

The present study is concerned with –ing participle base adverbs as one realization form of this word class and their Czech equivalents. The focus of our study is on –ingly adverbials especially in their sentence modifying function.

Sentence modification is present in both languages, English and Czech; however, based on morphological and syntactic differences between the two languages, the means of Czech and English sentence modification do not always correspond. Above all, this is caused by the fact that -ingly adverbials, a productive class of disjuncts evaluating the content of the clause from the speaker's point of view, structurally more or less do not have Czech corresponding counterparts. In English –ing participle base adverbials can be regarded as condensed forms of clausal realization (surprisingly ~ it is surprising). Although in Czech such adverbial forms are structurally possible, they are not in common usage (překvapující ~ *překvapujícíně). This often results in applying different means of attitudinal evaluation as counterparts of –ingly disjuncts. Therefore a primary interest of this work is a comparison of morphological, syntactic and stylistic differences in the sentence modification between English and Czech.

Unlike in Czech where the word order is flexible, in English the position of a word in a sentence is a signal of its syntactic function. Adverbials as the most flexible elements in the English sentence are an exception to the rule, with some positions being syntactically more or less homonymous than other. This work also attempts to bring a detailed analysis of nonintegrated and integrated positions of –ingly adverbials. ...