

Abstract

The thesis deals with communication of bilingual Czech-German families in North Rhine-Westphalia. We focused mainly on the language of primary school children. The work contains two sections – a theoretical and a practical section. In the first, theoretical part of the work we tried to describe (on the basis of literature) the issue of bilingualism, bilingual education and language acquisition. We also discussed the development, more specifically of primary-aged children. Attention in this section is also drawn to the region of North Rhine-Westphalia, where our research was realized. The practical part of the thesis focusses on the qualitative research of communication in multilingual families. We tried to create language biographies of individual families, based on interviews with Czech-speaking parents. Using a questionnaire, we investigated the attitudes of German-speaking parents to bilingual education. We also recorded the linguistic performances of children, which were then analyzed. Our goal was to create the most complete overview of the researched families.

Key words

language acquisition, bilingualism, younger school age, linguistic biography