

Abstrakt (anglicky)

The aim of this thesis was to describe the impact of melodic-temporal structure on the evaluation of the degree of foreign accent in Czech. Therefore, I analyzed recordings of native speakers of Ukrainian and Russian. To assess the influence of melodic-temporal changes, I edited the recordings, in both domains together and in each separately. In addition, I analyzed the recordings of Czech speakers for comparison. I analyzed all of these recordings acoustically, and at the same time, using a selection of them, I created and conducted a perceptual test in which listeners rated the degree of foreign accent in all four conditions. The results of the perceptual test showed a positive effect of the modifications in melodic-temporal structure on the evaluation of the foreign accent; although the modifications in the domains themselves did not show statistical significance, the temporal modifications showed a visible tendency to improve the evaluation scores. Melodic adjustments did not show a convincing effect on ratings. The acoustic analysis showed deviations from the average articulatory rate, narrower pitch range and lower maximum melodic slope steepness for the foreign speech. No difference in melodic variability was found.

Keywords: foreign accent, lexical accent, melody, duration, perception