Abstract

This diploma thesis examines the Czech expression *copak* and its translation counterparts. It focuses on the individual functions and meanings of *copak* and the ways these are expressed in the English translation. The aim of the present paper is to determine to what extent the discourse meanings of *copak* as a particle are maintained in the translations and what means English uses to do so. Regarding the pronominal function of *copak*, the main issue is to examine whether the postfix *–pak* is reflected in the English translations or not and what equivalents are used in comparison to the forms without the postfix. Another objective is to analyse the English counterparts according to their formal representation and define their discourse functions in respect to the discourse meanings of the Czech originals containing *copak*.

The research carried out in the present thesis was based on material drawn from the parallel corpus *InterCorp*. A total of 240 examples with the expression *copak* was excerpted with the English translations aligned to them. The analysis was divided into five parts, according to the particular word class of *copak*. Particles proved to be the most productive word class, as they provided 187 examples and 25 different translation counterparts, negative question being the most frequent one. The research showed that although to translate utterances with particles contributing to their discourse meaning (not the propositional content) is rather difficult, in the majority of the cases *copak* was reflected in the translation, as only 7 % of omissions occurred. In order to convey the full range of meanings of the particle *copak* into English, the translations employed a wide scale of equivalents from different language levels. The analysis also gave evidence of the significance of *copak* in the function of a particle in comparison to its pronominal function, since the omissions of the meanings of the postfix *–pak* in these cases were much more frequent (73 %).