

Abstract

This work presents fundamental extra-and intra- language features of deixis (referring to an entity out of the language and to an entity forward or backward in the text) in Czech sign language as well as in Czech language. The work also includes examples from other signed and spoken languages that are taken from relevant bibliography. In particular, more space is devoted to categories of contextual information referred to by deixis such as person, place, and time. Possible ways of how to distinguish deictic expressions from ostensive expressions in signed languages are introduced. In connection with different types of grammatical space in sign languages, route and survey perspectives are mentioned. In the practical part of the work there are described methods and results of the research on the choice of perspective by Czech sign language and Czech language users with regard to a different type of the described environment. The findings were, consequently, compared with the results from American sign language and English language. The second research focuses on strategies used by Czech sign language and Czech language users when describing the objects placed in shared space. The results are then compared with the strategies applied by American sign language users. A DVD with examples of Czech sign language and other relevant material obtained from the respondents forms is part of the bachelor work.

Key words: Czech Sign Language, Deixis, Place Deixis, Space Types in Sign Languages, Deictic Expressions