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Assimilation of anglicisms in contemporary colloquial Czech

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ANOTAČNÍ LIST

Bakalářská práce se zabývá problematikou asimilace anglicismů v současné hovorové češtině, která je mj. analyzována prostřednictvím dotazníků pro tři věkové skupiny. Práce je rozdělena na čtyři kapitoly. První kapitola analyzuje teoretická východiska morfologické a fonetické asimilace anglicismů v češtině, vymezuje cíle práce a stanovuje hypotézu. Druhá kapitola je zaměřena na oblasti výskytu výpůjček a proces jazykové adaptace, která se zabývá konkrétními případy morfologické a fonetické asimilace. Třetí kapitola se zaměřuje na metody a výsledky dotazníků, ve kterých respondenti reagují na otázky týkající se asimilace anglicismů v českém jazyce. Čtvrtá kapitola bakalářské práce obsahuje závěrečné shrnutí a komplexně popisuje proces jazykové integrace.

The thesis deals with the problems of assimilation of anglicisms in contemporary colloquial Czech which is i.a. analyzed by means of a questionnaire for three categories of age. The thesis is divided into four chapters. The first chapter analyzes theoretical points of morphological and phonetic assimilation of the anglicisms in the Czech language; sets the aims of the thesis and hypothesis proposal. The second chapter focuses on the spheres of occurrence of borrowings and the process of the language adaptation which deals with specific examples of morphological and phonetic assimilation. The third chapter concentrates on the methods and respondents' results of the questionnaire in which they answered

questions related to the assimilation of anglicisms in the Czech language. The fourth chapter is the conclusion of the thesis and describes the process of adaptation in a more complex way.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The enrichment of the Czech lexis by words of foreign origin has become evident in the Czech society more than ever before (since *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině*, 2005 by Olga Martincová was published). It is mainly English, among other languages, which has become a source of obtaining new words in the Czech language. In Czech, we rather avoid using structures such as *mám nové sněžné prkno* but we use *mám nový snowboard* instead. For Czech speakers of English, the fact that English is a preferable language in terms of borrowing is well known and obvious. Since there is common knowledge of the occurrence of new words, the aim of the thesis is to find out how these borrowings are assimilated in the system of the Czech language. We use terms such as *assimilation*, *adaptation* and *borrowing* frequently, that is why it is important to define these terms accurately in the context of the thesis. By *assimilation*, we understand morphological and phonetic assimilation in a language; *adaptation* means the whole process of establishment in a language including these assimilations. *Borrowings*, also called *loanwords*, are words taken over of words from other languages (e.g. *alcohol* from Arabic).

The emphasis is put upon the newest loanwords from English in the Czech language, and the enrichment of the Czech lexis is an issue that will also be discussed. The thesis includes a questionnaire that helps us see the attitudes to borrowings in the Czech language and the degree of assimilation of anglicisms.

The Czech language has begun to feel the occurrence of words of foreign origin in its own lexis many years ago. As Czech belongs to the Indo-European group of languages, the influential sources of new words were Greek and Latin (*škola*, *demokracie*), German (*šunka*, *knedlík*) or French (*blůza*, *manžeta*). Czech has noticed the significant inflow of the new words of foreign origin especially after the Velvet Revolution in 1989 and has gone through many changes reflected in the vocabulary. Czech culture and the language became free and open to new contacts with other countries and other cultures. English replaced influential Russian from which many words were borrowed and used due to the political regime although Russian has never become a part of colloquial language. According to Martincová¹, it is not only Slavonic languages that influence a present-day lexis as the Russian words such as *perestrojka*, or *gulag*.

¹ O. Martincová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 187.

These words were not borrowed only into Czech but they have become internationalisms. In terms of West European languages, the Czech language is more likely to adapt words related to specific areas such as gastronomy (e.g. *croissant* from French, *gyros* from Greek), also from the world of fashion, games or names of professions (e.g. *paparazzo* from Italian).

It is evident that a number of borrowings coming from languages other than English is very low, and that many of those originally non-English words having a meaning of internationalisms have been brought to Czech through English itself.²

If in the 1970s Tejnor³ claimed that knowledge of English is not as wide-spread as knowledge of other languages, we assume that the situation today is completely different. English has become the biggest source of loanwords in the Czech language.

With communication becoming global and with the Czech society opened to it, the Czech language has experienced gaps in the vocabulary that need to be immediately dealt with. New lexical units (neologisms) call for new names and the present-day lexicon looks for new ways of obtaining new words. It is typical of English loanwords to be employed in various types of spheres of communication and the number is growing.

The contact among English and other cultures is significant mainly due to the technological development in the twentieth century. Although there are some opponents of borrowings from one language into another, the political scene in Europe has changed in terms of being respectable to such changes and languages are able to influence and enrich one another. Certain linguistic approaches claim that new words of foreign origin are necessary for naming new objects, new facilities or movements that are brought into the recipient language (e.g. *scanner*). We also hear different opinions, for example that new words are not necessary and may be substituted for Czech lexical units with the exact translation. As we will see in the following chapters there might be some barriers.

Some new words entering the recipient language go through a process of specific adaptation. Czech and English are two structurally different languages. English represents the analytical type of language while Czech belongs to the category of synthetic languages.

² O. Martincová, *Problematika neologismů v současné spisovné češtině* (Praha: Univerzita Karlova, 1983) 15.

³ J. Kuchař a kol., *Aktuální otázky jazykové kultury v socialistické společnosti*. A. Tejnor: "Anglicismy v češtině" (Praha: Academia, 1979) 207.

Since there is the above mentioned difference in the languages, Czech expresses grammatical categories by affixes (suffixes and prefixes) while the English system expresses them differently.

In this thesis, we have put the emphasis upon the phonetic and morphological assimilation of nouns and adjectives. We have decided to deal with these parts of speech because the process of their adaptation in a language is gradual and comes through certain changes before it is settled in the recipient language.

Some nouns and adjectives enter the language being indeclinable at the beginning but they may have a tendency to change during the process of adaptation. Verbs, on contrary, are directly assorted in the recipient language (Czech) according to the Czech verbal classes and they do not go through a significant change that is why we have decided not to analyse them. The environment and spheres where these words occur the most are also mentioned. The thesis is based on the linguistic theories and appropriate bibliography.

The way our respondents perceive the inflow of the new words will be discussed as well (the respondents are students and working people of various social classes). For this reason, the thesis includes a questionnaire that will serve as an instrument of a field research. The respondents have been given questions related to assimilation of new English words in colloquial Czech in fields of pop culture, fast food and information technology. We have chosen these areas because we assume that the words related to them are of a frequent usage by majority of speakers, and we would like to see how much they are adapted in the system of the Czech language, their degree of assimilation as well as opinions of people on the reason of their occurrence, areas in which they may occur and their knowledge of some other words of this type. The questionnaire has been given to the respondents of three different categories of age. We will concentrate on the phonetic and morphological adaptation.

Our hypothesis is that the majority of chosen words from all areas will be known by the respondents of the questionnaire and that they will be able to sort them among words originally coming from English and as well their assimilation in the system of the Czech language will be significant. We suppose that the respondents of the youngest age category will assimilate and use these words in their own lexis the most.

2 THE ANALYSIS OF ADAPTATION

2.1 Neologisms and language culture

The inflow of new words of a foreign origin has significantly changed the development of the Czech language and the language culture. A. Jedlička⁴ assumes that when we speak of a language culture we think of either some phenomenon related to the language culture itself or to some phenomenon related to speech. In both ways there is a difference in orientation: culture as state, a level (of language and speech) and culture as an activity, thus cultivation of language and speech. The subject of language is its function in the society and social expressive needs. The effort of every language system is to make the language alive, grow, receive and absorb new elements.

The fact that Czech language accepts new elements is apparent nowadays more than ever. The principle of neologisms is usually seen in either naming a new subject, phenomenon or a fact, or that they enrich the expressive tools of language (in their enrichment of the ability to express language). It can also be seen in a stylistic level where neologisms contrast *archaisms*, expressions that are no longer current. As O. Martincová⁵ claims, the question of neologisms is a current issue of linguistic observation. Generally it is perceived as both provocative and serious research topic. There is a close connection of constantly growing lexicon and general ideas of language development with the question of relation of language towards society, language and mind. We admit the importance of this subject for cultivation of national language, language policy and language education. For these reasons linguists in many countries pay increased attention to the study than they used to do in the past when it was analysed only marginally. The evidence of increased interest is a number of works which appear from the end of the 1960s and during the whole decade as well as a numerous growth of dictionaries of neologisms.

2.2 Borrowings and their cause

A borrowing is one of the most common processes of word formation. It consists in taking over of words from other languages.

⁴ O. Martincová, *Problematika neologismů v současné spisovné češtině*. A. Jedlička: "Teorie jazykové kultury dnes" (Praha: Univerzita Karlova, 1983) 15.

⁵ O. Martincová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 188.

Throughout its history, the English language has adopted a vast number of loanwords from other languages, including *piano* (Italian), *boss* (Dutch), *croissant* (French) or *robot* (Czech). Other languages, of course, borrow terms from English, as it can be observed in the Czech use of *klub* or *drink*. A special type of borrowing is described as loan-translation, or calque. In this process, there is a direct translation of the elements of a word into the borrowing language. An interesting example is the French term *un gratteciel*, which literally translates as “scrape-sky”, or the German *Wolkenkratzer* (cloud scraper) and Czech *mrakodrap*, all of which were used for what, in English, is normally referred to as a *skyscraper*.⁶

One of the most important social factors promoting borrowings from English was certainly a fact that there was no withdrawal reflex toward English generated in our country as opposed to German, especially after the national renaissance.

This withdrawal moment is recently not discussed in academic circles but more likely borrowings from English are under the debate from a political point of view. It is claimed that with English words new ideologies penetrate consciousness of young people, that they deform a way of their thinking which is different from the national language system.⁷

One can investigate new English words in Czech, so called *anglicisms*, the same way as all the other borrowed language means but at the same time one cannot ignore some of their specific features. Anglicisms are the result of existing political, cultural, economic, sport and technical contacts, possibly conflicts. Besides, English had a function of mediating language through which many exotic words and phenomenon were penetrating Czech. Such words are e.g. *scarlet*, *sofa* from Arabic, *zombie* from Bantu language or *tattoo* from Tahitian.

B. Gallová⁸ states in her diploma thesis that from the sociolinguistic point of view there are two basic causes of borrowing words from other languages: extralinguistic causes (e.g. cultural influence of one language upon another; political, geographic and economic contact of two or more countries) and intralinguistic causes (e.g. inability of derivation from a domestic expression, absence of a term, tendency to use a one-word expression instead of a multi-word expression, necessity to express oneself exactly and without ambiguity).

⁶ G. Yule, *The study of language: an introduction* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996) 63.

⁷ J. Kuchař a kol., *Aktuální otázky jazykové kultury v socialistické společnosti* (Praha: Academia, 1979) 10.

⁸ B. Gallová, “English loanwords in present-day Slovak.” (Olomouc: 2009) 18.

Traditionally there are some demands that should indicate borders while borrowing new words. It is said a language cannot completely weaken another language. A Polish linguist Marian Mazur⁹ claims that in language itself, there is a degree of limit of foreign elements. In general, it is important to mention that Polish linguists used to be progressive in their research even earlier. This limit is different with various users of language. In a publication called *Aktuální otázky jazykové kultury v socialistické společnosti*, 1979, he assumes that what is considered by some as an attack on the essence of language, is an acceptable enrichment of a language (means) by the others. It is required that the sovereignty of language is not affected. What matters are especially such cases when the centre of the lexicon is affected and words of colloquial vocabulary are substituted for borrowed expressions e.g. *erejznout* instead of *vymazat*. Other objection raised against borrowing words from English is reference to a different distribution of phonemes in English. Groups of sounds having unusual, sometimes even expressive character penetrate literary text (words such *lejzr*, *sajdkár* etc.).

We may assume that thirty-one years after releasing this publication the situation has slightly changed. It is believed that the liberal Mazur's approach and acceptance of different points of view is still the issue. On one hand, there are those who do not agree with occurrence of new words in the Czech language and refuse to give them their steady place in the Czech lexicon. Reasons may be various: people cannot get used to the pronunciation of the word (e.g. in case the word is not adapted in the system of Czech language and the pronunciation is not "Czechified", then especially a non-speaker of English may have difficulties), patriotism may be another issue (e.g. some people do not like using other expressions than the Czech ones and rather describe the word in their own words because "they are Czech so why would they do it in other way") or people may feel uncomfortable using different names for something that already exists in their own language. On the other hand, many people welcome the inflow of English words and their adaptation in the Czech language. If Mazur says that the problem is the substitution of already existing Czech lexical units for borrowings with the addition of typical Czech affixes, we would have to differ with him. It has become very typical of Czech to use such structures. Expressions such as *kólnu /call/ ti zítra*, *bukni /book/ to na netu* or *apdejtnout /update/ tento program je snadné* are in everyday usage by Czechs, especially a younger generation.

⁹ J. Kuchař a kol., *Aktuální otázky jazykové kultury v socialistické společnosti* (Praha: Academia, 1979) 208-209.

2.3 Spheres affected by English words

English has been a rich source of extended lexicon of many languages. The significant growth in borrowings from English reflects the present-day situation in science, business and the increased mixing of cultures. Scholarly literature written in English is more abundant and accessible than literature published in other languages. English is often used as the official language at the international conferences and symposiums. The information on international scientific and technical publications is widely available in English. New words in Czech occur in various spheres of everyday and professional usage and influence our language culture and social life. We can find the examples in:

information technologies: *firewall, banner, web design*; telecommunications: *call-back, hands-free, roaming*; business and marketing: *brand, sales promotion, labelling*; management and human resources: *recruitment, leadership, trainee*; finance and banking: *e-banking, leaseback, blue chip*; economics: *developer, reengineering, offshore*; medical care: *photoaging, gatekeeping*; sport: *hattrick, skydiving, wakeboard*; music: *grunge, doom metal, acid jazz*; tourism: *all-inclusive, timeshare, last moment*; fashion: *casual, outfit, street style*; cosmetics: *face-lift, glitter, nail art*; slang: *happy, cool, in*¹⁰

2.4 Process of adaptation

When the new words are borrowed in a recipient language, they undergo a certain process of adaptation. Every new word in the recipient language functions as a unique event.

Adaptation of the borrowed element in the lexicon is a multilateral phenomenon that has its typical features within every lexical unit. From its first appearance to its fixed adaptation into a lexical system, there is a large scale of adaptation possibilities between the two languages: the recipient and the outgoing language. That is why borrowings must be registered, analysed, qualified and classified.¹¹

¹⁰ O. Martincová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 189.

¹¹ J. Furdík, *Jazykovedný časopis* 2/1995: 45.

Not all the elements of a foreign language that are used by speakers of Czech are integrated in the Czech lexicon. Many of them remain at the level of “occasional borrowings”. Their usage is marked in the text with quotations, italics etc. These expressions are e.g. *fast-walking*, *fat-free* or *official time*. In contrast with them, borrowings embody a certain level of adaptation. The first sign is their repeated occurrence in communication.¹²

Assimilations of borrowings are considered one of the inevitable conditions of their gradual adaptation to a lexicon of the recipient language. A lexical unit is adapted on various levels: phonetic, morphological, word formative and semantic.

According to the level of adaptation of words of foreign origin, Vachek¹³ refers to:

1. lexical quotations - they preserve their original form and pronunciation, their foreign status is recognizable (e.g. *cash and carry*, *time is money*)
2. partially adapted lexical units – their foreign status is recognized but they are under the process of adaptation and therefore they usually do not have a fixed word form (e.g. *topless/toples*, *computer/kompjútr*)
3. fully adapted lexical units – completely adapted to the lexical system of the recipient language, their foreign origin is hardly recognizable, their form reflects the original pronunciation (e.g. *hakisák*, *trajler*)

2.4.1 Phonetic assimilation of English words in Czech language

Regarding the fact that many new words come from English, it is crucial to mention that there is a great difference between the orthographic and acoustic form of anglicisms.

This difference problem has three possible solutions for Czech¹³:

1. removal – the difference is removed by:

¹² O. Martinová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 189.

¹³ J. Vachek, *Linguistic Characterology of Modern English* (Bratislava: Univerzita Komenského, 1975) 49.

- stabilized pronunciation following the orthographic form (*fotbal*)
 - adaptation of orthography in accordance with stabilized pronunciation (*džentlmen*)
2. keeping the difference – both orthography and pronunciation are kept, the word is fully adapted (*pop*)

Approaches to a relationship between pronunciation and orthography of anglicisms varied in various eras in the past. In *Pravidla českého pravopisu*¹⁴, 1995, it is said that in orthography of borrowed words in Czech we distinguish between proper nouns and common nouns.

Common nouns are written in orthography both original and “Czechified”. The cause is a process of acclimatization that proceeds gradually, e.g. *make up/mejkap*, *handicap/hendikep*. The other possibility is to write them in the original orthography; these are words whose pronunciation significantly differs from their orthography (e.g. *outsider*).

Proper nouns usually keep the orthography from the language they come from (e.g. *Willam Shakespeare* from English or *Jean Jacques Rousseau* from French). The same system is also required for geographical names (e.g. *New York* or *Bordeaux*).

O. Martinová¹⁵ states that the acceptance of original orthographic and pronunciation forms close to original pronunciation over borrowings from English is very typical of present-day language situation. This is caused by an increasing number of speakers of English and also by the inflow of anglicisms. Keeping the authenticity of orthography facilitates the identification of a word of foreign origin which does not have a steady position in a lexicon and this is an issue of especially those words with distinctively different acoustic and orthographic form (e.g. *decision maker/dysižn mejkr*). Different distribution of phonemes also takes a particular role in keeping the original orthography of anglicisms.

The decline of the tendency to “Czechify” some sounds in borrowed words has been recently observed by return to the original form of a suffix *-ing*.

¹⁴ V. Hartmannová, D. Hartmannová, *Pravidla českého pravopisu* (Olomouc: FIN, 1994) 55.

¹⁵ O. Martinová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 191.

What happened before is, that due to the pronunciation of voiceless *k* sound [-iŋ] in the final position, pronunciation with [k] penetrated different grammatical cases which resulted in the tendency towards the orthoepic adaptation of ending *g* to *k* (e.g. *trénink*, *dispečink*). Nowadays the tendency is opposite; the original form of the English suffix is maintained which results in pronunciation with [g] in oblique case and derived words (e.g. *marketing- /marketink/, /marketingul/, /marketingový/*).¹⁶

Although many borrowings keep their original form, the majority exhibits adaptations. We distinguish two levels:

1. orthographic adaptation – this method represents a language or the sounds of it by written symbols (spelling), and relates to words whose pronunciation and written form does not diverge much; orthography adapts pronunciation with slight alterations such as substitution of individual letters, mainly *k* for *c* (e.g. *scan/sken*, *sitcom/sitkom*), simple groups of sounds (e.g. *drive/drajf*, *time/tajm*) or simplification of double letters (e.g. *fleece/flis*, *controlling/kontrolink*).
2. orthoepic adaptation – deals with pronunciation of words and signifies common modification of different English sounds such as:
 - a) sounds *th*, *q*, *w*
 - b) unstressed *r*
 - c) sound *e* [æ], written as *a*
 - d) unstressed vowel [ə]
 - e) loss of aspiration with consonants *p*, *t*, *k*
 - f) unstressed pronunciation of stressed consonants at the end of the word (e.g. *backpacker* [bekpekr])

¹⁶ O. Martincová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 191.

2.4.2 Morphological assimilation of English words in the Czech language

Morphological adaptation of English loanwords is a process in which the form of borrowed lexemes is, if necessary, transformed and adjusted with the aid of such language means with which the Czech language expresses a category of parts of speech and other morphological categories which are connected with the suitable parts of speech.

Analytic character of English may be understood as an advantage for forming new lexemes in Czech. The process is easier due to the fact that many English words are considered formative units that result in the formation of concrete lexemes by adding affixes of certain paradigm of declension or conjugation.¹⁷

M. Ološtiak¹⁸ calls this process *transmorphologization* as a part of the complete process of adaptation. He claims that transmorphologization is a “reevaluation of grammatical categories within interlingual migration of lexemes”.

2.5 Morphological adaptation of nouns

Czech nouns are determined by categories of gender, number, paradigm and case while English nouns lack the category of paradigm and add the category of determination which the Czech language lacks. In this section, I will focus on comparing the categories of gender which both languages share.

Morphological adaptation of nouns usually occurs through processes in accordance with the ending in the nominative singular. Nouns adjoin a certain paradigm of declension through which they express the morphological categories of case, gender and number. Nouns which do not face any difficulties in the process of morphological adaptation are of a suffix *-er*, used for naming occupations which are declined according to paradigm *pán* (*dealer- /dílér/; pánovi – dealerovi /díleroi/, páново – dealerovo/*) or nouns naming inanimate objects with a suffix *-er* according to paradigm *hrad* (e.g. *pager- /pejdžr/; hradu – pageru /pejdžru/, hradem – pagerem /pejdžrem/*).¹⁹

¹⁷ O. Martinová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 192.

¹⁸ M. Ološtiak, “Skloňovanie anglických antroponým v slovenčine,” *Slovenská reč* 4-5/2002:211.

¹⁹ O. Martinová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 192.

In case the assimilation of the word is orthographical, we are likely to use this assimilated form (e.g. *apdejtnout*). In case the orthography is fully adapted, we are likely to use the original form of writing (e.g. *pager*).

Category of gender

In English, we distinguish between masculine and feminine gender according to their natural gender (sex). A masculine gender corresponds to a human being of male sex; feminine gender to a human being of female sex. Animals and objects usually do not distinguish between gender, except for specific lexical entries such as *stallion/mare*, *bull/cow*. Gender in English corresponds to the extralinguistic reality, whereas in Czech, it does not necessarily have to be so.

In the Czech language, we refer to so called grammatical gender in which the gender category of noun depends on the ending. We differentiate between masculine, feminine and neuter gender. The purpose of grammatical gender is a classification of nouns into corresponding paradigms and to express other parts of speech such as adjectives, which depend on them.

If we want English words to be morphologically adapted in the Czech language, they must adapt Czech suffixes according to the certain Czech paradigms. The feature that often determines gender and paradigm of the borrowed word is the ending of the word in the nominative singular.

Masculine gender

The table below shows the six Czech paradigms of masculine gender, the state of animacy (signed as “A”) or inanimacy (signed as “I”), the ending in the nominative singular and its examples, and the ending in the plural nominative with examples.

Paradigm	Animacy	Ending in Sg. Nom.	Example	Ending in Pl. Nom.	Example
Pán	A	Consonant	Pán Rocker	-i/-é	Páni Rockerři
Muž	A	Consonant (soft)	Muž Kouč	-i	Muži /Pánové Kouči/Koučové

Předseda	A	-a	Předseda Golfista	i-/é	Předsedové Golfisté
Soudce	A	-e	Soudce	-i	Soudci
Hrad	I	Consonant	Hrad Handout	-y	Hrady Handouty
Stroj	I	Consonant (soft)	Stroj Pucle	-e	Stroje Pucle

(Note: a word *pucle* originally comes from English (*puzzle*), from which was borrowed to German and then entered Czech; we could not find any examples of paradigm *soudce*, this is why the example is missing).

Feminine gender

Feminine gender in the Czech language does not distinguish nouns according to the state of being animate or inanimate as this is typical of nouns of masculine gender. The common feature is that all of the paradigms end in a vowel. The table below shows the four paradigms and their endings in both plural and singular nominative with examples.

Paradigm	Ending in Sg. Nom.	Example	Ending in P Nom.	Example
Žena	-a	Žena Simkarta	-y	Ženy Simkarty
Růže	-e	Růže Dekorace	-e	Růže Dekorace
Píseň	-consonant	Píseň Masáž	-ě/-e	Písně Masáže
Kost	-consonant	Kost	-i	Kosti

(Note: we could not find any examples of paradigm *kost*, this is why the example is missing).

Neuter gender

Neuter gender in the Czech language is represented by four paradigms. The table gives us the information on the ending in both nominative singular and plural, accompanied with examples.

Paradigm	Ending in Sg. Nom.	Example	Ending in Pl. Nom.	Example
Město	-o	Město Disko	-a	Města Diska
Moře	-e	Moře Pucle	-e	Moře Pucle
Kuře	-e	Kuře	-e	Kuřata
Stavení	-í	Stavení Surfování	-í	Stavení Surfování

[Note: we could not find any examples of paradigm *kuře*, that is why the example is missing; diverbal verbs of *surfing/skating* type are, to a certain degree, assimilated by having a case suffix in instrumental].

O Martincová²⁰ assumes that in the current language situation we can observe mainly the functioning of certain mechanisms for adaptation of English suffixes ended in a type of *-ity / -ibility / -icality* transformed into *-ita / -ibilita / -ikalita* (e.g. in *utilita, kredibilita, technikalita* from English *utility, credibility*)

-ation transformed into *-ace* (e.g. *skarifikace* from *scarification*)

-ization/-isation transformed into *-izace* (e.g. *viktimize, kastomizace* from *victimization, customization*)

²⁰ O. Martincová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 193.

-ics (in usage of business or science branches) transformed into -ika (e.g. *kalanetika*, derived from the English business term *Callanetics*)

-ure into -ura (e.g. *adventura* from *adventure*)

-ism into -izmus/-ismus (e.g. *haktivizmus/haktivismus* from *hacktivism*)

(Note: all the examples stated above come from the publication by Martinová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině*, 2005).

Borrowed compounds of an international character are also adapted into the Czech language in a manner that the part of it that has been already adapted into Czech is “Czechified” while the other is not, and afterwards what we call “hybrid” is formed (e.g. a word *simkarta* from English *sim card* - *card* was translated into Czech while *sim* remained in the original language form; similar words are *streetfoťbal* from *street football* or *venture kapitál* from *venture capital*).

According to Martinová²¹, markedly word-formative like, structured foreign lexemes are Czechified by translation of separate lexical components or morphemes. The result is occurrence of calques or semi-calques (e.g. *go-go tanečnice* from *go-go dancer*, *etno hudba* from *ethno music*, *kyberprostor* from *cyberspace* or *samoléčba* from *self treatment*).

There is a certain part of borrowed lexemes creating nouns which remain either permanently non-adapted or they do not go through the process of declension or they are in a process of complex morphological development, often accompanied by oscillation in expressing grammatical categories. They are:

1. inanimate nouns which do not match any Czech type of declension (e.g. *fantasy*, *know how*, *talk show*)
 - the choice of gender is often influenced especially by association with lexemes of a similar meaning therefore we may consider e.g. *fantasy* as either feminine or neuter gender

²¹ O. Martinová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 194.

2. inanimate nouns whose endings are ambiguous because it can direct toward declension in both feminine and masculine gender
 - this type of ending can obstruct a formation of an appropriate paradigm
 - a choice of gender may be therefore influenced by other aspects than the ending of a noun (e.g. by association with similar lexemes in terms of their meaning or by neutrality of neuter gender) which may lead to oscillation between genders and inability of declension (e.g. a noun *image* /imidž/ which could be considered each type of gender depending on association – *vzhled*, *podoba*, *pověst*, *renomé*, *vizáž* etc. which results in inability of declension and using various forms – dative and locative singular *imidži*, instrumental singular *imidží*, instrumental plural *imidžemi*)

3. nouns with which the choice of gender is not determined by their ending
 - such nouns are *au-pair*, *showgirl*, *playmate*, *pin-up girl*, *go-go girl*; these nouns are from the very beginning clearly sorted according to the natural gender
 - they often remain indeclinable for some time and some of them are gradually “Czechified” with the aid of Czech word-formative suffixes (e.g. *au-pair* – *au-pairka*, *barbie* – *bárbína*)

4. nouns with the English suffix –s/-es for determining English plural
 - in the Czech language, the suffix –s/-es occurs with nouns in two functions
 - a) is used especially with indeclinable nouns or nouns used occasionally; such forms implying the existence of singular are a part of opposition singular-plural (e.g. *talk-show* – *talkshows*, *skinhead* – *skinheads*; *hlouček asi deseti skinheads nevěřil svým očím* but *téměř tři roky se vleče soudní řízení se skinheady*). We have observed that the word *skinhead* has been fully assimilated in the Czech language, which that is why we are likely to use the form *skinheadi* in plural rather than *skinheads*
 - b) the –s/-es suffix is a steady element of lexemes used in plural which does not imply the realization of singular. These nouns are usually collective

nouns and the semantic feature of abundance is contained in their structure of the meaning (e.g. *rowdies*, *ultras*, *pampers*, *dreadlocks*)

The adaptation of nouns with the English plural suffix *-s/-es* depends on these two functions. For expressing the opposition singular – plural, the English suffix is substituted for the Czech suffixes (e.g. *skinhead* – *skinheadi*, *mainframe* – *mainframy*, *skin* – *skini*).

Collective nouns can be adapted also by substitution of the suffix but sometimes the original English suffix becomes a steady element of borrowed lexemes and Czech suffixes go adjoined behind the lexeme (e.g. *cornflakes* – *kornfleksy/kornfleky/kornflejksy/kornflejky*; *pampers* – *pampersy/pampersky*).

2.6 Morphological adaptation of adjectives

There are two possible processes of morphological adaptation of adjectives. One of them includes adjectives of foreign origin which are from the very beginning formed by Czech suffixes but which we cannot consider fully adapted Czech adjectives. As Martincová²² states, most of these are relational adjectives, that means that they are related to the meaning of the borrowed noun. These nouns were derived from borrowed nouns in the process of their adaptation (e.g. *fulltextový* from *fulltext*, *teleshoppingový* from *teleshopping*).

We can talk about the complete adaptation of an adjective only in case there is no primer Czech noun as the base for the adjective.

The larger part of borrowed words determined primarily for the adjectival function is created by indeclinable adjectives, and adjectives that were, in the process of borrowing, word formatively modified. To make the borrowed word adapted, we can either add Czech suffixes to the base (e.g. *rezidentní* from English *resident* and also *rezidentní* from English *residential*) or transform foreign suffixes.

English suffixes *-able/-ible* are transformed into *-abilní/-ibilní* (e.g. *profitabilní* from *profitable*, *kredibilní* from *credible*).

English suffixes *-ive* are transformed into *-ivní* (e.g. *incestivní* from *incestive*).

²² O. Martincová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 19.

The other process is related to the adaptation of adjectives which remain completely indeclinable in the Czech language (e.g. *crazy, free, light, cool, high* or *hot*).

These are also words with non-adapted adjectival suffixes (e.g. *user-friendly*), adjectival lexemes created in English by adjectivization of e.g. participles or various prepositional constructions (e.g. *unplugged, all-news, off-line, offshore*) and relational adjectives whose base nouns were not adapted in the Czech language (e.g. *gypsy / gypsy kapela, gypsy punk, gypsy folklore*).

Martincová²³ also claims that we do not tend to create word-formative adaptations of indeclinable adjectives as it was a typical feature of the past, especially with ungrammatical expressions such as *fajn-fajnový* or *prima-primový*.

It is important to realize that the situation now is changing and what was used before does not have to be the present-day tendency. Nowadays, we are likely to say both the indeclinable version *cool* and *coolový*. The questionnaire does not discuss adjectives as a whole but in order to obtain the information on the recent point of view, we have asked some of the respondents whether they use the form *coolový* and the result is that they do not use it themselves but they have heard someone using it, which serves as a proof that this kind of adjective starts to be in use. However, the form *cool* keeps the dominance over the usage in everyday speech.

²³ O. Martincová, *Neologizmy v dnešní češtině* (Praha: Ústav pro jazyk český Akademie věd České republiky, 2005) 196.

3 The questionnaire analysis

We have decided to do our own analysis with the aim to see how the Czech society assimilates and perceives words coming from English in the system of the Czech language within the last five years since the publication of Martincová. We have chosen three areas of communication to be analyzed: fast food, pop culture and information technology. Each area is represented by ten words which are the subjects to the analysis.

A fast food area contains these words: *longer, hot wings, strips, milkshake, bacon, noodles, take away, muffin, donut.*

In a pop culture area, we can find these words: *star, DJ, new wave, sample, remix, mainstream, single, stage, oldschool, ska.*

An information technology area is represented by: *bluetooth, blog, messenger, iPod, firefox, fog screen, human joystick, banner, cookies, dungeon.*

We have used a form of a questionnaire with ten questions to be answered by respondents. The respondents of the questionnaire are Czech, non-linguists and they were chosen randomly. The reason of this decision was to find anonymous individuals regardless of their knowledge of English. This way, we can see whether they are able to recognize and assimilate given expressions. We have sorted the respondents in three age categories: 15-19, 20-29, 30-45; each category is represented by ten respondents. We have done so because we assume that the degree of assimilation and understanding within the categories will differ and in this way we would be able to state which category is likely to adapt and use the expression the most or the least.

3.1 The questionnaire

The value of the questionnaire supports our own views on assimilation with opinions of the respondents within three target groups based on age. Considering the number of the respondents (ten in each category), the results cannot be presented quantitatively; the results serve as a mean of confirming our opinions. In the process of the questionnaire evaluation, (as the first) at first, we evaluated the age category from 15 to 19 years old respondents, then 20-29 and finally 30-45. The questions are sorted in ascending order from number 1 to 10. Questions 1-5 are practical and respondents were asked to fill in their own option. These questions are the main source for determining the degree of morphological and phonetic assimilation. Questions 6-10 are theoretical and they serve for obtaining the respondents' opinion on the current situation of general knowledge of borrowing from English in the Czech language. Each question is accompanied by its format version from the questionnaire so the structure of it could be seen. The methods of the evaluation along with the aims of each question are identical, that is why they have been presented only in the first age category.

3.1.1 The age category 15-19

Question number 1

1. Vnímáte následující slova jako slova českého původu? (v případě odpovědi Ne, odpovězte na další otázky)

English: Do you perceive the following words as words of Czech origin? (in case your answer is No, answer the other questions)

The aim of this question was to know whether the respondents perceive the stated expressions as Czech words or words of foreign origin (preferably English) and see whether they are able to work with them in the next questions. Although one of the tasks is to get the exact translation of the words, we wondered if we could see the direct assimilation of some expressions; therefore to obtain the same translation of the word in its same original form (e.g. *milkshake* translated as *milkshake*).

100% of the respondents think these words come from English. The table below shows the respondent's translations from which we can also see the direct assimilation of some expressions such as *muffin*, *DJ* or *messenger*. The column on the right side shows how many respondents did not answer. We assume they did not do so due to the ignorance of these expressions which also gives us information on no assimilation of those expressions.

	Zadané slovo	Doslovný překlad respondentů					
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer	Děle (6)	Dlouhán (3)	Delší (1)			Neurčeno
	Hot wings	Horká křídla (6)	Pálivá křídla (2)				
	Strips	Pásek (3)	Pásek masa (1)	Prsa (1)			5
	Milkshake	Mléčný koktejl (7)	Mléčný šejk (2)	Zamíchané mléko (1)			
	Bacon	Slanina (8)	Pečené maso (1)	Šunka (1)			
	Popcorn	Popkorn (3)	Popraskaná kukuřice (2)	Pražená kukuřice (2)	Kukuřice (2)	Puklá kukuřice (1)	
	Noodles	Nudle (8)	Těstoviny (2)				
	Take away	Vzít pryč (7)	S sebou (1)	Vyhodit (1)			
	Muffin	Koláček (5)	Muffin (2)	Dortíček (2)			
Donut	Kobliha (7)	Oříšek (2)				1	
Pop kultura	Star	Hvězda (10)					
	DJ	Disc jokey (3)	Míchač hudby (3)	DJ (2)			2
	New wave	Nová vlna (9)					1
	Sample	Vzorek (3)					7
	Remix	Znovu mix (3)	Směs (2)	Míchance (1)	Remix (1)		3
	Mainstream	Hlavní proud (3)	Střední proud (1)	Vlastní proud (1)			5
	Single	Jednotlivec (2)	Píseň (2)	Single (2)	Jedna (2)	Svobodný (1)	1
	Stage	Pódium (4)	Stáž (2)	Patro (2)	Scéna (1)		1
	Oldschool	Stará škola (9)					1
	Ska	Ska (4)					6
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	Modrý zub (10)					
	Blog	Deník (3)	Blog (2)	Internetová stránka (1)	Osobní web (1)		3
	Messenger	Zpravodaj (3)	Posel (2)	Záznámník (1)	Messenger (1)	Odesílač (1)	2
	iPod	i-pod (1)	Internetová deska (1)				8
	Firefox	Ohnivá liška (7)	Hořící liška (2)	Žhavá liška (1)			
	Fog screen	Mlhavá obrazovka (4)	Žabí pozadí (1)	Nějaký obraz (1)	Žabí obrazovka (1)		3
	Human joystick	Lidský ovladač (9)					1
	Banner	Zákaz (1)	Lišta (1)				8
	Cookies	Koláčky (5)	Sušenky (3)				2
Dungeon	Vládce (1)	Podzemí (1)				8	

(Note: The respondents' options of the answer were *yes* or *no*; as all of them answered *no* (they do not perceive the expressions as Czech words), the table does not show any further questions. The same structure of the table is valid for the question no. 1 in all age categories).

Question number 2

2. Používáte toto slovo v běžné mluvě?

English: Do you use this word in everyday speech? (options: Yes, often; Sometimes; Seldom; Never)

		Ano často	Občas	Zřídka kdy	Nikdy	Degree of assimilation
Rvchid obkervivni	Longer	1	3	1	5	40%
	Hot wings		3		7	30%
	Strips	1	2	1	6	30%
	Milkshake	3	3	3	1	60%
	Bacon		2	1	7	20%
	Popcorn	8	2			100%
	Noodles		2	3	5	20%
	Take away		2		8	20%
	Muffin	7	3			100%
	Donut	5	2	1	2	70%
Pop kultura	Star	5	4	1		90%
	DJ	7	2	1		90%
	New wave	2	1	2	5	30%
	Sample				10	0%
	Remix	4	3	3		70%
	Mainstream	1	1	3	5	20%
	Single	4	3	3		70%
	Stage	1	1	2	6	20%
	Oldschool	1	2	2	5	30%
Ska	2	4	2	2	60%	
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	8	1	1		90%
	Blog	8	1	1		90%
	Messenger	2	2	6		40%
	iPod	7	1	2		80%
	Firefox	9	1			100%
	Fog screen			3	7	0%
	Human joystick		1	2	7	10%
	Banner	2	1	3	4	30%
	Cookies	3	1	4	2	40%
	Dungeon			2	8	0%

The target of this question was to see how much anglicisms are assimilated in the Czech language. We have added options “Yes, often” and “Sometimes”, which have a value showing a positive degree of assimilation, and stated the degree in percentage in the last column of the table.

Four words out of ten from fast food area (*milkshake, popcorn, donut, muffin*) are over 60% which was the minimum and the criteria for categorizing the words into the group of the assimilated ones in Czech. Five words out of ten (*star, DJ, remix, single, ska*) are assimilated in pop culture area and four words out of ten (*bluetooth, blog, iPod, firefox*) have a positive degree of assimilation in information technology area. Although the respondents perceive the inflow of borrowed words in information technology the most, (see question number 6) this question states that the biggest degree of assimilation occurs in pop culture area.

Question number 3

3. Znáte jiný výraz pro toto slovo? (v případě že Ano, napište jaký).

English: Do you know any other expression ? (in case your answer is Yes, write it down)

	Ne	Ano
		Respondents' answer
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer	Jídlo v KFC
	Hot wings	Jídlo v KFC
	Strips	Jídlo v KFC
	Milkshake	
	Bacon	
	Popcorn	
	Noodles	
	Take away	
	Muffin	
	Donut	Koblížek
Pop kultura	Star	Hvězda na nebi Celebrita
	DJ	
	New wave	Nový styl
	Sample	
	Remix	
	Mainstream	
		Nezadaný Píseň
	Single	Cvik v aerobiku
	Stage	
	Oldschool	
Ska	Hudební styl	
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	Spojení mezi mobilem a PC
	Blog	Osobní internetová stránka web
	Messenger	Program na posílání zpráv
	iPod	Přístroj na poslech hudby
	Firefox	Název internetového prohlížeče
	Fog screen	
	Human joystick	Nástroj na hry v PC
	Banner	
		Sušenky PC program na obrázky
	Cookies	Aplikace
Dungeon		

The question number 3 corresponds with the question number 1. We wanted to find out whether the respondents knew some other expressions of the denoted words from the three specific areas and in this way learn more about their knowledge and awareness of such words. We supposed that the respondents would find equivalents of the words in a foreign language (since the expressions in a table are not stated in Czech) but most of them did not do so. This question was supposed to examine competition of the Czech-English expressions but due to vague instructions, respondents gave us the translation of these words (e.g. *new wave-nová vlna*). Although we did not intend to obtain these answers, this question confirmed the fact that those expressions are the only ones used and that there are no other equivalents for them.

Question number 4

4. Souhlasíte s formou, jakou je toto slovo napsáno? (v případě odpovědi Ne napište, jak byste ho napsali Vy).

English: Do you agree with the form in which the word is written? (in case your answer is No, write your own transcription)

As regards this question, all the respondents agree on all the words form of writing except for one. This respondent's orthography of a word "noodles" would be "nudle" (in both nominative singular and plural and in genitive). The agreement on these words supports the fact that this group of the respondents assimilates them.

Question number 5

5. Napište Váš vlastní přepis toho, jak toto slovo vyslovíte. Např: *Business - busines/biznis*

English: Write your own transcription of how you would pronounce this word yourself.

		Transcription				
		The dictionary form in %	Variations			
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer	100%				
	Hot wings	20%	/wings/			
	Strips	80%	/straips/			
	Milkshake	100%				
	Bacon	90%	/bejkon/			
	Popcorn	100%				
	Noodles	100%				
	Take away	100%				
	Muffin	90%	/mufin/			
	Donut	20%	/dunat/	/dúnat/		
Pop kultura	Star	100%				
	DJ	90%	/dýžej/			
	New wave	100%				
	Sample	100%				
	Remix	0%	/remix/			
	Mainstream	90%	/mainstrím/			
	Single	100%				
	Stage	90%	/stejž/			
	Oldschool	20%	/oldskůl/			
Ska	100%					
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	10%	/blútút/			
	Blog	100%				
	Messenger	0%	/mesenžr/	/mesendžr/		
	iPod	100%				
	Firefox	100%				
	Fog screen	100%				
	Human joystick	70%	/hjúman	/hjúmen/ /		
	Banner	80%	/baner/	/bener/		
	Cookies	100%				
Dungeon	50%	/dungeon/	/danžn/	/daudžen/	/dangoun/	/dungon/

The column on the left side of the table above shows the percentage of the respondents who transcribed the word in a dictionary form therefore they phonetically assimilate the words. Only seven words have reached a value lower than 50% while the other twenty-six

expressions provide us with the information that these expressions show quite a high degree of phonetic assimilation. The column on the right side shows other various transcriptions which were in minority therefore it may complement the remaining percents in case the assimilation was less than 100% (e.g. the words *strips* / *strips*/ was phonetically assimilated by 80% of the respondents, the remaining 20% makes the incorrect variation /*straips*/).

Question number 6

6. V jakých oblastech se nejčastěji setkáváte se slovy cizího původu?

- kultura
- politika
- sport
- informační technologie
- obchod
- slang

English: In which areas do you meet the words of foreign origin the most?

(the options are: culture, politics, sport, information technology, business, slang)

The aim of asking this question was to find out in which spheres the respondents meet words of foreign origin the most. According to the results, respondents find the highest number of foreign words in the information technology sphere – 80%, the other 20% are for culture.

Question number 7

7. Vnímáte slova cizího původu jako nedílnou součást české slovní zásoby?

English: Do you perceive words of foreign origin as a steady part of the Czech lexicon?

We have let the respondents answer this question, whether they perceive the words of foreign origin as a steady part of the Czech lexicon, by themselves because we assumed that there would be many various opinions. This question is an inconsistent topic of discussion of many linguists and also of the whole society. The answers are shown below:

Respondent no. 1: “Depends on what words of foreign origin they are and on the fact how long they have been being used. I do not consider a word *population* as an interfering element, it has become a part of my lexicon whereas a word *longer* is somehow interfering and I guess I will not use it often.”

Respondent no. 2: “Only terms, in specific areas. I do not like to use English expressions especially there where we can find the Czech equivalents (slang words such as *cool* or *king*).”

Respondent no. 3: “Only some of them. I prefer Czech expressions.”

Respondent no. 4: “Yes, some Czech words do not have equivalents.”

Respondent no. 5: “These words have become a part of our language.”

Respondent no. 6: “Yes, it is natural and that is the way it is. Nowadays, it would probably be impossible to prevent it if we do not want to completely close up ourselves before the world, and this is not possible to do.”

Respondent no.7: “I cannot imagine it without them. I do not know how we would substitute borrowed words by other Czech expressions. They are in use. How about *popcorn*? Shall I say *popped corn* instead? No!”

Respondent no. 8: “Yes, language must keep up with the reality.”

Other two respondents are of a positive opinion.

To sum up the answers, 70% of the respondents have expressed themselves positively towards borrowed words as a steady part of the Czech lexicon, the opinion of 20% was rather negative and the remaining 10% were rather indifferent. On the basis of these results we can state that the attitude of the respondents to this subject is highly positive.

Question number 8

8. **Myslíte si, že přejímání slov cizího původu do češtiny je fenomén současnosti nebo se tak děje již po delší dobu?**
- čeština přejímá slova cizího původu po desetiletí
 - je to trend několika posledních let
 - cizí slova v češtině nijak nevnímám

English: Do you think that the borrowing of words of foreign origin into Czech is a phenomenon of presence or it has been happening a long time?

(the options are: the Czech language has been borrowing the words of foreign origin for decades; it has been a trend of the last years; I do not perceive words of foreign origin in the Czech language anyhow)

70% of the respondents think that words of foreign origin have been present in the Czech languages for decades. 30 % of the respondents assume that these words have entered the Czech language recently. From these results we can maintain that for the youngest generation of the respondents it has become quite natural to perceive borrowed words. This fact goes along with a question no. 7, where words of foreign origin have become a steady part of the lexicon for most of the respondents.

Question number 9

9. Znáte nějaká jiná slova z těchto oblastí?

English: Do you know any other words from these areas?

The respondents' knowledge on other words from the presented areas was satisfying. 90% of them confirmed it and demonstrated it by their own examples:

Fast food: *hamburger, cheeseburger, family frost, B-smart, happy meal, Mc Flurry*

Pop culture: *song, r'n'b, walkman, hard core, dance, cinema, artové filmy*

Information technology: *explorer, MP3, USB, radio, TV, video, disc*

The respondents reacted the most on fast food area where some of them even named specific products of fast food companies such as *B-smart* and *Mc Flurry* among very well known products such as *hamburger, cheeseburger* etc.

On the other hand, they did not name many of the information technology words, which we supposed they would do on account of the results from a question no. 7. Examples such as *video, TV, stereo* or *disc* belong to this category, however, they have been in a frequent use for a long time and we expected some more modern expressions.

Some respondents went even further behind the border of those three areas. They proved their knowledge in areas such as fashion (e.g. *navy, shoes*), sport (e.g. *kickbox, aerobic*) and business (e.g. *producent, manažer, bookmaker*). They are aware of presence of other languages bringing new words in the Czech language (e.g. *nachos, salsa* from Spanish or *ballet, faux-pas* from French).

10% of the respondents did not answer from which we assume a lack of knowledge of these words.

Question number 10

10. Jaký je podle Vás důvod výskytu cizích slov v češtině?

- v češtině pro některé výrazy neexistují ekvivalenty
- cizí slova a jejich užití k nám přinášejí cizinci
- nutnost mezinárodního obchodu a komunikace se zahraničím

English: What do you think is the reason of occurrence of borrowed words in Czech?

(Options: there are not equivalents in Czech for some expressions; borrowed words are brought to the Czech language by foreigners; the necessity of international business and communication with foreign countries)

According to the results, 60% of the respondents think that the reason of the occurrence of borrowed words is that Czech lacks equivalents for some new expressions. 40% of the respondents claim that the reason is a necessity of international business and communication with foreign countries.

We can make a conclusion that the 10% difference does not show much of a significant predominance of one result over another and that the results are more or less of the similar level.

None of the respondents think that the reason would be foreigners who come to our country and bring and spread their lexicon in the Czech language.

3.1.2 The age category 20-29

Question number 1

1. Vnímáte následující slova jako slova českého původu? (V případě odpovědi Ne, odpovězte na další otázky)

English: Do you perceive the following words as words of Czech origin? (In case your answer is No, answer the other questions)

	Zadané slovo	Doslovný překlad respondentů					
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer	Děle (6)	Dlouhán (3)	Delší (1)			Neurčeno
	Hot wings	Horká křídla (6)	Pálivá křídla (2)				
	Strips	Pásek (3)	Pásek masa (1)	Prsa (1)			5
	Milkshake	Mléčný koktejl (7)	Mléčný šejk (2)	Zamíchané mléko (1)			
	Bacon	Slanina (8)	Pečené maso (1)	Šunka (1)			
	Popcorn	Popkorn (3)	Popraskaná kukuřice (2)	Pražená kukuřice (2)	Kukuřice (2)	Puklá kukuřice (1)	
	Noodles	Nudle (8)	Těstoviny (2)				
	Take away	Vzít pryč (7)	S sebou (1)	Vyhodit (1)			
	Muffin	Koláček (5)	Muffin (2)	Dortíček (2)			
	Donut	Kobliha (7)	Oříšek (2)				1
Pop kultura	Star	Hvězda (10)					
	DJ	Disc jokey (3)	Míchač hudby (3)	DJ (2)			2
	New wave	Nová vlna (9)					1
	Sample	Vzorek (3)					7
	Remix	Znovu mix (3)	Směs (2)	Míchanice (1)	Remix (1)		3
	Mainstream	Hlavní proud (3)	Střední proud (1)	Vlastní proud (1)			5
	Single	Jednotlivec (2)	Píseň (2)	Single (2)	Jedna (2)	Svobodný (1)	1
	Stage	Pódium (4)	Stáž (2)	Patro (2)	Scéna (1)		1
	Oldschool	Stará škola (9)					1
	Ska	Ska (4)					6
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	Modrý zub (10)					
	Blog	Deník (3)	Blog (2)	Internetová stránka (1)	Osobní web (1)		3
	Messenger	Zpravodaj (3)	Posel (2)	Záznámník (1)	Messenger (1)	Odesílač (1)	2
	iPod	i-pod (1)	Internetová deska (1)				8
	Firefox	Ohnivá liška (7)	Hořící liška (2)	Žhavá liška (1)			
	Fog screen	Mlhavá obrazovka (4)	Žabí pozadí (1)	Nějaký obraz (1)	Žabí obrazovka (1)		3
	Human joystick	Lidský ovladač (9)					1
	Banner	Zákaz (1)	Lišta (1)				8
	Cookies	Koláčky (5)	Sušenky (3)				2
Dungeon	Vládce (1)	Podzemí (1)				8	

All the respondents assume that these expressions come from English and their translations did not significantly differ from the previous group. However, this group was able to assimilate more expressions than the previous age category, which we have observed from the last column. The respondents knew how to translate many of those words and the number of those who did not answer is significantly lower, unlike the previous group.

Question number 2

2. Používáte toto slovo v běžné mluvě?

English: Do you use this word in everyday speech? (options: yes, often; sometimes; seldom; never)

		Ano často	Občas	Zřídka kdy	Nikdy	Degree of assimilation
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer		2	4	4	10%
	Hot wings		2	2	6	0%
	Strips			4	6	10%
	Milkshake		1	8	1	30%
	Bacon		1	2	7	0%
	Popcorn	4	4	1	1	80%
	Noodles			1	9	0%
	Take away		3	1	6	30%
	Muffin	3	6		1	90%
	Donut			3	7	0%
Pop.kultura	Star	1	4	4	1	50%
	DJ	4	4	1	1	80%
	New wave			3	7	0%
	Sample		1	2	7	10%
	Remix	3	3	4		60%
	Mainstream		1	3	6	10%
	Single	1	5	3	1	60%
	Stage		4	3	3	40%
	Oldschool	2	4	1	3	60%
Ska	1	3	2	4	40%	
IT	Bluetooth	4	6			100%
	Blog	3	5	2		80%
	Messenger	1	2	4	3	30%
	iPod	4	3	2	1	70%
	Firefox	6	4			100%
	Fog screen			1	9	0%
	Human joystick				10	0%
	Banner	4		3	3	40%
	Cookies	2	4	1	3	60%
Dungeon			1	9	0%	

Following the results, only two words from the fast food area (*popcorn*, *muffin*) show a high degree of assimilation. In the pop culture area, the number of assimilated expressions rises to four words out of ten. The information technology area shows the 50% assimilation of these words in everyday speech.

Question number 3

3. Znáte jiný výraz pro toto slovo? (v případě že Ano, napište jaký).

English: Do you know any other expression? (in case your answer is Yes, write it down)

		Ne	Ano
			Respondents' answer
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer		
	Hot wings		Kuřecí křídélka
	Strips		
	Milkshake		
	Bacon		
	Popcorn		
	Noodles		Nudle
	Take away		Přes ulici
	Muffin		
	Donut		
Pop kultura	Star		Hvězda na nebi Celebrita
	DJ		
	New wave		Nový styl
	Sample		
	Remix		Předělaná píseň
	Mainstream		
	Single		Píseň
	Stage		Podium
	Oldschool		
	Ska		
Informační technologie	Bluetooth		Bezdrátová technologie
	Blog		Osobní internetová stránka web
	Messenger		MSN
	iPod		Druh telefonu
	Firefox		Název internetového prohlížeče
	Fog screen		
	Human joystick		
	Banner		
			Data v internet. prohlížeči
	Dungeon		

The process of the evaluation and the conclusion have been already said in the previous age category (see page 22) and do not differ in any way.

Question number 4

4. Souhlasíte s formou, jakou je toto slovo napsáno? (v případě odpovědi Ne napište, jak byste ho napsali Vy).

English: Do you agree with the form in which the word is written? (in case your answer is No, write your own transcription)

The result is similar to the previous age category. A majority of the respondents agree with the orthographic form of given words. Respondent's no. 1 transcription of the words *popcorn*, *muffin*, *single* and *banner* is following: *mufin*, *singl*, *popkorn* and *baner*.

Morphological properties of case demonstrate complete assimilation. Plural of these words is

popkorny, mufiny, singly and *banery* and genitive case is *popkornu, mufinu, singlu* and *baneru*. The respondent automatically sorts the words according to the Czech paradigms *hrad (popkornu-hradu, mufinu-hradu, singl-hrady, baneru-hradu)*. The other respondent agrees in everything concerning the word popcorn but he would write the word *maffin* differently, as *mafín*. Comparing these two examples, we can see that the respondent no.1 assimilates the orthography in the Czech language completely (*mufín*), while respondent no. 2 assimilates the word with a slight change in orthography (*mafín*), because of phonetic adaptation and the way the word is pronounced.

Question number 5

5. Napište Váš vlastní přepis toho, jak toto slovo vyslovíte. Např: *Business - busines/biznis*

English: Write your own transcription of how you would pronounce this word yourself.

		Transcription				
		The dictionary form in %	Variations			
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer	100%				
	Hot wings	50%	/wings/			
	Strips	100%				
	Milkshake	100%				
	Bacon	100%				
	Popcorn	100%				
	Noodles	100%				
	Take away	100%				
	Muffin	80%	/mufin/			
	Donut	30%	/dónt/	/donat/		
Pop kultura	Star	100%				
	DJ	90%	/dýžej/			
	New wave	100%				
	Sample	90%	/zempl/			
	Remix	0%	/remix/			
	Mainstream	100%				
	Single	100%				
	Stage	100%				
	Oldschool	40%	/oldskúl/			
	Ska	100%				
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	10%	/blútút/			
	Blog	100%				
	Messenger	0%	/mesendžr/			
	iPod	100%				
	Firefox	100%				
	Fog screen	100%				
	Human joystick	70%				
	Banner	80%	/baner/			
	Cookies	100%				
	Dungeon	40%	/dandžion/	/dendžn/	/dandžen/	/dangoun/

The results of this group of the respondents show us the same number of phonetic assimilation as the previous group. From all the words, only seven did not get over the border of our criterion, which is 60%.

Question number 6

6. V jakých oblastech se nejčastěji setkáváte se slovy cizího původu?

- kultura
- politika
- sport
- informační technologie
- obchod
- slang

English: In which areas do you meet the words of foreign origin the most?
(the options are: culture, politics, sport, information technology, business, slang)

90% of the respondents meet words of foreign origin in the information technology area. The remaining 10% find them in culture.

Question number 7

7. Vnímáte slova cizího původu jako nedílnou součást české slovní zásoby?

English: Do you perceive words of foreign origin as a steady part of the Czech lexicon?

Respondent no. 1: “In my opinion, the fact that borrowed words enter a language is a necessary aspect of its development. The Czech lexicon lacks some words that would name new objects in our lives.”

Respondent no. 2: “Yes, these words enrich our lexicon. The knowledge of words of foreign origin helps us understand the meaning of the word when learning a foreign language.”

Respondent no. 3: “I perceive them rather negatively but unfortunately, they are very common.”

Respondent no. 4: “Unfortunately yes, there is no other choice.”

The other five respondents’ answer was “yes”. The tenth respondent does not perceive these words as a steady part as a lexicon.

To sum it up, these respondents have a positive opinion on borrowing except for one of them.

Question number 8

8. Myslíte si, že přejímání slov cizího původu do češtiny je fenomén současnosti nebo se tak děje již po delší dobu?

- čeština přejímá slova cizího původu po desetiletí
- je to trend několika posledních let
- cizí slova v češtině nijak nevnímám

English: Do you think that the borrowing of words of foreign origin into Czech is a phenomenon of presence or it has been happening a long time?

(the options are: the Czech language has been borrowing the words of foreign origin for decades; it has been a trend of the recent years; I do not perceive words of foreign origin in the Czech language anyhow)

70% of the respondents think that Czech has been borrowing the words of foreign origin for decades, the 30% of the respondents perceive the occurrence of these words as a trend of the recent years.

Question number 9

9. Znáte nějaká jiná slova z těchto oblastí?

English: Do you know any other words from these areas?

90% of the respondents confirmed their knowledge on some other expressions from the questionnaire and gave us examples on each area:

Fast food: *hamburger, hotdog, koktejl, twister, chicken roll, brunch*

Pop culture: *comeback, party, disco*

Information technology: *touch pad, print screen, WAP, GPS, wifi, infraport*

Many respondents also stated other expressions than the ones from the given areas, e.g. from business area: *personal manager, leader, PR, brainstorming, briefing, marketing, teambuilding.*

Question number 10

10. Jaký je podle Vás důvod výskytu cizích slov v češtině?

- v češtině pro některé výrazy neexistují ekvivalenty
- cizí slova a jejich užití k nám přinášejí cizinci
- nutnost mezinárodního obchodu a komunikace se zahraničím

English: What do you think is the reason of occurrence of borrowed words in Czech? (Options: there are not equivalents in Czech for some expressions; borrowed words are brought to the Czech language by foreigners; the necessity of international business and communication with foreign countries)

The results of this question are following: 60% of the respondents think there are no equivalents in Czech for borrowed words, 30% assume the reason is international business

and communication with foreign countries. Remaining 10% suppose that new words are brought here by foreigners. Comparing this age category with the previous one, the results are of very similar level.

3.1.3 The age category 30-45

Question number 1

1. Vnímáte následující slova jako slova českého původu? (V případě odpovědi Ne, odpovězte na další otázky)

English: Do you perceive the following words as words of Czech origin? (In case your answer is No, answer the other questions)

	Zadané slovo	Doslovný překlad respondentů			Neurčeno	
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer	Delší (5)	Déle (3)			2
	Hot wings	Horká křídla (7)	Pálivá křídla (2)			
	Strips	Odřezky (1)	Lupínky (1)	Drogy (1)		7
	Milkshake	Mléčný koktejl (7)				3
	Bacon	Slanina (4)	Pečivo (1)			5
	Popcorn	Pražená kukuřice (4)	Popkorn (4)	Kukuřice (2)		
	Noodles	Nudle (5)	Těstoviny (1)			4
	Take away	Vzít sebou (4)	Brát pryč (2)	Odstranit (1)		3
	Muffin	Muffin (4)	Vdolek (2)	Koláček (1)		3
	Donut	Kobliha (6)				4
Pop kultura	Star	Hvězda (8)				2
	DJ	DJ (6)	Disc jockey (4)			
	New wave	Nová vlna (5)				5
	Sample	Vzorek (4)	Vzor (1)			5
	Remix	Remix (5)	Míchance (2)			3
	Mainstream	Hlavní proud (5)				5
	Single	Svobodný (4)	Prvotina (1)	Jedinečný (1)		4
	Stage	Pódium (5)	Stupeň (1)	Stáž (1)		3
	Oldschool	Stará škola (6)	Starý (1)			3
	Ska	Hudební styl (1)				9
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	Modrý zub (6)	Bluetooth (1)			3
	Blog	Blog (3)	Krátký článek (1)			6
	Messenger	Messenger (3)	Vzkazovač (2)	Komunikátor (1)	Posel (1)	5
	iPod	i-pod (5)	Telefon (1)			4
	Firefox	Ohnivá liška (4)	Firefox (2)	PC prohlížeč (2)		2
	Fog screen	Mlhavá obrazovka (3)	Temná obrazovka (2)	Kouřová clona (1)	Fog Screen (1)	3
	Human joystick	Lidský ovladač (4)	Ovladač (2)	Konzole (1)		3
	Banner	Baner (3)	Reklama (2)	Banner (1)		4
	Cookies	Sušenky (5)	Koláčky (1)	Cookies (1)		3
	Dungeon	Dungeon (1)				9

This age category of the respondents also perceives these words as words coming from English. However, the last column on the right side shows the highest number of those

respondents who did not know what the particular word meant. The tendency of adaptation of this group shows the least degree of assimilation.

Question number 2

2. Používáte toto slovo v běžné mluvě?

English: Do you use this word in everyday speech? (options: yes, often; sometimes; seldom; never)

	Ano často	Občas	Zřídka kdy	Nikdy	Degree of assimilation	
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer		1	9	0%	
	Hot wings		1	9	0%	
	Strips		1	9	0%	
	Milkshake	1	1	8	10%	
	Bacon			10	0%	
	Popcorn	1	6	2	1	70%
	Noodles			1	9	0%
	Take away			2	8	0%
	Muffin			5	5	0%
	Donut			2	8	0%
Pop.kultura	Star		4	3	3	40%
	DJ	3	3	3	1	60%
	New wave			1	9	0%
	Sample		2		8	20%
	Remix		6	2	2	60%
	Mainstream				10	0%
	Single		1	4	5	10%
	Stage	1		3	6	10%
	Oldschool		2		8	20%
	Ska		1	1	8	10%
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	2	4	2	2	60%
	Blog	2	3	1	4	50%
	Messenger	3	1	1	6	30%
	iPod	1	1	1	7	20%
	Firefox	3	1	2	4	40%
	Fog screen	1			9	10%
	Human joystick			1	9	0%
	Banner	2	1	1	6	30%
	Cookies	2	1	1	6	30%
	Dungeon				10	0%

The results from the third age category prove that this group assimilates the least and the degree is minimal. The respondents have assimilated only one expression (*popcorn*) in both fast food and information technology areas and two expressions in the pop culture area (*DJ*, *remix*). Three of these assimilated expressions have reached 60% and the last one 70% from which we can see that they were on a thin border between being assimilated or not.

Question number 3

3. Znáte jiný výraz pro toto slovo? (v případě že Ano, napište jaký).

English: Do you know any other expression? (in case your answer is Yes, write it down)

Some of the respondents gave us similar answers as in two previous categories. Since the question one and three correlate, we have been also given translation of these expressions here. What we have observed within this age category was that a majority of the respondents have not tried to find other expressions and they themselves stated that there are no other expressions they would know.

Question number 4

4. Souhlasíte s formou, jakou je toto slovo napsáno? (v případě odpovědi Ne napište, jak byste ho napsali Vy).

English: Do you agree with the form in which the word is written? (in case your answer is No, write your own transcription)

50% of the respondents agree with the orthographic form of these expressions. The remaining 50% have not answered directly but stated, instead, that they were not able to answer because they rarely used these expressions in written texts. We, therefore, assume that it is not natural for these respondents to use them so frequently in written texts but since all the respondents have knowledge of English (on different levels), they have probably heard them more often than said them. Considering this fact, we think the knowledge of them is passive, thus the assimilation is not of a high degree.

Question number 5

5. Napište Váš vlastní přepis toho, jak toto slovo vyslovíte. Např: *Business - busines/biznis*

English: Write your own transcription of how you would pronounce this word yourself.

		Transcription				
		The dictionary form in %	Variations			
Rychlé občerstvení	Longer	100%				
	Hot wings		/winks/			
	Strips	70%	/wings/	nevím		
	Milkshake	100%				
	Bacon	100%				
	Popcorn	100%				
	Noodles	90%	/nádls/			
	Take away	90%				
	Muffin	80%	/muffin/			
	Donut	30%	/donut/	/donat/	nevím	
Pop kultura	Star	100%				
	DJ	100%				
	New wave	100%				
	Sample	90%				
	Remix	10%	/remix/			
	Mainstream	100%				
	Single	100%				
	Stage	80%	/stáž/	nevím		
	Oldschool	0%	/oldskůl/			
Ska	90%					
Informační technologie	Bluetooth	0%	/blútút/			
	Blog	100%				
	Messenger	40%	/masenzr/	/mesendžr/	nevím	
	iPod	100%				
	Firefox	100%				
	Fog screen	90%				
	Human joystick	70%				
	Banner	50%	/baner/	/benr/		
	Cookies	100%				
Dungeon	40%	/dandžion/	/djungn/	/dandžen/	/dangoun/	nevím

This group of the respondents assimilates the least even in this question. The number of the non-assimilate expressions is 7, the highest number comparing all the groups. Unlike with the previous respondents, we have added the variation “nevím” (I do not know), since some of them did not give us the transcription due to the ignorance of some English words.

Question number 6

6. V jakých oblastech se nejčastěji setkáváte se slovy cizího původu?

- kultura
- politika
- sport
- informační technologie
- obchod
- slang

English: In which areas do you meet the words of foreign origin the most?

(the options are: culture, politics, sport, information technology, business, slang)

Unlike in previous groups, the results of this question are various: 50% of the respondents voted for information technology, 30% for business, 20% for slang and 10% for sport.

Question number 7

7. Vnímáte slova cizího původu jako nedílnou součást české slovní zásoby?

English: Do you perceive words of foreign origin as a steady part of the Czech lexicon?

Respondent no. 1: “Yes, these words have become a part of the Czech lexicon.”

Respondent no. 2: “Unfortunately yes. We live in time of globalization and so many words enter the Czech language that we are not even able to catch them and find their equivalents. I think that such words enter other languages in masses under influence of English which has become the internationally accepted language.”

Respondent no. 3: “Only in some spheres such as IT. I cannot get used to some words but sooner or later they will get assimilated.”

Respondent no. 4: “I have to use them sometimes but I prefer Czech equivalents instead.”

Respondent no. 5: “No, I do not. Using them makes me upset.”

Respondent no. 6: “Some of them have become a steady part of the lexicon but I think there is preference of Czech equivalents.”

The seventh respondent answered “yes”, the other respondents’ attitude is rather negative.

To sum it up, only three respondents are of positive opinion, the rest does not like the occurrence of borrowed words in Czech or prefers Czech equivalents.

Question number 8

8. Myslíte si, že přejímání slov cizího původu do češtiny je fenomén současnosti nebo se tak děje již po delší dobu?

- čeština přejímá slova cizího původu po desetiletí
- je to trend několika posledních let
- cizí slova v češtině nijak nevnímám

English: Do you think that the borrowing of words of foreign origin into Czech is a phenomenon of presence or it has been happening a long time?

(the options are: the Czech language has been borrowing the words of foreign origin for decades; it has been a trend of the recent years; I do not perceive words of foreign origin in the Czech language anyhow)

80% of the respondents assume that borrowed words have been here for decades, the remaining 20% think it has been a trend of recent years.

Question number 9

9. Znáte nějaká jiná slova z těchto oblastí?

English: Do you know any other words from these areas?

All the respondents confirmed their knowledge on some other words. We have given an account on the areas they have mentioned and examples:

Sport: *kickbox, match, fight*

Business: *shopping, tuner, projekt*

Slang: *shit*

Information technologies: *monitor, browser*

Fast food: *šejkr*

Question number 10

10. Jaký je podle Vás důvod výskytu cizích slov v češtině?

- v češtině pro některé výrazy neexistují ekvivalenty
- cizí slova a jejich užití k nám přinášejí cizinci
- nutnost mezinárodního obchodu a komunikace se zahraničím

English: What do you think is the reason of occurrence of borrowed words in Czech? (Options: there are not equivalents in Czech for some expressions; borrowed words are brought to the Czech language by foreigners; the necessity of international business and communication with foreign countries)

The results of this question are balanced. 50% of the respondents see the reason of occurrence of borrowed words in the necessity of international business and communication with foreign countries. The other half voted for the first option which is a lack of the Czech equivalents.

3. 2 Comparison of the results

This subchapter will focus on the comparison of the results of all age categories. We have tried to state the differences between them and used the tables showing percentage of different questions or verbalized the results.

Question number 1

1. Vnímáte následující slova jako slova českého původu? (V případě odpovědi Ne, odpovězte na další otázky)

English: Do you perceive the following words as words of Czech origin? (In case your answer is No, answer the other questions)

The question number 1 confirms our hypothesis on the respondents' knowledge on the English origin of the stated expressions. The respondents from the first and the second age category proved their great knowledge on the meanings of the expressions while the third age category of the respondents often did not state the translation due to the ignorance of these words. We have observed that some expressions of the first and second age category were directly translated in their original form (e.g. *firefox* in English/*firefox* in Czech) which confirms their assimilation in the system of the Czech language from the very beginning of the questionnaire.

Question number 2

2. Používáte toto slovo v běžné mluvě?

English: Do you use this word in everyday speech? (options: yes, often; sometimes; seldom; never)

A degree of assimilation in %			
Age category	Fast food	Pop culture	Information technology
15-19	40	50	40
20-29	20	40	50
30-35	10	10	20

The results of this question confirm our hypothesis that the youngest age category would assimilate the words the most. The particular words within each category have often

reached a value from 60% to 100% (e.g. *muffin* – 100%) which has been enough for categorizing them in the assimilated expressions. However, the total percentage of the stated expressions within the group has not reached more than 60% (e.g. the first group assimilated 4 words having the degree higher than 60% but in total it makes only 40% of assimilation from 100% which was 10 respondents). To sum it up, this group assimilates the most but the degree of assimilation itself does not prove a high level.

The second age category has had similar results; the third age category shows the least degree of assimilation.

Question number 3

3. Znáte jiný výraz pro toto slovo? (v případě že Ano, napište jaký).

English: Do you know any other expression? (in case your answer is Yes, write it down)

The respondents of all categories did not give us any other expressions of these words but they stated their translation instead. Although this was not our aim, this fact has helped us realize that giving no exact answers shows the evidence of absence of similar expressions.

Question number 4

4. Souhlasíte s formou, jakou je toto slovo napsáno? (v případě odpovědi Ne napište, jak byste ho napsali Vy).

English: Do you agree with the form in which the word is written? (in case your answer is No, write your own transcription)

The results of this question show the tendency of the youngest group of the respondents to assimilate the words of foreign origin easily. Except for one respondent, the rest has agreed on all the forms of writing. The similar tendency has been seen within the age category from 20-29 years old respondents from which only two of them disagreed. As it was expected, the last age category has been neither against, nor for. One half of the respondents has agreed, the second half has had no experience with such words from which we assume they do not assimilate.

Question number 5

5. Napište Váš vlastní přepis toho, jak toto slovo vyslovíte. Např: *Business - busines/biznis*
English: Write your own transcription of how you would pronounce this word yourself.

The results of this question are very similar within all the groups. The least degree of phonetic adaptation has been observed at the third age category, 23 assimilated words out of 30, and the numbers at the remaining categories were increasing. The age category from 20-29 has assimilated 24 words and the group of the youngest respondents (has) assimilated 26 words. The first age category, again, confirms itself as a hypothetical leader in highest numbers of assimilation.

Question number 6

6. V jakých oblastech se nejčastěji setkáváte se slovy cizího původu?

- kultura
- politika
- sport
- informační technologie
- obchod
- slang

English: In which areas do you meet the words of foreign origin the most?
(the options are: culture, politics, sport, information technology, business, slang)

Comparing the results of this question, all the groups find words of foreign origin the most in the information technology area. This area was voted by 80%, 90% and 50% of the respondents from all groups, following the age categories gradually from the youngest one. The next area showing high occurrence of words of foreign origin was culture with remaining 20% and 10% of the first and second groups. These results are closely related to the question number 7, in which many respondents of all age categories express their opinion on borrowing and see the inflow of words mainly from information technology sphere.

Question number 7

7. Vnímáte slova cizího původu jako nedílnou součást české slovní zásoby?

English: Do you perceive words of foreign origin as a steady part of the Czech lexicon?

Ace category	Yes	No	Indifferent
15-19	70	20	10
20-29	90	10	
30-45	30	70	

The results of this question are slightly different than we assumed. The tendency of the youngest age category to lead the groups has changed here. The most respectable towards the entering of borrowed words in the Czech language has been the second age category (20-29) with its 90% of answer showing their positive approach. On the other hand, the third age category with its 30% of positive answers has ensured us in being the least adaptable group.

Question number 8

8. Myslíte si, že přejímání slov cizího původu do češtiny je fenomén současnosti nebo se tak děje již po delší dobu?

- čeština přejímá slova cizího původu po desetiletí
- je to trend několika posledních let
- cizí slova v češtině nijak nevnímám

English: Do you think that the borrowing of words of foreign origin into Czech is a phenomenon of presence or it has been happening a long time?

(the options are: the Czech language has been borrowing the words of foreign origin for decades; it has been a trend of the recent years; I do not perceive words of foreign origin in the Czech language anyhow)

The respondents' opinions are again very similar. Over 70% of the respondents from the first and the second group and 80% from the third group think the words of foreign origin have been here for decades while the remaining lower numbers are of the respondents who assume that new words in the Czech language have become a trend of the recent years.

Question number 9

9. **Znáte nějaká jiná slova z těchto oblastí?**
English: Do you know any other words from these areas?

The respondents from all the groups have proved their knowledge on some other expressions of all the stated areas. The most productive in giving appropriate examples was the youngest category, especially in the fast food area (e.g. *McFlurry*). All the categories named a great number of expressions related to the information technology area (e.g. *touch pad, GPS*).

Question number 10

10. **Jaký je podle Vás důvod výskytu cizích slov v češtině?**
- v češtině pro některé výrazy neexistují ekvivalenty
 - cizí slova a jejich užití k nám přinášejí cizinci
 - nutnost mezinárodního obchodu a komunikace se zahraničím

English: What do you think is the reason of occurrence of borrowed words in Czech? (Options: there are not equivalents in Czech for some expressions; borrowed words are brought to the Czech language by foreigners; the necessity of international business and communication with foreign countries)

Ace category	Lack of equivalents	Businees and communication	Foreigners
15-19	60	40	
20-29	60	30	10
30-45	50	50	

The highest number of the respondents voted for the lack of equivalents in the Czech language, the rest of the answers has slightly varied.

4 Conclusion

At the beginning of the thesis we expected that all the categories would know that the words are of English origin and the question number 1 fully supports this fact. Although the respondents, mainly from the third age category, did not know how to translate the words, they state that the words come from English. This fact made us realize the recent tendency of passive knowledge on new expressions entering the language; the respondents have been able to assimilate them phonetically (as the question number 5 shows) but they have more difficulties to assimilate them morphologically, which results from the question number 4 confirm. The respondents have not given us their own transcription because they did not how to transcribe them due to the lack of experience in orthography of these expressions; they have probably hardly ever used them in the written texts. Their knowledge is “visual” and the orthography declines.

It is interesting to see the respondents’ translation of the stated expressions in the question number 1. We have asked them to give us the exact translation of the stated words which they often either translated as Czech equivalents or they stated the expression in the original language (e.g *single/single*). In the first age category, this word has been translated as *jednotlivec*, *píseň*, *single*, *jedna* and *svobodný*. In case of the word *svobodný* (in the meaning of “not to have a partner”) which is one of the possible and correct translations, it might have been completely displaced by the English expression *single* (stated as the translation of the words *single*) in the same meaning; therefore we might consider this expression fully adapted in the system of the Czech language. The same case has been observed with the meaning of *single* as *píseň*. The question of further research would be how these expressions are assimilated in collocations, in given context.

The question number 3, trying to find out whether the respondents have known some other expressions, confirm the negative answer to this question, since none of the respondents would state some other words. This question confirms the absence of some other existing expressions.

Many of the respondents have claimed they perceive the occurrence of borrowed words in the Czech language and this is caused by the gradual inflow of these words in various spheres of their lives; as the majority of them has confirmed by answering the question number 6 and 7, from which the latter one shows the evidence of assimilation of words mainly from the information technology.

We have also expected that the assimilation of the chosen words would be significant; which has not proved to be true. In the question number 2, our criteria for sorting the stated expressions in the groups of assimilated words were the total percentage reaching at least 60%. The degree of assimilation of single words often reached even 100%, however, the total percentage per the area has never been higher than 50%, even within the youngest age category of the respondents. This fact has been rather surprising, considering the knowledge on the words seen in the question number 1 and a positive attitude towards the occurrence of borrowed words in the Czech lexicon (see question number 7).

The other expectation we had, was that the youngest age category would assimilate the most and all the questions from the questionnaire confirm that they know what the words mean, they know some other words coming from English, they perceive them as a steady part of our lexicon and their usage in everyday life has also been found notable.

The theoretical questions 6-10 also show the contemporary tendency of the colloquial Czech language and its users to assimilate the new words without difficulties. They are aware of presence of such words and they perceive their inflow in Czech. This tendency of the current society to perceive them grows although the majority of the respondents know that these expressions have been entering the language for years.

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