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TRPNÝ ROD V ČEŠTINĚ A ANGLIČTINĚ

THE PASSIVE VOICE IN CZECH AND ENGLISH

Bakalářská práce

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Prohlašuji, že jsem bakalářskou práci vypracovala samostatně a k tomu využila uvedené zdroje a literaturu.

Olomouc, 06. 04. 2015

Acronyms and Abbreviations:

etc.	and so on
e.g.	for example
et al.	and others
sg.	singular form
pl.	plural form
sth.	something
sb.	somebody
see	reference in the text
S	subject
vs.	versus

Note to brackets: explanations in rounded brackets in this thesis are by author herself.

Abstract

The theoretical part of this thesis concentrates on the passive voice as a grammatical structure /category/, it studies its forms, specifications and usage both in English and in Czech. It tends to compare the passives in the mentioned languages.

The practical part of the thesis examines an English original text with respect to passives structures occurrence employed not only in the text of English novel but both in its appropriate translation into the Czech language. It suggests the ways of translation and tends to compare two samples of translation by two different authors.

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THEORETICAL PART

1.   Introduction

The English teachers often struggle with the problem how to raise their Czech learners´ motivation to use passive constructions more and how to teach them to its correct application. The reason is obvious – passives are used in English more frequently and spontaneously than in Czech. As a result of various qualities of verbs in Czech and in English, the existence of subjectless (impersonal) passive form in Czech, there are some considerable differences in the structure and formation when these two languages are concerned (Dušková, 2012, p. 250). Moreover, there are some specifications, restrictions and differences in the usage. Czech learners often hear from their teachers: "Passives are unavoidable; to understand them properly is necessary". Passives are possible to form in any tense and have its distinctive uses.

This thesis deals with the phenomenon of passive voice from both stylistic and functional point of view and tends to throw light to the matter as a whole. In the theoretical part it concentrates on its forms, the formation with its typical and peculiar features based on theoretical background. Moreover, reasons for the usage are expressed. It goes into detail in terms of the English language while especially principles of the Czech language are pinpointed. Relevant professional literature provides information for this section. In the practical part called the research, a text of classical English novel is analysed in order to find out frequency and types of passive occurrence, at the same time the Czech relevant text translated by two different authors is compared and contrasted and the ways of translation are analysed.

2. Voice

2.1. Voice as a grammatical category

Voice belongs to the linguistic categories that exist in most languages. Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 240) look at the system of voice in English as one where the terms differ as to how the syntactic functions are aligned with semantic roles. Whereas the traditional approach assumes that voice is a purely verbal category expressing different relationships between the verbal action and the actants. The verbal part tends to express this relationship by means of voice while the nominal part may convey it through case. In the narrow and formal sense of the word, this verbal category is defined to express the opposition of active and passive construction of the verb (Bělíček, 1994, p. 328). As Bělíček further says the English term voice derives from Latin *vox*, which means sound or voice, and implies that one verbal action, one dynamic - semantic content, may be voiced alternatively by an active or a passive grammatical form.

2.2. Active and passive voice

To recapitulate the facts from the above chapter, the voice relates to how sentences are constructed. The major importance comes down to verbs that in most clauses relate to an action, activity or to temporary, changeable conditions and are called **dynamic verbs** (Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990, p. 17). Some verbs describe the state of existence, their meaning denotes lack of motion. Greenbaum, Quirk call them **stative verbs**. Whenever there is a verb in a sentence, one of two kinds of voice is used, which is a way how to indicate a relation of the subject of the sentence to the action. Nevertheless, Quirk et al. (1985, p. 169) stress that the category of voice concerns not only verb phrases but both other constituents in the clause, and thus the contrast between active and passive must be reconsidered in the larger context.

"The general term active and passive are based on the semantic role of the subject in clauses expressing actions" Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 240). Active voice is used in a clause whose subject expresses the agent of the main verb and the subject does, did or will do the action of the verb. The subject of this sentence is the doer of the action and the direct object (if there is any) is the receiver of the action. Passive voice is used in a clause when the patient stands in

the role of subject and the main emphasises is placed on the action of the verb. To sum it up, both passive and active voice refer to the form of a verb and both of them can express the same idea or utterance (Alexander, 2010, p. 241). While in the active, the subject of the verb is the person or the thing doing the action, in the passive, the action is done to the subject. Examples of passive constructions are taken from Alexander (2010, p. 241, 242):

The food was cooked last night. 　　　　*Rome was not built in a day.*

This wallet was found in the street.

However, there are clauses that do not describe actions although they are considered to be active and passive categories. Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 240) call them **active and passive pairs** and explain that their syntactic likeness or the syntactic relation of the members is the same as in typical passive constructions mentioned above and they give the following examples:

Everyone saw the accident. 　　　　*The accident was seen by everyone.*

His colleagues dislike him. 　　　　*He is disliked by his colleagues.*

2.3.　Comparison of active and passive voice

"The distinction between the active and passive applies only to sentences where the verb is transitive and it involves both the verb phrase and the clause as a whole" (Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990, p. 44). The change of the verb phrase e.g. from *kisses* to *is kissed* (Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990, p. 44) and other factors are described in chapter 3.1. , transitivity is dealt with in chapter 3.3. As for the clause level, the noun phrase in the role of subject in a passive construction usually corresponds to the noun phrase which is the direct object in the associated active construction (Bieber et al., 1999, p. 475). This seems to be the result of the comparison followed by the fact, that the active subject becomes the passive agent and a preposition *by* is needed to be inserted as in examples taken from Greenbaum, Quirk (1990, p. 44):

The butler murdered the detective. 　　　　active

The detective was murdered by the butler. 　　　passive

Syntactically the passive version is clearly more complex than the active by virtue of containing extra elements: the auxiliary verb *be* and the preposition *by*. It is for this reason that

Huddleston and Pullum (2012, p. 238) consider the passive as a non-canonical construction (not the major one; not the key one) and explain that non-canonical constructions have syntactically more elementary or basic counterparts. From the other point of view, the passive voice sentences necessarily add words and change the normal direction of action, they make the reader work harder to understand the intended meaning. Sometimes it can make the impression that the active sentences flows more smoothly and are easier to understand. Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 247) introduce two extreme attitudes. On the one hand, passives are required for objectivity, as some writers on scientific topics appear to think. On the other hand, some usage books and style guides insist that the passive is better avoided altogether. Both policies are excessive."Passives are fully grammatical and acceptable, and a passive is often the right stylistic choice" Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 247).

3. Forms of English passives

3.1. Forms, negation, question

Most passive constructions are formed with the auxiliary *be* followed by an *ed-partciple = past passive participle* of the main-lexical verb (Bieber et al., 1999, p. 475). To form the required tense, the auxiliary verb *be* must be conjugated. Both questions and negations are formed in the same way as other compound (composite) forms (Dušková, 2012, p. 250).

The picture is finished.   *Has the picture not been finished?*

The picture is not finished.   *The picture has not been finished yet.*

Is the picture finished?

However, in some cases the auxiliary *be* can be replaced by *get* or *become*. Quirk denotes these passives as **get-passives** and they will be mentioned separately further in this thesis in chapter 5.5.

According to Bělíček (1994, p. 329), there is a great variety of passive verb forms which may be classified from different angles. The different tense-aspect combinations are shown in the following table adapted from Quirk et al. (1985, p. 159). Active forms are added:

present	*is kissed*	*kisses*
past	*was kissed*	*kissed*
modal	*may be kissed*	*may kiss*
perfective	*has been kissed*	*has kissed*
progressive	*is being kissed*	*is kissing*
modal + perfective	*may have been kissed*	*may have kissed*
modal + progressive	*may be being kissed*	*may be kissing*
perfective + progressive	*has been being kissed*	*has been kissing*
modal + perfective + progressive	*may have been being kissed*	*may have been kissing*

3.2. The passive gradient

Nevertheless, according to Quirk et al. (1985, p. 89) the above mentioned definition (chapter 3.1.) is purely formal and very broad and should include all the following sentence types:

1. *This violin was made by my father.*

2. *This conclusion is hardly justified by the results*.

3. *Coal has been replaced by oil.*

4. *This difficulty can be avoided in several ways*.

5. *We are encouraged to go on with the project.*

6. *Leonard was interested in linguistic.*

7. *The building is already demolished.*

8. *The modern world is getting /becoming/ more highly industrialized and mechanized.*

9. *My uncle was/seemed/got very tired*.

However, only examples 1-4 are called by Quirk et al. (1985, p. 89) as **central or true passives** when taking the verb´s function and its meaning into consideration. This is how Quirk et al. see passives from **gradient** point of view. The examples 5-8 are called **semi-passives** and **pseudo-passives** as there is a clear correspondence with an active verb phrase or active clause. The example 9 is analysed to be a clear **adjectival complement** following copular verb. The

author of this thesis calls the examples 5-8 as a **special forms of passive**, they will be dealt with further on in chapter 5.

3.3. Transitivity

3.3.1   Transitive, monotransitive and ditransitive verbs

Passive constructions are possible with most transitive verbs (Bieber et al., 1999, p. 475). While active voice which is considered by Huddleston, Pullum (20012, p. 243) as a default (the starting one; the main one) in the voice system can be formed nearly in all verbs. Transitivity is a property of verbs saying if the verb can take on object. Those verbs requiring an object are called **transitive verbs**. In other words, if there is someone or something receiving the action of the verb, the verb is transitive. Bělíček (1994, p. 339) describes this process as a **government or complementation** = tendency of a verb to be complemented by one or more objects in definite case verb form. Verbs taking just one object are **monotransitive verbs**. Bělíček puts these examples: *open sth., love sb., stop sth., cath sth.* etc*.*

According to Alexander (2010, p. 242) there are some verbs that have two objects – **direct** and **indirect.** They are called **ditransitive verbs.** Thus verbs such as *bring* or *give* can have two objects and they can also have two passive forms.

Tom gave me a pen.	*me* - indirect object, *a pen* - direct object
I was given a pen by Tom.	the indirect object becomes the subject
Tom was given a pen by me.	the direct object becomes the subject

A direct object is usually a noun phrase, not necessarily only a single word. As Alexander further suggests personal subjects tend to be more common than impersonal ones, because we are more interested in people or animals than things. Although Dušková (2012, p. 252) argues that the subject becomes the object with the lower level of cummunicative dynamism. Other verbs stated by Bělíček are: *teach sb. sth., envy sb. sth., tell sb. sth., offer sb. sth., ask sb. sth.* etc*.*

3.3.2. Transtitive verbs which do not allow the passive construction

Nevertheless, Dušková (2012, p. 258) argues that not all transitive verbs form passive forms. Ttransitive verbs whose object is affected by the verb action or is an imminent participant of the verb action can form the passive construction. However, once the relationship represents other semantic relation (e.g. possessive) like *have* or *get*, it is impossible to form the passive.

She has blue eyes.   *Her eyes are blue.* variation   *Blue eyes are had by her.* incorrect

Only an infinitive construction is considered by Dušková as admissible but regarded to as an exception.

There was nothing to be had.

Dušková continues to enumerate particular verbs that do not allow passive construction: *cost, last, mean, resemble, lack, suit, escape, hold, resemble, hold (contain), equal, weight, fit, etc.* In fact, they are stative transitive verbs called **middle verbs** (terminology of Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990, p. 45).

The auditorium holds 500 people.   *Will this suit you?*

In spite of this fact, Quirk et al. (1985, p. 162) select out of this group some verbs of volition and attitude that can easily occur in the passive and contrast *want* in the example:

The police want him.   *He is wanted by the police.*

There are some verbs in this group which can be both stative and dynamic. Alexander (2010, p. 242) mentions that they can be passive only in their dynamic sense and presents the following examples:

This desk measures 125x60 cms.   *This desk has been measured.*

3.4. Intransitive verbs

If there is no object, the transformation to passive construction is impossible. There is nothing to become the subject of a passive sentence. Such verbs are called **intransitive verbs**.

They often describe physical behaviour: *wait, disappear, cry, arrive, drive, stand, agree, go, collapse, exist,* etc. Bělíček´s examples are:

They rode to Herefort. *She lives the next door.*

Although for Dušková (2012, p. 259) if the verb has as well as transitive meanings, the passive voice is formed in these meanings, e.g.:

The conference will be held in May. *It was meant as a compliment.*

3.5. Verbs generally used in passive

A small number of verbs are used more frequently in the passive than in the active (Alexander, 2010, p. 243). Bieber at al. (1999, p. 479) claim that there are lexical factors strongly influencing this instance. Although they are grammatical in both the active and passive voice, they are used over 90 percent of the time in the passive voice: *be subjected to, be based on, be positioned*. Whereas *be born*, *be reputed* occur exclusively only in passive. Bieber puts examples:

The material was deemed faulty.
Brandon Lee was born in Oakland, California.

3.6. Short and long passives

The most common type of passive construction in English is the short passive also called the **agentless passive** – agent is absent altogether rather than reduced to a prepositional phrase introduced by. Quirk at al. (1985, p. 88) describe that the omission of the agent occurs mainly when the agent is irrelevant, unimportant, unknown, implicit or evident from the context or when it is left out as redundant. The case of agent absence is called by them **agent constraints**, the following examples are stated:

The Prime Minister has often been criticized recently.

Jack fought Michael last night and Jack was beaten.

On the other hand Carter, McCarthy (2006, p. 798) highlight that the passives occurring without an agent phrase enable to focus on the process. What is or is not done, what happens, or what is important. At the same time, Huddleston, Plum (2012, p. 243) describe that short passives have an important function as they enable to leave out something that would be obligatory in the active, namely a main clause subject.

These passives represent very often impersonal style. They occur in science or technical writings (examples are introduced in chapter 4.1.). Bibber et al. (1999, p. 477) state that it might be regarded as expected style typical of much academic writing. Furthermore they explain that news has somewhat different reasons for the usage of short passives. The focus of the story is an event involving an affected person or institution and the agent may be easy to infer. Hence, with journalistic desire to save space and maximize the incident it is natural to omit these agents.

The passive construction whose agent is expressed by the *by-phrase* or simply by any prepositional phrase is called **long passive** (Bibber at al., 1999, p. 475). Contrary to the short passive it can be replaced by the active equivalent in the same meaning. Although this phrase is generally optional and only every fifth English passive have it (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 164) there are some verbs that are suggested by Dušková (2012, p. 253) to be completed by by-phrase or by adverbials like:

He was brought up by his aunt.   *He was brought up with great care.*

3.7.   Forms of Czech passive

There are two different syntactic constructions with the passive meaning in the Czech language - **the periphrastic passive** and **the reflexive passive**, both are derived from the basic active frame and are very often interchangeable (Dušková, 1999, p. 150).

3.7.1.   Periphrastic passive

This form is a compound form expressed by the appropriate form of the auxiliary verb *být* or rarely *bývat* and of a passive participle of a lexical verb as in examples: *byl potrestán, je trestán,*

je bit… and is generally formed from transitive verbs – verbs with an object in accusative (Havránek, Jedlička, 1981, p. 236). It is an equivalent of an English passive structure *be + passive participle* and Dušková (2012, p. 250) calls it **pasívum složené.**

Některé podrobosti byly vynechány.   *Obraz byl dokončen.*

Periphrastic passive allows syntactically to express the agent, either by means of the 7th case or by using prepositional case of personal agent (Havránek, Jedlička , 1981, p. 238).

Peníze byly vyplaceny pokladnou.   *Byl pokárán od matky.*

Although these grammarians highlight that in Czech passive constructions the agent is expressed seldom and avoiding the agent is considered to be the main feature of usage of the Czech passive. The grammarians further agree that periphrastic passive is a bookish way of expressing the passive meaning, rather formal and even obsolete in modern Czech, especially the passive with expressed actor. Grepl, Karlík (1989, p. 161) consider it to be an artificial way, mainly when imperfective and intransitive verbs are concerned.

Tomu je přikládána velká důležitost.

3.7.2. Reflexive passive

This is a construction formed by the indicative and the reflexive particle *se.* Deriving from the active frame, the verb changes its form to reflexive passive form, the participant in accusative becomes its subject and the actor becomes general. Jedlička, Havránek (1981, p. 237) highlight that it expresses the continuity of an action and is used only with inanimate subjects like in examples: *okna se myjí, lístky se vydávají.* Another frequent occurrence is according to Jedlička, Havránek in conditionals:

Kdyby se byl plán dobře promyslil, nebylo by třeba tolik dohánět.

On the other hand Komárek et al. (1986, p. 174) stress that reflexive passive relates nearly exclusively to the 3rd person sg. and pl. and when used in the 2nd person it is restricted to an administrative style:

Vyzýváte se, aby jste zaplatil dlužnou částku.

However, Dušková (1999, p. 150) warns that the use of this construction can be ambiguous as it can denote a reflexive pronoun as well. In the the 1st person the reflexive pronoun has reciprocal meaning: *hájím se - I defend myself, známe se – we know each other.* Furthermore, ambiguity in the 3rd person, particularly with animate subjects, is obvious. *Tom se myje* may mean, according to the context, *Tom is washing himself* or *Tom is being washed*.

As there is no corresponding equivalent in English, it is recommended to be translated by means of the active voice with general human agent (Dušková, 2012, p. 259). In comparison with the periphrastic passive this one is usually used in common spoken language, actually it is nearly the only possible way how to express the passive meaning in present tense as in the example taken from Havránek, Jedlička (1981, p. 238):

Obchody se otvírají v 9 hodin.

In spite of this fact, Štícha (1979) mentions, that in some expressive utterances it is possible to use the reflexive passive with the purpose to leave the agent deliberately unknown:

Když bylo třeba někoho se zbavit, prohlásil se za kacíře.

4.   Usage of passive voice

In comparison with Czech the passive in English is used much more frequently. It refers to the lack of endings with English nouns and adjectives and to the fix word order. Another rule that is always to observe is the strict position of the subject that must stand before the verb within the clause. Thus the noun, which stands for an on object in an active sentence, becomes a subject in a passive sentence.

4.1.   Reasons for the usage of passive voice

In Bělíček´s opinion (1994, p. 331), the passive construction is very rare in popular colloquial speech. On the other hand Quirk et al. (1985, p. 166) assume that the passive voice is more commonly used in informative than in imaginative writing and it is popular in the objective and

impersonal style. Passive voice is not merely an alternative to the active voice, but it has its own distinctive uses. Quirk and other modern grammarians speak about **frequency constrains** imposed on its usage as follows:

1/ the effort to avoid vagueness in sentences with indefinite or general subject – they, we, you Bělíček (1994, p. 331)

New department stores are built in all large cities.

2/ the effort not to use various subjects within one statement, which is described by Bělíček (1994, p. 331) as a stylistic preservation of a subject

She went for a trip and was raped by the driver.

3/ the effort to avoid identifying the agent in order to disclaim the responsibility (Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990, p. 46)

A mistake has been made in calculating your change.

4/ the effort to define the agent by the public authorities and institutions (Bělíček, 1994, p. 339) - requests, orders, prohibits = the effort to produce a formal style

Visitors are requested not to touch the exhibits. The patients will have to be X-rayed.

5/ the effort to emphasise new information which appear at the end of the sentence – according to Bělíček (1994, p. 339) this is the application of the **Functional sentence perspective** enabling to focus on the agent

This type of submarine was developed by the Americans.

6/ the effort to avoid starting clauses with long expressions - long active subject (Greenbaum, Quirk, 1990, p. 46)

We were surprised by the number of people trying to leave the city. More natural than…*The number of people trying to leave the city surprised us.*

7/ some specific and typical contexts for the passive (Alexander, 2010, p 246)

Formal notices: *Candidates are required to present themselves fifteen minutes before it begins. They are asked to be punctual.*

Press reports: *Many people have been questioned and the owner of the stolen getaway car has been traced.*

Headlines, advertisements, notices, etc: *Kennedy assassinated! Prices slashed! Petrol cupons accepted!*

Scientific writings (to describe progress): *The mixture is placed in a crucible and is heated to a temperature of 300 C.*

4.2. Reasons for the usage of passive voice in the Czech language

The passive constructions are mainly used in cases when the speaker wants to avoid saying who the actor is or if the actor is general. Komárek et al. (1986, p. 171) indicate this effort as a **degradation** or **generalization** of an agent from the semantic point of view.

Generally, Havránek, Jedlička (1981, p. 235) concentrate on the issue of the usage with respect to the verbs. Only transitive and dynamic verbs have some relation to the subject, an agent existence is assumed and the usage of passive voice is possible. However, possessive and volition verbs express no action and thus do not have passive form, which is in fact the same principle as in English. On the other hand, Kopečný (1962, p. 119) stresses that the passive voice is used in situations when the agent is suppressed from the position of the subject. He distinguishes these fields: usage with transitive verbs – these are passives in a strict sense, the object becomes the subject in the passive e.g. *dům je opravován*; with transitive verbs with the direct object – the object remains in the same place in the clause after the passivation, the subject is suppressed deagentivisited , subjectless clause arise e.g. *mluvilo se o něm*; the passive formed with the intransitive verb – such constructions are established by deagentivization, the result is in most cases the reflexive passive e.g. *šlo se cestou necestou.*

5. Specifications in the formation of English passives

5.1. Semi-passives

Semi-passive sentences (see sentences 5-6 in chapter 3.2.) are according to Quirk et al. (1985, p. 169) those whose members have both verbal and adjectival properties. They are verb-like in having active analogue. Adjectival properties are recognised when it is possible to modify the participle with *quite*, *rather, more* and a verb *be* can be replaced by a lexical copular verb such as *feel* or *seem*. Moreover the sentences are rather stative than dynamic.

We feel rather encouraged.	*Leonard seemed very interested.*
I was worried about you all night.	adjective, a state
I was worried by mosquitoes all night.	passive, a dynamic verb

Alexander (2010, p. 245) presents the above mentioned examples and adds the following ones: *shut, broken, delighted, excited* and adds that the adjective words cannot be used with by-agent and cannot be transposed into a sentence in the active. Whereas Carter, McCarthy (2006, p. 794) suggest the following examples:

I´m quite fascinated by what you say.	like an adjective semi-passive
He is totally obsessed with astrology.	more adjectival, prepositional complement
	has no active agent role

5.2. Pseudo-passives

Pseudo-passives (see sentences 7-8 in chapter 3.2) have neither an active transform nor a possibility of agent addition. They have chiefly their passive form but they correspond to an active sentence in terms of meaning. They are divided by Quirk et al. (1985, p. 169) into:

1/ structures with current copular verbs *be, feel, look* (sentence 7)

2/ structures with resulting copular verbs *get, become, grow* (sentence 8)

Pseudo-passive is a term used for the passive of **prepositional verbs** too. These are intransitive verbs followed by a prepositional phrase. This means that the passive construction can treat the noun phrase complement of preposition as a kind of direct object and promote it to subject (Dušková, 2012, p. 252); they will be discussed further on in chapter 5.6.

Someone has slept in my bed.   *My bed was slept in.*

5.3. Pseudo-passives with have/get/make formation

S +have + object + past participle

This construction is passive in meaning and describes situations where we want someone else to do something for us. It is very often called by Alexander the **causative** (2010, p. 247) and the focus is on what is done to something or someone, not on what someone does. He explains that we use the causative to stress the fact that we are causing someone else to perform the service. It is used with verbs like: *clean, deliver, develop, mend, photocopy, press, print, service*, etc...(Alexander, 2010, p. 247):

I want to cut my hair. unnatural   *I want to have my hair cut***.**

We have our house decorated.

5.4.   Mediopassives

Mediopassive constructions are presented by active verbs having passive meaning. Alexander (2010, p. 243) explains that there are only a few words of this kind and states the following examples:

This surface cleans easily.   it means that the surface can be cleaned easily
This wine is selling quickly.   *Her novel is reprinting already*.

While Bělíček (1994, p. 328) calls these mediopassive constructions the **middle voice** and considers them to be characteristic feature of English that are expressed both in Czech and in most Europeans languages by the equivalent reflexive form, Dušková (2012, p. 256) distinguishes 3 types of these passives and puts examples:

1/ expressing general characteristic – mainly with dynamic verbs

 Ripe o*ranges pee well.*

2/ expressing modal possibility, mostly common in negation

The lid won´t shut.   The door doesn´t lock.   The paper doesn´t tear straight.

3/ expressing particular characteristic

 He counts among the best in his profession.   A drop forms at the bottom of the tube.

5.5. Get-passives

So far mainly passive constructions with auxiliary *be* have been discussed. Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 245) call them **be-passives**. There is another possibility - *get* instead of *be*. Such constructions are called **get-passives.** But unlike be-passives, they need to use the dummy auxiliary *do* in the negative and interrogative.

They didn´t get charged until later.

These passives are considered to be rare and they occur in conversation. Bieber et al. (1999, p. 481) give reasons for their rarity by putting the examples: *get married.....* only 20 occurrences per million words; *get hit*, *get involved*, *get stuck.....* only 5 occurrences per million words. According to Greenbaum, Quirk (1990, p. 46) they often convey the connotation, that the referent of the subject has some responsibility for the action, following examples are introduced by them: *get caught, get dressed, get run over.* Whereas, Murphy (1994, p. 86) explains that *get* is used to say that something happens to somebody or something, especially if this is unplanned or unexpected:

Our dog got run over by a car.

On the other hand in a sentence *Jill is liked by everybody* the substitution by *get liked* is not possible as this in not a happening.

Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 245) add that get-passives are a mark of informal style, while be-passives are stylistically neutral. In speech get-passives are used to express small details about a particular situation, they especially cover emotional responses and as a matter of fact they are no passive in meaning.

I got hit.   I got my hair washed.   I got myself cleaned up.

5.6. Prepositional passives, phrasal verbs in passives

It is possible to form a passive construction by turning the complement of the preposition in an active clause into the subject of the passive clause. In other words, the subject of a passive may correspond to an object of a preposition (Bělíček, 1994, p. 340). This is enabled by the

broader conception of the object in English, which give rise to a larger variety of passive constructions whose subjects are not derived only from the accusative object as it is common in most languages. When the prepositional passive is formed, the preposition is stranded and the object of the preposition is placed in the position of the subject. Huddlestone, Pullum (2012, p. 244) explain that the preposition is specified by the preceding verb or verbal idiom e.g. *look into* = prepositional verb, *take advantage of* = idiom.

Such objections must be reckoned with.

The test will be carried out next week. (Dušková, 2012, p. 252*)*

A similar case is well described by Dušková (2012, p. 252) – passive constructions formed from transitive verbs with adverbial particle or with both adverbial particle and a preposition, they are called **phrasal passives**:

The tests will be carried out next week.   Such conduct can´t be put up with.

5.7.   Non-finite complementation with passives

English verbs have three non-finite forms – the infinitive, *ing*-participle, *ed*-participle. Two of them - **the infinitive** and **the *ing*-participle** can occur in the passive. It is designated by Dušková (2012, p. 267) that passive infinitive is formed by present or past infinitive of the auxiliary verb *be* and past participle of the lexical verb as in: *to be carried* (present), *to have been carried* (past) and the employment of this construction is in sentences where the logical subject of the infinitive is the recipient of the action:

He expects to be promoted.

I assume the matter to have been filled in the appropriate records.

If the infinitive does not share the subject with the main clause, as in the second example by Carter, McCarthy (2006, p. 794), the logical subject must be expressed. Dušková continues to designate that the progressive passive forms do not occur. She further explains that the *–ing* participle forms are formed by edition of the suffix *–ing* and used both in present and past tenses: *being used* (present), *having been used* (past). The rule for logical subject expression is the same as with the infinitive.

Having been diagnosed with cancer, I consulted both my acupuncturist. (Carter, McCarthy, 2006, p. 794)

He was completely absorbed in the game being played. (Dušková, 2012, p. 270)

Both the passive infinitive and the passive *–ing* participle can function as the object of transitive verbs. It must be noted that some verbs can only collocate with the infinitive, some only with the *-ing* participle, and some either with the infinitive or with the *-ing* participle without change of meaning except for a few cases where there is a difference in meaning. According to Alexander (2012, p. 242) passive constructions are common after *–ing* form for example after verbs such as *enjoy, like, remember* like in *most people don´t like being criticized* or after verbs followed by a *to*-infinitive: *he hates to be criticized.*

On the contrary, Mann, Taylore-Knowles (2008, p. 55) tend to point out that there are some verbs that can be followed by the bare infinitive without the particle *to* in active sentences. They are followed by the full infinitive in passive sentences. These verbs include *hear, help, make*, *see*.

We heard Jim say he was going to Albania.
Jim was heard to say he was going to Albania.

5.8. Anticipatory constructions

As it has already been discussed in chapters 3.6., 4.1., agentless passives are conventionally used in impersonal speaking and writing styles (e.g. academic and technical language) when processes are the focus of attention like in the example taken from Carter, McCarthy (2006, p. 799):

Vitamin tablets should be taken daily.

Such impersonal uses often involve reporting verbs such as: *believe, consider, find, say, think*. Although Alexander (2010, p. 245) argues that if there is a necessity to be cautious, anticipatory passive constructions it + passive + that clause with verbs like: *allege, assume, decide, declare, hope, imagine, prove, report, show, suggest, suppose,* etc. can be used like in:

It is said that there is plenty of oil off our coast.

Another possibility is **existential *there*** with the following pattern: there + passive + to be + complement. It concerns a limited selection of verbs e.g.*: acknowledge, fear, feel, say, think, understand* etc*.*

There are known to be thousands of different species of beetles.(Alexander, 2010, p. 245)

5.9.   Bare-passives

Past-participial clauses also occur elsewhere with passive interpretation, Huddleston and Pullum (2012, p. 245) call them **bare-passives** because they lack the *be* and *get* markers. They function as modifiers in the structure of noun phrases but as highlighted by Huddleston und Pullum they are comparable to relative clauses in be-passive form:

We want a house built after 1990.   A house which was built after 1990.

However, they can function as a complement as well:

He saw his son knocked down by a bus. (Huddleston, Pullum, 2012, p. 246)

5.10.   Specifications in the formation of Czech passives

5.10.1.   Subjectless passive

Czech passive constructions can be formed without a subject. This impersonal, subjectless passive has no equivalent in English but it can be expressed in different ways. As Dušková comments (2012, p. 265) in English the subject is always implied and it corresponds to various Czech cases except for nominative and accusative:

Rozkazu bylo uposlechnuto.   *The command was obeyed.*

Naší výstrahy se nedbalo.   *Our warning was not heeded.*

Another way is to use the prepositional passive, which is on the other hand impossible in Czech, where the prepositional object remains unchanged in the passive.

S touto možností se počítalo.   *This possibility has been reckoned with.*

As Dušková (1999, p. 153) further mentions, there is another instance of special interest from the contrastive point of view – construction of the subjectless passive without an object: *Proč zamyká?, Zamyká se, jenom, když nikdo není doma*. The subject part is completely suppressed and the whole clause consists entirely of a verbal predicate. Thus in Czech there occur very often so called one element sentences whose aim is to concentrate on the action as in the examples: *zpívalo se, šlo se* (Havránek, Jedlička, 1981, p. 237).

6.   The comparison of English and Czech passives

Summarizing the information from the very beginning of this thesis, firstly, Czech and English verbs differ in some qualities, secondly, a specific subjectless passive construction exists in Czech. These facts contribute to some differences in structure and formation of passives.

6.1.   The main comparison of English and Czech passives

As Dušková highlights (2012, p. 252) in Czech only an direct object can become a subject of a passive while in English both direct and indirect object can become a subject of a passive sentence, which seems to be the greatest difference and the most important reason for the more frequent passive occurrence in English.

Another statement that is presented by Dušková (1999, p. 167) and is important to consider when comparing these languages with respect to the occurrence of passives are the principles of the functional sentence perspective. Owing to the inflectional character of the Czech language, the word order has not, as a rule, grammatical function, but is essentially governed by the principles of the functional sentence perspective. As a result, the same placement of the sentence components can be achieved by both voices.

English being an analytic language does not decline and conjugate, it conveys the grammatical relationship without using inflectional morphemes. Thus it is not possible to distinguish the function of the word within a clause according to the ending as it is possible in

Czech. On the other hand, it is recognizable from the word order which is fixed and organised in a strict sequence: subject, verb, object, adverbial of manner, place, time.

However, this strict layout does not exist in Czech. While English produces the type of clause which contains both the subject and the predicate, in Czech the subject can be lost, the resulting construction is the subjectless verbal clause Dušková (1999, p. 154). Thus the different behaviour of the two languages with respect to the subject has significant consequences for the resulting types of passive sentences.

PRACTICAL PART

7.   Research

This part of the thesis is concerned with the analysis of an English original text and its two relevant translations by two different translators. Firstly, the purpose is to find out the frequency of occurrence of passives, the way how they are expressed in both languages and the means of translation used by two different authors. For the argumentation, information outlined in the theoretical part will be taken as a base. Secondly, it is intended to compare the results with the statistic figures introduced in books by Dušková and Bieber et al. Thirdly, possible ways of translation from English into Czech will be dealt with. As a result, the output of the practical investigation should either confirm or disapprove the statement given in the introduction of this thesis whose general idea is that the English language uses passives more that the Czech language.

As a text to examine, the first four chapters of the famous classical novel *Three men in a Boat, to say nothing of the d*og by Joreme K. Jerome was chosen by the author of this thesis. Despite being over a century old (first published in 1889), this comic novel is favourite with contemporary readers not only for its humorous and fresh jokes, its special style (mixture of insight into human nature, sentimental description, serious and honest description of nature´s beauty) but both for its fine language. It tells story of three men and a dog taking a boating holiday on the Thames. The authors of the Czech translations are J. Z. Novák (1972) marked as the author 1 and Vladimír Henzl (1966) marked as the author 2. Although, it was originally intended to compare the translations which are not so close from the time viewpoint (first translation by the former Czech President Emil Hácha in 1902) so that it would enable to demonstrate the reflection of time shift on the language with respect to the usage and constructions of passives supposing that older Czech texts would be much more richer in passives. Nevertheless, the two selected interpretations are generally considered to be the most successful, the closest to the original version and well available.

7.1. The process of translation

Generally, the process of translation is a very complex matter. It requires to take a broader look at language as a system on one side and to have a perfect lexical stock of vocabulary, a good deal of sensitivity and carefulness on the other side. Passives pose, next to other grammatical categories such as modality, mood, direct and indirect speech, causativity, often difficulties in translations. Baker suggests (1992, p. 111) that translators should find it useful to investigate and compare the expression of such categories and the meaning associated with various structures in their source and target languages. Apart from the grammatical patterning, phraseology, collocations, and word order must be taken into consideration. Since the syntactic structure of a language imposes restrictions on the way message may be organised in the language, as further explained by Baker (1992, p. 111). The whole translation may not even make sense or still sound foreign or clumsy when translated literally. The whole style of the translation can be affected by translator´s personality, his policy or motivation or it is a question of pure convention. Nevertheless, one point should be kept in mind of any translator, no matter what is the target language...the main function of the English passive is to allow the constructions of agentless clauses and to give the impression of objectivity. Baker generalizes this aspect (1992, p. 109) "The idea is not to replace an active form with an active one and a passive form with a passive one, it is always the function of a category rather than the form it takes that is of paramount importance in translation".

Extract from the epilogue of J. Z. Novák (1972, p. 371): "Při překladu jsem se především snažil vyrovnat s problémem, s kterým by se měl umět vypořádat každý překladatel: předlohu je nutno zčeštit a potom se musí sladit duch původního jazyka s duchem jazyka, do kterého je text překládán." Commentary of John Beera (the English newspaper editor of Czech origin) to the translation of J. Z. Novák (1972, p. 371): "Klapka je ohromná sranda. Nejen jsi báječně vystihl humornost, ale také sladce ironickou lyričnost mnohých pasáží. Odedávna cítím, že v obou těchto sektorech má čeština paralelní genius jako angličtina, u Čapka jsem to často zažil. Jenže jde stále o to, jak ten převod uskutečnit tak, aby domorodý genius jednoho jazyka se znovu zrodil v geniu toho druhého. A to právě se ti podařilo".

7.2. Adjectival form of passives

Adjectival complements have already been mentioned in chapters 3.2., 5.1., 5.2. To resume, this group of constructions includes both clear adjectival complement describing a state, semi-passives considered to be rather stative and pseudo-passives which describe state resulting from an agentless process and have active meaning. During the analysis of the original text it was found difficult to distinguish them from the true ones. It is recommended by Quirk et al. (chapter 5.1.) to do an adjectival test as a method of right identification of adjectival status or otherwise to exclude this case by trying to prove that the subject of a passive sentence can function as an object of its active version (Dušková 2012, p. 250). Bieber introduces (1999, p. 937) as the most frequent occurring adjectives the following ones: *excited, pleased, scared, upset, worried*. They chiefly denote emotional state and were plentifully to be found in the analysed text. Nevertheless, a wide range of all types of adjectival passives was revealed. In the examples to come the number stated close behind the extracts indicates the page number of the original text the example was taken from:

*It made them **excited**, and they stepped on things.....   18*

*I sat for a while **frozen** with horror,....   7*

*.....and added that he **seemed** greatly **attached** to them.   23*

*..... to somehow imply that we **were surprised** that George should have come out so sensible.   16*

However, adjectival passives will not be further more dealt with and they will be separated out of the statistics and overviews (output of the research) as they are not passives in a strict sense.

7.3. Forms of passives analysed

In the text to analyze - 33 pages in total, pages 7 up to 40 - there were found altogether 103 passive verb forms. It stands for 1-5 passives pro page on average**.** The occurrence of particular passive types and their proportion is arranged in figure 1, see appendices of this thesis.

7.3.1. Be-passive constructions, short vs. long

In findings according to Bieber at al. (1999, p. 937) short passives are predominant in all syntactic positions. Furthermore, short stative be-passives are less frequent than dynamic be-

passives and show far less variation by register. As a result Bieber et al. state that the most basic passive pattern is the **short dynamic be-passive in finite clauses** whose main purpose is to leave the initiator of an action unexpressed, see table 1. The research was aimed at the frequency of short and long passives, the verb character was not taken into consideration. The figure 2 shows the rate and confirms the predominant occurrence of short passives. Examples taken from the research sample prove that the agent is omitted in most cases because the identity is evident from the context and can be deduced:

.....that my life was preserved, and is still going on. 10

.....he being under the evident belief that the whole thing has been done on purpose. 21

Then we run out little boat into some quite nook, and the tent is pitched, and the frugal

supper cooked and eaten. Than the big pipes are filled and lighted..... 17

In contrast, long passives structures were encountered seldom. Only every tenth passive has the long passive construction, which is even much less than described in chapter 3.6. Except for the only one case, they were expressed by the *by phrase*:

.....and had been summoned by the man next door..... 22

.....but the unanimous opinion was that it - whatever it was - had been brought on by overwork. 11

.....looking as if it had been smoothed down with a rake and everybody beat and wretched-

except Uncle Podger. 26

7.3.2. Non-finite forms

Research shows that non-finite complementation is the second most frequent occurring passive type. Especially the passive infinitive was repeatedly to be found. Against all expectations, there was only a small number of passive -ing participles to be encountered, namely 5 instances. The first example shows that the logical subject of the infinitive need not be expressed as it is shared with the main clause, next examples have their subjects expressed, the last example demonstrates the employment of the –ing participle in present:

*.....when it was so rough that the passengers **had to be tied** into their berths, and..... 14*

*The first list we made out **had to be discarded.** 26*

I *replied that he had directed they were **to be kept** in a moist place..... 34*

*He said it made him feel that life was not an idle dream **to be gaped** and **yawned** through. 36*

*.....a really fine musical effect **being produced** by the suddenness..... 25*

7.3.3. Bare-passives

Bare-passives were not infrequent in the analysed text. But there were some difficulties in identifying them with certainty. As they are comparable with relative clauses in be passive form, Huddleston, Pullum (2012, p. 246) suggest to take a closer look at their comparability with relative clauses.

*.....and had had a dead cat **brought round** for my inspection..... 22*

*The duty **done**, ... 11*

*.....and hot ham, **mingled with** fried fish and greens. 13*

7.3.4. Get-passives

Among more than 100 passive constructions there were revealed altogether 6 get-passives. Although being restricted to informal English (see chapter 5.5.), conversation in fiction that is frequent in the analysed text is close to the informal style. Except for sporadic cases get – passives occur with no agent phrase (Carter, McCarthy, 2006, p. 800) and the focus is on the process, this idea is confirmed by the following examples:

*Just as you **get** your side beautifully **fixed**, he gives it a hoist from his end, and spoils..... 19*

*It **got shut up** finally at 10.5 p.m., and 37*

*They did that just to show you what they could do and **get** you **interested**. 8*

7.3.5. Prepositional passives, phrasal passives

Quite a wide range of prepositional and phrasal passives were discovered in the text. To specify, every tenth passive verb form has a complement of preposition, see figure 3. They were both made of prepositional verbs and verbs of idioms and in case of phrasal passives of transitive verbs with adverbial particle.

*Montmorency´s ambition in life is to get in the way and **to be sworn at**. 39*

*.....that I am suffering from the particular disease therein **dealt with** in its virulent form*

*I seemed **to have been born with**.   7*

Interestingly, the word *with* denotes in one example a preposition and in the other example it belongs to a verb inseparably and they form together a phrasal verb.

7.4. Translation of passive voice into Czech

English passive constructions can be translated into Czech language by means of periphrastic passive, reflexive passive, active voice and some other devices - replacement by noun, adjective, complete omission and others means. In both analysed Czech translated versions all the mentioned possibilities were used. Most examples of Czech translations are taken from the text of the author 1. This translation is considered as a fundamental by the author of this thesis by virtue of personal preferences. Every example is provided with the author number preceding the slash and the relevant page number of the translation following the slash.

7.4.1. Replacement by active voice

Stated on the background reading, the most common way of translating passives into Czech are active clauses. This is definitely confirmed by the final output showed in figure 4. Sentences with both expressed and implied agents are commonly transformed via active voice. The agent is than incorporated into the subject or completely added according to the context in the appropriate active clause as in the second following example:

*Weren´t you a little shaky by Southend Pier one day, and wanted **to be thrown** overboard?   15*

*"A nebylo vám jednou trošku nanic u southendského mola? Tam jste si přece přál, aby vás radši **hodili** do moře".   1/21*

*A picture would have come home from the frame-maker´s and be standing in the dining-room, waiting **to be put up.**   23*

*Od rámaře příjde obraz, stojí opřen v jídelně o stěnu a čeká, než ho **někdo pověsí**.   1/29*

It is common in English that the indefinite human agent is implied, however, in Czech the appropriate active sentence refers to the 3rd person plural in most cases or to the 1st person plural.

*He **will be snatched up** to the bright skies in a chariot.   22*

*Toho mi jednou **unesou** v nebeské káře k jasným výšinám.   1/27*

*.....and want to know if he was **to be kept** there all the evening.   24*

*.....a přeje si vědět, jestli ho tam **míníme** nechat stát celý večer.   1/30*

*Then we run our little boat into some quiet nook, and the tent **is pitched**, and the frugal supper **cooked** and*

***eaten**. Then the big pipes **are filled** and **lighted**, ...   17*

*A my zajíždíme s lodičkou do nějaké poklidné zátočiny, **rozbíjíme** tabor a **vaříme** a **jíme** střídmou večeři. Pak si*

***nacpáváme** a **zapalujeme** statné dýmky, ...   1/23*

There are certainly instances when the passive voice has its agent expressed:

*.....who **had** just **been advised** by his medical men to go to the seaside, and take exercise.   12*

*.   ....a jemuž lékaři **doporučili,** aby jel k moři a hodně se pohyboval.   1/18*

7.4.2.   Preservation of passive voice

Roughly every fourth passive construction was transformed into Czech by preserving the passive structure. Taking these instances into consideration, in more than two thirds periphrastic passives were used, the rest, less than one third, falls on reflexive passives. In particular, it is necessary to highlight, that the passive voice is kept in those instances whose English counterpart has no definite agent expressed.

7.4.2.1.   Replacement by periphrastic passive

As Štícha (1979) clearly proclaim the periphrastic form significantly prevail over the reflexive in the fiction in Czech, see sample 1 in appendices. The same fact was demonstrated by the research analysis. The periphrastic is used without any change of meaning and enables to keep the content literally:

*The debate **was**, by common assent, **adjourned** to the following night.   22*

*.....,**byla** debata za všeobecného souhlasu **odložena** na příští večer.   1/28*

*George has a cousin who **is** usually **described** in the charge-sheet as a medical student.   11*

*George má bratrance, který **je** v trestním rejstříku **veden** jako studující medicíny. 1/17*

*.....because I had just been reading a patent liver-pill-circular, in which **were detailed** various symptoms by*

which a man could tell when his liver was out of order.   7

*.....protože jsem zrovna přečetl prospect na zázračné jaterní pilulky, kde **byly** podrobně **popsány** příznaky, podle*

nichž člověk pozná, že má v nepořádku játra.   1/13

7.4.2.2.   Replacement by reflexive passive

Most instances of the replacement by reflexive passive relate to sentences with an unexpressed agent in English. According to Dušková (1999, p. 153) sentence types starting with structure *it is thought*, *it is added* etc*. (*participal forms *je myšleno*, *je sčítáno* would hardly be used or are altogether unconceivable) are the most common types suitable for reflexive passive transformation as in the first example:

*.....and it shall never **be said** that I put upon the widow and the orphan.   34*

*.....a o mně **se** bohdá nikdy **neřekne**, že jsem dožíral vdovu a sirotu.   1/40*

*I shall take the children and go to an hotel until those cheeses **are eaten**.   34*

*Nemohu udělat nic jiného než vzít děti a odstěhovat se do hotelu, kde zůstanu, dokud **se** ty sýry **nesnědí**.   2/38*

*.....and new glass **had been got**, and the tools, and the ladder, and the chair, and the candle **had been brough**t.*

24

*.....**sežene se** nové sklo a **snesou se** všechny nástroje a štafle a stolička a svíčka.   1/30*

All Czech sentences illustrate the employment of reflexive passive with an indefinite human agent and express the continuity of the action and confirm that it is restricted to the third person often used only with inanimate subject.

7.4.3.   Replacement by noun and adjective

Replacement by noun and adjective as a device of translation was used only in a few cases but by both translators. It represents the reduction of the translated sentence and implicates a wide variety of possibilities in Czech. Noun and adjective structures often relate to such situations where the passive voice clause occurs in subordinate clause in English. As for the usage of noun a preposition is required to be inserted:

*.....who, when **asked** if she could stand the smell replied.....   34*

*....která na **otázku**, jestli ten zápach přežije.....   1/40*

*I rummaged the things up into much the same state that they must have been before the world **was created***

37

*Celý obsah kufru jsem vyházel a tak důkladně zpřeházel, že to u mne vypadalo přibližně jako před **stvořením** světa.   1/43*

*Bright´s disease, I **was relieved** to find, I had only in a modified form.....   8*

*O Brightově nemoci jsem se ke své **úlevě** dočetl, že ji mám jen ve formě zcela mírné.....   1/14*

*And half an hour **had been spent** in tying up his fingers......   24*

*A když se po půl hodině **věnované** obvazování strýcova prstu.....   1/30*

*You start on Monday with the idea **implanted** in your bossom.   12*

*Vyplujete v pondělí v nitru pevně **zakořeněnou** představu.   1/18*

7.4.4.   Replacement by other devices

Possibility, necessity or desirability of the action can be in Czech expressed by the expression *lze* + infinitive or *je možno, je třeba*   Grepl, Karlík (1989, p. 153). This case was also encountered, although it is seldom to be found . The translated expression *je záhodno* sounds rather bookish and Grepl classifies them as modal modificators and adds that they would be expected in scientific texts rather than in fiction and they are often counterparts to English passive constructions with modals.

*.....but he felt that there was some of that two-pounds-five to **be worded off**, and he held.....13*

*.....uvědomoval si však, že **by bylo záhodno** odojíst něco z těch dvou liber a pěti šilinků, a tak 1/19*

*To hang about a stable, and collect a gang of the most disreputable dogs **to be found** in the town, and.....   22*

*Potloukat se kolem stájí, shromažďovat hordy těch nejvykřičenějších hafanů, jaké **lze** ve městě sehnat.....   1/28*

*.....and he did not think the cheeses **ought to be kept** much longer.   31*

*.....a sýry už **není možno** dlouho **schovávat**.   2/36*

Another possibility for the translator is to use some non-verbal construction, which can be marked as a loose mean of translation, but in fact, still with the author´s effort to keep the meaning unchanged. Thus in the extracts given as examples there is a non-finite structure in English resulting in the employment of adverbial of place, common be + ed form resulting in adverbial of time. It is necessary to point out that the semantic equality is preserved.

*The nail would **be found** at last.   24*

*Hřebík je konečně **na světě**.   1/30*

*For the breakfast there would be fish, **followed** by a grill.   13*

*Ke snídani prý bývá ryba a **pak** nějaké rožněné maso.   1/19*

*.....I had only in a modified form and sofar, as that **was concerned**, I might live for years.   8*

*…..že nemoc mám jen v mírném stupni, a že **při ní** mohu zůstat naživu ještě několik let.   2/ 12*

*…..že ji mám jen ve formě zcela mírné, takže **v mém případě** se s ní snad dá ještě nějaký čas žít.   1/14*

In order to draw the comparison, both translated versions are introduced in the last example above. Replacement merely by means of preposition + pronoun, alternatively by means of a noun + preposition can be considered as a unique one.

7.4.5. Omission of translation

Last but not least, some instances of the omission of the clause with the passive construction were noticed. It seems the omission was done deliberately by the author in order to avoid unnecessary and redundant clauses. The example demonstrates that the omission is perceived as a suitable device by one author while the other one prefers to preserve the passive clause.

*…..,so that she could make arrangements to go and spend a week with her mother while it **was being done.**   25*

…..,aby se mohla domluvit s matkou a strávila ten týden u ní.   1/31

*…..aby mohla na týden odejít k matce, než **bude hotov**.   2/30*

7.4.6. Usage of Czech passive voice for equivalent English active voice

There were some instances in the text when active English voice was translated by Czech passive voice. Although arising occasionally, they give higher degree of importance and priority of passive in the Czech language. The examples show that this case is connected with the certain degree of formality *nebudeme nuceni* instead of *nic nás nenutí* or *večeře se podává* instead of *večeře je hotová* or *večeře je připravená.* Another reason is the usage of fixed expressions and collocations typical exclusively for passives.

Change of scene, and absence of the necessity for thought, will restore the mental equilibrium.   11

*Když změníme prostření, a **nebudeme nuceni** neustále myslet, zrestartujeme opět svou duševní rovnováhu.   1/17*

At six, they came and told him dinner was ready.   13

*V šest přišli tomu mému příteli oznámit, že **se podává** večeře.   1/19*

*V šest hodin mu přišli oznámit, že **se podává** večeře.   2/17*

In this case both versions of translation are introduced in order to demonstrate that the connection of the noun *večeře* and the verb *podává se* is so fixed and common that it is used by both authors identically. In fact, only a little verb structures were identical in both translations.

7.5. Comparison of the two translations

It would be expected that there is a distinction between how the two translators utilize translating strategies, devices, what are their motivations. This section will compare how each translator makes use of them with respect to the proving the general assumption that passives are more frequent in English than in Czech. The main emphasis is placed on two layers – preservation of passive structure by using either periphrastic passive or reflexive passive and usage of active voice for the transfer. The choice of translation device could be influenced obviously by time period when the translation was realized. It could be argued if the factors such as literary experience, profession, personal preferences in the career can influence the quality and style of the translation as a whole or possibly even the ways how passives are used.

Specifically, the author 1 focused his interest in his authorship on plays and dramas, whereas the creation of the author 2 was concentrated on novels and fiction for children, see table 4. According to data by Dušková (1999, p. 179), see table 2, it should be expected that the number of passive forms (only finite forms were analysed by Dušková) is higher in *dialogue in novels* than in *dialogue in plays*. It is arguable if this fact could influence the way of translation or if it is strictly depending on translator´s language background.

The figure 4 describes the output of comparison. Overall results are surprisingly comparatively similar. The predominant way is the usage of active voice in 73%/68%, author1/author2. Preservation of passive meaning is in 16%/20% by means of periphrastic passive and in 9%/9% means of reflexive passive. If compared with statistic data by Dušková (1999, p. 180), see table 3, there is a collision. Regrettably, the comparison is not perfectly corresponding. The observed register is *dialogue in plays and novels* and it disposes a slight supremacy of reflexive form over periphrastic form. On the other hand Štícha (1979), sample 1, underlines the dominant status of periphrastic passive in Czech fiction. The final results being almost equal, they may lead to an incorrect impression that both translators used the same

device for one particular English verb passive construction. In fact, their choice often varied. Some examples are introduced to demonstrate the differences.

> *George has a cousin who is usually described in the charge-sheet as a medical student…..   11*
>
> *George má bratrance, který je v trestním rejstříku veden jako studující medicíny,…..   1/17*
>
> *Jiří má bratrance, kterého na účtech obvykle jmenují jako studujícího medicíhy…..   2/15*
>
> *It´s the natural original sin, that is born in him that makes him do things like that.   39*
>
> *Aby takhle jančil, k tomu ho podněcuje vrozený prvotní hřích, s kterým už přišel na svět.   1/45*
>
> *Je to přirozený prvotní hřích, který je mu vrozen, a který ho nutí dělat takové věci.   2/42*
>
> *…..the country was steeped in oil…..   1/30*
>
> *…..i ten venkov se koupal v petroleji…..   1/36*
>
> *…..celá krajina byla napuštěna petrolejem…..   2/35*

Nevertheless, there is quite a large range of instances when both authors use the same device for translation. Logically, in accordance with final figures, active voice was the most frequent choice. In the example to come the help of a noun and an infinitive structure are apparent, the modal verb disappear and free word order in Czech language enables different sentence elements to occupy various positions:

> *And then a stout lady got up, and said it was disgraceful, that a respectable married woman should be harried about in this way, and gathered up a bag…..   32*
>
> *Pak vstala jakási korpulentní dáma, prohlásila, že takového týrání počestné vdané ženy považuje prostě za hanebnost, sebrala kufr a…..   1/38*
>
> *Potom vstala tlustá dáma, řekla, že je hanba vyštvat takovým způsobem slušnou vdanou ženu, sebrala zavazdala a….. 2/36*
>
> *The packing was done at 12.50…..   39*
>
> *Pakování skončilo ve 12.50…..   1/45*
>
> *S balením jsme byli hotovi ve 12.50…..2/42*
>
> *My friend was detained in Liverpool longer than he expected.….   33*
>
> *Tom se musel v Liverpoolu zdržet déle, než očekával,…..   1/39*
>
> *Můj přítel se zdržel v Liverpoolu déle, než předpokládal,   2/37*

In the second example the only difference overlies in the subject. In the English structure the agent is not expressed, while the author 2 transported the agent into the subject.

The congruent option of periphrastic passive shows that this type of passive seems to be a natural way in some cases and cannot necessarily evoke an impression of formality.

…..a liver-pill circular, in which were detailed various symptoms by which a man could tell…..   7

…..prospekt na pilulky, kde byly podrobně popsány příznaky, podle nichž člověk pozná…..   1/13

…..pilulkách, v němž byly podrobně popsány všelijaké příznaky, podle nichž člověk pozná…..   2/11

…..that my life was preserved, and is still going on.   10

…..že můj život byl zachován a běží dokonce dodnes.   1/16

…..že můj život byl zachráněn a pořád ještě neskončil.   2/14

The train was crowded, and I had to get into a carriage…..   32

Vlak byl přeplněn a já se musel vecpat do oddělení…..   1/3

Vlak byl přeplněn a já musel nastoupit do oddělení…..   2/36

The last example would offer from the viewpoint of the Czech language more likely the usage of the adjectival expression *vlak byl plný/přeplněný* but both authors surprisingly decided to preserve the passive meaning even if the sentence in the first case is followed by a rather non-formal term *vecpat*. As for the reflexive form, it was identically used in no case by both authors for a particular English passive form. Only a case when reflexive form was used by both of them responding to the English active form was encountered, see chapter 7.4.6.

8. Conclusion

The main aim of this bachelor study was to prove and confirm that passives are used more in English than in Czech. At the same time a significant point was to outline the importance of passives in Czech. The information in the theoretical part serve as a theoretical background both general and specific, functional and stylistic, both referring to English and to Czech language. It starts explaining the voice as a concept, continuing to focus on passive voice from most various angles and concluding it by doing the theoretical comparison between two languages. Whereas the practical part provides evidence expressed by introducing particular extracts and by final figures and resulting statements. The research has been drawn on a limited sample of an original English novel and two relevant pieces of translation, with emphasis on passive forms and ways of translation.

Interestingly, not many passive structures occurred in the text. Although the analysis of active voice verb forms was not involved, if compared at brief sight, the corpus data and the statement that the active is the norm can be confirmed. As for the form, the predominant passive form was short passive, which corresponds with the finding stated in the theoretical part and with the corpus data. It can be concluded, that the reason is evidently connected with agent redundancy or situations where it can be easily deduced. Not surprisingly, be-passive constructions dominated in the text as a type. It occurred in various tenses, but past tense was decidedly the most frequent as the plot consists of stories and recollections from the past narrated by the narrator. In spite of this fact, nearly all the mentioned passive types were encountered, although, some of them such as have-passive only sporadically, but the diversity of passive type occurrences is doubtless.

The prevalence of passives in English over Czech can be indirectly acknowledged by the finding that Czech active voice plays the most important role when translating passives, according to the results. Examples have shown that it is used mainly with reference to 3rd person plurals as a general human agent and to indefinite agent. For preserving the passive voice in Czech, periphrastic passive was used more frequently than reflexive passive by both authors. While the periphrastic passive enables the word for word translation, the reflexive passive is regarded to be a unique form which concentrates on the action and relates to

inanimate subject and to 3rd person singular. The Czech language disposes with other devices of translation, which makes the language flexible and colourful. Situations, where the Czech uses passive voice as an equivalent of English active voice mean a considerable finding underlining the importance of Czech passive usage. Since the final comparison of the two translations display the same results, various aspects that can be reflected on the translator´s choice of devices remain arguable.

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Appendices

Figures:

Figure 1: Occurrence of passive types in the English text

Figure 2: Occurrence of passive types (short/long)

Figure 3: Occurrence of prepositional and phrasal verbs

Figure 4: Translation device, comparison of two translated versions

Tables:

Table 1: Distribution of passive types across registers, Bieber (1999, p. 938)

Table 2: Finite verb-forms vs. finite passives in conversation, Dušková (1999, p. 179)

Table3: Periphrastic form vs. reflexive form, Dušková (1999, p. 180, 181)

Table 4: Authors of Czech translations, personal facts

Samples:

Sample 1: Extract, Štícha (1979)

Sample 2: Sample pages 7, 11, 39, J.K. Jerome (1994)

Figures:

Figure 1: Occurrence of passive types in the English text

types of passive structures	number	
be + ed	44	43%
be + ed perfective	14	14%
non-finite types	29	28%
bare - passives	8	8%
get - passives	6	6%
have + ed	2	2%

103
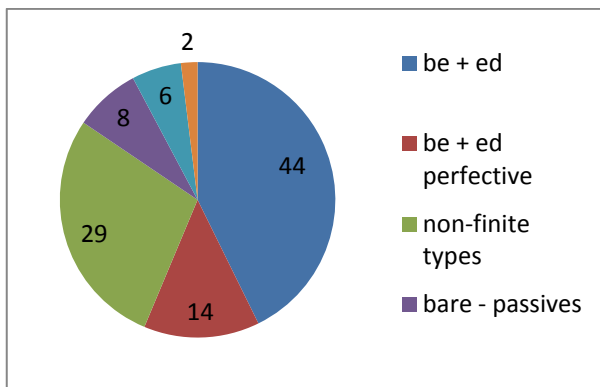
Figure 2: Occurrence of passive types (short/long)

types of passive structures	number	
short passive	93	90%
long passive	10	10%

103
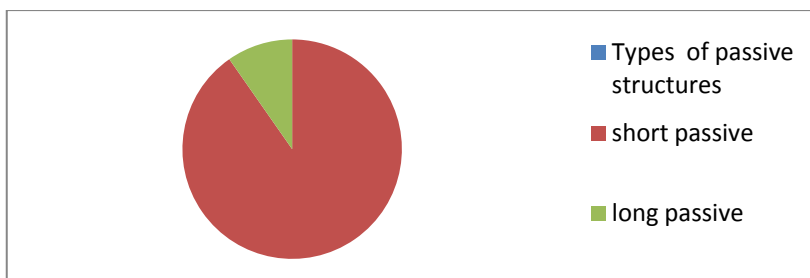
Figure 3: Occurrence of prepositional and phrasal verbs

types of passive structures	number	
prepositional	10	10%
phrasal verbs	7	7%
other verbs	86	83%
	103	
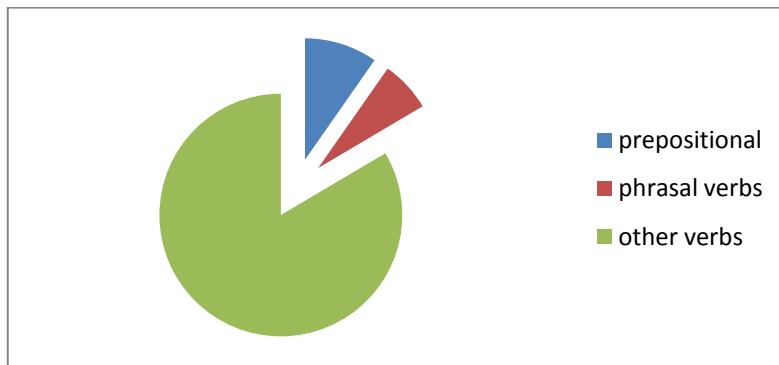
Figure 4: Translation device, comparison of two translated versions

translation devices	autor 1		autor 2	
active voice	75	73%	70	68%
periphrastic passive	16	16%	21	20%
reflexive passive	9	9%	9	9%
not translated	3	3%	3	3%
	103		103	
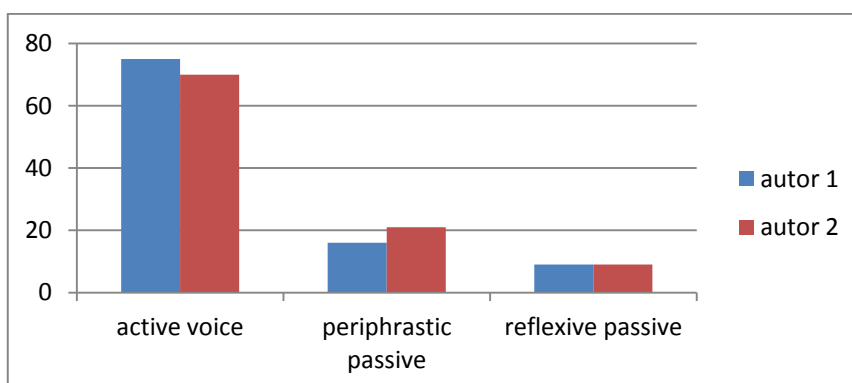
Tables:

Table 1: Distribution of passive types across registers, Bieber (1999)

Distribution of passive types across registers; occurrences per million words

each ▦ represents 500 ▢ represents less than 250

finite constructions	CONV	FICT	NEWS	ACAD
short passives				
with stative verb	▦▦	▦▦	▦▦	▦▦▦
with dynamic verb	▦▦	▦▦▦▦▦	▦▦▦▦▦▦▦ ▦▦▦	▦▦▦▦▦▦▦ ▦▦▦▦▦▦▦ ▦▦▦▦▦
get-passive	▢	▢	▢	▢
other copula	▢	▢	▢	▢
long passives	▢	▦	▦▦▦	▦▦▦

non-finite constructions	CONV	FICT	NEWS	ACAD
postmodifier in NP				
short passives	▢	▦▦	▦▦▦	▦▦▦▦▦▦▦
long passives	▢	▦	▦▦	▦▦
verb complement				
short passives	▦▦	▦	▦	▦
long passives	▢	▢	▢	▢
other constructions				
short passives	▢	▦	▦▦	▦
long passives	▢	▢	▢	▢

Table 2: Finite verb-forms vs. finite passives in conversation, Dušková (1999)

Table I

		English						Czech							
		number of finite verb-forms		number of finite passives				number of finite verb-forms		number of finite passives					
										periphrastic		reflexive		total	
		abs.	%	abs.	%			abs.	%	abs.	%	abs.	%	abs.	%
						scientific writing									
mathe-matics	Baker	250	100	15	6.0	Zelinka		250	100	10	4.0	6	2.4	16	6.4
	Scott	250	100	29	11.6	Nádeník		250	100	11	4.4	6	2.4	17	6.8
physics	Willmore	250	100	60	24.0	Třísková		250	100	42	16.8	30	12.0	72	28.8
	Biondi	250	100	52	20.8	Langer		250	100	31	12.4	6	2.4	37	14.8
biology	David	250	100	58	23.2	Herčík		250	100	82	32.8	1	0.4	83	33.2
	Salisbury	250	100	61	24.4	Penka		250	100	40	16.0	4	1.6	44	17.6
medicine	Catterall	250	100	84	33.6	Horák		250	100	17	6.8	6	2.4	23	9.2
	Corliss	250	100	84	33.6	Ulrich		250	100	24	9.6	–	–	24	9.6
linguistics	Halliday	250	100	33	13.2	Poldauf		250	100	9	3.6	12	4.8	21	8.4
	Joos	250	100	41	16.4	Dokulil		250	100	37	14.8	16	6.4	53	21.2
total		2500	100	517	20.68			2500	100	303	12.12	87	3.48	390	15.60
						conversation									
dialogue in plays	Beckett	250	100	6	2.4	Kundera		250	100	–	–	2	0.8	2	0.8
	Shaffer	250	100	9	3.6	Suchý		250	100	–	–	2	0.8	2	0.8
	Osborne	250	100	4	1.6	Daněk		250	100	–	–	11	4.4	11	4.4
	Axelrod	250	100	8	3.2	Hrubín		250	100	1	0.4	1	0.4	2	0.8
	Gazzo	250	100	2	0.8	Aškenazy		250	100	–	–	3	1.2	3	1.2
	Schary	250	100	9	3.6	Stehlík		250	100	2	0.8	3	1.2	5	2.0
dialogue in novels	Braine	250	100	15	6.0	Houba		250	100	3	1.2	3	1.2	6	2.4
	Christie	250	100	5	2.0	Mertl		250	100	3	1.2	–	–	3	1.2
	Queen	250	100	13	5.2	Sedlmayerová		250	100	1	0.4	1	0.4	2	0.8
	Wilson	250	100	10	4.0	Kubka		250	100	10	4.0	1	0.4	11	4.4
total		2500	100	81	3.24			2500	100	20	0.8	27	1.08	47	1.88
total		5000	100	598	11.96			5000	100	323	6.46	114	2.28	437	8.74

Table3: Periphrastic form vs. reflexive form, Dušková (1999)

Table 4: Authors of Czech translations, personal facts

author 1	author 2
translator English, French	translator English, Italian, Croatian
scriptwriter, playwright, actor, editor	writer, publicist, diplomat
film scripts, dialog modifications	poems, short stories of his own
dramas, plays, detective genre	literature for children

http://dabingforum.cz/viewtopic.php?f=44&t=4999

http://www.databazeknih.cz/zivotopis/vladimir-henzl-5801

Samples:

Sample 1: Extract by Štícha (1997), *K užívání a významu dvojí formy trpného rodu v současné spisovné češtině, Naše řeč.* Differences in usage between periphrastic and reflexive passive in Czech with significant examples

S rozdílnou povahou reflexívní formy a participiálního pasíva sou[70]visí i jejich nestejné využívání v různých typech textů. Je samozřejmé, že reflexívní forma se bude často vyskytovat v návodech, jak se co dělá, v popisech pracovních postupů apod. A také největší počet reflexívních forem jsme nalezli ve vysokoškolském skriptu Technologie stavebních dílců, kde poměr participiální forma / reflexívní forma je 70/109, a v díle K. Čapka Jak se co dělá (75/111). Na druhé straně v románu V. Řezáče Slepá ulička je daný poměr 284/9, u V. Vančury činí daný poměr 139/4, u Z. L. Dufka 9/2, u V. Duška 31/2; v Rudém právu z 27. 9. 1978 je poměr 84/68.

Protože v beletrii silně převažuje participiální forma nad formou reflexívní a konkurence obou prostředků je tu tedy minimální, sledovali jsme, jak se využívá obou forem u jednotlivých sloves v odborné literatuře: V obou formách se z našeho excerpovaného materiálu vyskytuje 60 sloves, jsou to např. *ukládat* (7/5), *získat* (7/7), *odstranit* (4/4); pouze ve formě participiální se vyskytuje 66 sloves, např. *ukázat, vyvinout, štěpit, tvořit;* pouze formu reflexívní má 14 sloves, např. *doporučovat, předpokládat, přidávat / přidat.*

CHAPTER I

Three Invalids — Sufferings of George and Harris — A victim to one hundred and seven fatal maladies — Useful prescriptions — Cure for liver complaint in children — We agree that we are overworked, and need rest — A week on the rolling deep? — George suggests the river — Montmorency lodges an objection — Original motion carried by majority of three to one.

THERE were four of us — George, and William Samuel Harris, and myself, and Montmorency. We were sitting in my room, smoking, and talking about how bad we were — bad from a medical point of view I mean, of course.

We were all feeling seedy, and we were getting quite nervous about it. Harris said he felt such extraordinary fits of giddiness come over him at times, that he hardly knew what he was doing; and then George said that *he* had fits of giddiness too, and hardly knew what *he* was doing. With me, it was my liver that was out of order. I knew it was my liver that was out of order, because I had just been reading a patent liver-pill circular, in which were detailed various symptoms by which a man could tell when his liver was out of order. I had them all.

It is a most extraordinary thing, but I never read a patent medicine advertisement without being impelled to the conclusion that I am suffering from the particular disease therein dealt with, in its most virulent form. The diagnosis seems in every case to correspond exactly with all the sensations that I have ever felt.

I remember going to the British Museum one day to read up the treatment for some slight ailment of which I had a touch — hay fever, I fancy it was. I got down the book, and read all I came to read; and then, in an unthinking moment, I idly turned the leaves, and began to indolently study diseases, generally. I forget which was the first distemper I plunged into — some fearful, devastating scourge, I know — and, before I had glanced half down the list of 'premonitory symptoms', it was borne in upon me that I had fairly got it.

I sat for a while frozen with horror; and then in the listless-

7

then and there, and do what was wanted to be done, without further loss of time, than a whole box of pills does now.

You know, it often is so – those simple, old-fashioned remedies are sometimes more efficacious than all the dispensary stuff.

We sat there for half an hour, describing to each other our maladies. I explained to George and William Harris how I felt when I got up in the morning, and William Harris told us how he felt when he went to bed; and George stood on the hearth-rug, and gave us a clever and powerful piece of acting, illustrative of how he felt in the night.

George *fancies* he is ill : but there's never anything really the matter with him, you know.

At this point, Mrs Poppets knocked at the door to know if we were ready for supper. We smiled sadly at one another, and said we supposed we had better try to swallow a bit. Harris said a little something in one's stomach often kept the disease in check; and Mrs Poppets brought the tray in, and we drew up to the table, and toyed with a little steak and onions, and some rhubarb tart.

I must have been very weak at the time; because I know, after the first half-hour or so, I seemed to take no interest whatever in my food – an unusual thing for me – and I didn't want any cheese.

This duty done, we refilled our glasses, lit our pipes, and resumed the discussion upon our state of health. What it was that was actually the matter with us, we none of us could be sure of; but the unanimous opinion was that it – whatever it was – had been brought on by overwork.

'What we want is rest,' said Harris.

'Rest and a complete change,' said George. 'The overstrain upon our brains has produced a general depression throughout the system. Change of scene, and absence of the necessity for thought, will restore the mental equilibrium.'

George has a cousin who is usually described in the charge-sheet as a medical student, so that he naturally has a somewhat family-physicianary way of putting things.

I agreed with George, and suggested that we should seek

'Why, here it is all the time,' he exclaimed, indignantly.

'Where?' cried Harris, spinning round.

'Stand still, can't you?' roared George, flying after him.

And they got it off, and packed it in the teapot.

Montmorency was in it all, of course. Montmorency's ambition in life is to get in the way and be sworn at. If he can squirm in anywhere where he particularly is not wanted, and be a perfect nuisance, and make people mad, and have things thrown at his head, then he feels his day has not been wasted.

To get somebody to stumble over him, and curse him steadily for an hour, is his highest aim and object; and, when he has succeeded in accomplishing this, his conceit becomes quite unbearable.

He came and sat down on things, just when they were wanted to be packed; and he laboured under the fixed belief that, whenever Harris or George reached out their hand for anything, it was his cold damp nose that they wanted. He put his leg into the jam, and he worried the teaspoons, and he pretended that the lemons were rats, and got into the hamper and killed three of them before Harris could land him with the frying-pan.

Harris said I encouraged him. I didn't encourage him. A dog like that don't want any encouragement. It's the natural, original sin that is born in him that makes him do things like that.

The packing was done at 12.50; and Harris sat on the big hamper, and said he hoped nothing would be found broken. George said that if anything was broken it *was* broken, which reflection seemed to comfort him. He also said he was ready for bed. We were all ready for bed. Harris was to sleep with us that night, and we went upstairs.

We tossed for bed, and Harris had to sleep with me. He said:

'Do you prefer the inside or the outside, J.?'

I said I generally preferred to sleep *inside* a bed.

Harris said it was old.

George said:

Résumé

Závěrečná práce je zaměřena na gramatický jev trpného rodu v češtině a angličtině. Popisuje ho jako gramatickou kategorii, porovnává s rodem činným, zaměřuje se na jeho podobu a funkci, všímá si specifik, zkoumá důvody k užití a předkládá hlavní rozdíly v obou jazycích. Praktická část analyzuje anglické literární dílo s cílem zjistit jak často a v jaké formě jsou pasíva užívána, porovnává je s českým překladem. Komparace je provedena i mezi dvěma verzemi překladu včetně zkoumání možných vlivů na užití pasiva.

Annotation

Jméno a příjmení:	Martina Běhulová
Katedra:	Katedra anglického jazyka PdF UP Olomouc
Vedoucí práce:	Mgr. Silvie Válková, Ph.D.
Rok obhajoby:	2015

Název práce:	Trpný rod v češtině a angličtině
Název v angličtině:	The Passive voice in Czech and English
Anotace práce:	Tato bakalářská práce se soustředí na problematiku trpného rodu v češtině a angličtině, posuzuje ji z hlediska stylistického, funkčního, z hlediska struktury a užití.
Anotace v angličtině:	The bachelor thesis concentrates on the issue of the passive voice, both in Czech and in English, it takes into consideration stylistic, functional, structural and usage aspects.
Klíčová slova:	Trpný rod, pasivní slovesný tvar, podmět, předmět, původce děje, pasívum opisné, pasívum reflexivní, pasívum bezpodmětné
Klíčová slova v angličtině:	Passive voice, passive verb form, subject, object, agent, periphrastic passive, reflexive passive, subjectless passive
Přílohy vázané v práci:	Příloha č. 1 - grafy
	Příloha č. 2 - tabulky, přehledy
	Příloha č. 3 - vzorky textu
Počet stran:	58
Jazyk práce:	Angličtina