtud samozřejmě bezpečně dostali, jenže v dnešní době není čas se dohadovat.

28. There was no clatter of footsteps as he walked towards her, not a sound on the floor, and that surprised her, was somehow familiar and comforting to her, that he could approach this privacy of hers and the English patient's without loudness.

Kráčel k ní, ale neslyšela žádný klapot kroků, žádný zvuk na podlaze, a to ji překvapilo, připadalo jí to jaksi blízké a uklidňující, že se k jejímu soukromí i soukromí toho Angličana dokáže přibližovat nehlučně.

29. In any case there was no sign of him.

V každém případě nebylo po něm ani vidu, ani slechu.

30. It was always raining and cold, and there was no order but for the great maps of art that showed judgement, piety and sacrifice.

Pršelo a byla zima a neexistoval žádný řád, jen velké umělecké mapy znázorňovaly soudnost, zbožnost a obětování.

31. There was no promise of solution or victory except for the temporary pact between him and that painted fresco's royalty who would forget him, never acknowledge his existence or be aware of him, a Sikh, halfway up a sapper's ladder in the rain, erecting a Bailey bridge for the army behind him.

Neexistoval příslib řešení nebo vítězství, jen dočasný pakt mezi ním a tou královskou bytostí z fresky, bytostí, která na něho zapomene, která si vůbec nepovšimne jeho existence, nikdy ho

nebude vnímat, jeho, sikha, kdesi v púlce ženijního žebříku za deště, stavějícího Baileyho nouzový most pro armádu za sebou.

32. The landscape around him is just a temporary thing, there is no permanence to it.

Okolní krajina je pro něho jenom dočasná, není to nic trvalého.

33. But Hana liked that about him, there seemed to be no feudal spirit around him.

Hana to však měla ráda, připadalo jí, že v něm není nic feudálního.

34. There would be no faint tickings or clickings to signal danger on this kind of bomb.

U tohoto typu bomby žádné slabé tikání anebo cvakání nebude signalizovat nebezpečí.

35. Making him feel in retrospect responsible for her, though there was no thought of that at the time.

Jako by v něm zpětně vyvolávala pocit, že je za ni odpovědný, třebaže v té chvíli na to nikdo nemyslel.

36. There was no light with him as he ran along the dark hall.

Beze světla běžel dlouhou chodbou.

37. There was no defence but to look for the truth in others.

Jedinou obranou bylo hledat pravdu v druhých.

38. There was some little waltz in the way he spoke to her and the way he thought.

V tom, jak na ni mluvil a jakým způsobem přemýšlel, bylo cosi hravého.

39. There were screams of camels in the distance as they picked up the scents.

O kus dál se ozvaly skřeky velbloudů, kteří ty pachy zachytili.

40. And then, as if there were someone in the room who was not to be disturbed, she walked backwards, stepping on her own footprints, for safety, but also as part of a private game, so it would seem from the steps that she had entered the room and then the corporeal body had disappeared.

A potom, jako by byl v místnosti někdo, koho nesmí rušit, kráčela pozpátku, kladla nohy do svých šlápějí, pro větší bezpečí, ale částečně to byla i její soukromá hra, aby to podle stop vypadalo, že do místnosti vešla, ale potom její tělesná schránka zmizela.

41. There were continual drownings, tribes suddenly made historical with sand across their gasp.

Stále někdo v bouři tonul, kmeny se stávaly historií, jak jejich dech zahltil písek.

42. There were continual drownings, tribes suddenly made historical with sand across their gasp.

Stále někdo v bouři tonul, kmeny se stávaly historií, jak jejich dech zahltil písek.

43. There are two levels of long, narrow garden to the west of the house.
Západně od domu se táhne dlouhá úzká zahrada ve dvou úrovních
44. In some open spaces there were hidden towns, and he waited while they dug through sand into the buried rooms or waited while they dug into nests of water.
Na některých otevřených prostranstvích se skrývala města, a on čekal, zatímco se prokopávali pískem do pohřbených místností, anebo čekal, zatímco se prokopávali k ložiskům vody.
45. There are unexploded bombs all over the place.
Všude kolem jsou nevybuchlé bomby.
46. He raised the rifle and held the drifting shadow in his sights for a full minute, deciding not to shoot in order to see if there would be other movement nearby.
Zvedl pušku a držel pohybující se stín v zaměřovači celou minutu. Rozhodl se nestřílet, aby viděl, jestli se někde vedle neobjeví další pohyb.
47. There were constant phone calls into that room.
Do toho pokoje pořád někdo telefonoval.
48. There was shyness at first within both of them, made more evident by the fact that they were now alone.
Zpočátku byli oba jaksi plaší a bylo to tím zřejmější, když zůstali sami.
49. At that time of the war there were hundreds of soldiers lost from themselves, more innocent than devious.
V tomto čase války existovaly stovky vojáků, kteří se sami sobě ztratili, spíš nevinně než nějak nečestně.
50. I wanted to go home and there was no one at home.
Chtěla jsem domů, ale doma jsem nikoho neměla.