

A Semantic Analysis of Czech and English Idioms for Body Parts

Blanka Lysáčková

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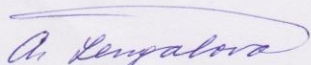
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Centrum jazykového vzdělávání


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doc. Ing. Anežka Lengalová, Ph.D.
děkanka




PhDr. Katarína Nemčoková, Ph.D.
ředitelka ústavu

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ABSTRAKT

Tato bakalářská práce se zabývá anglickými idiomy a jejich českými ekvivalenty. Teoretická část je zaměřena na definici idiomu, pozici v jazyce, charakteristické rysy a typy idiomů, interpretaci a překlad idiomů. Dále specifikuje sémantiku a rozdělení ekvivalentů použitou pro analýzu.

Praktická část porovnává anglické idiomy s jejich českými ekvivalenty, následně je rozděluje a analyzuje ze sémantického, lexikálního a gramatického hlediska.

Klíčová slova: idiom, ekvivalent, část těla, jazyk, angličtina, čeština

ABSTRACT

This bachelor thesis deals with English idioms and their Czech equivalents.

The theoretical part concentrates on the definition of an idiom, the position in a language, characteristic features and types of idioms, interpretation and translation of idioms. Moreover, it specifies the semantics and categorization of English equivalents used for analysis.

The practical part compares English idioms with their Czech equivalents, and subsequently analyzes them from the semantic, lexical and grammatical point of view.

Keywords: idiom, equivalent, body part, language, English, Czech

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INTRODUCTION

Idioms are considered to be an important part of every language. They bring playfulness, colourfulness and creativity to our vocabulary and conversation. Idioms have become to be conventionalized in a language and used everyday even without intention.

I have always been interested in studying languages, their vocabulary as well as the figurative language. Moreover, I think it can be useful for the enrichment and improvement of my English vocabulary. The thesis focuses on idioms containing body parts which I have chosen because they are connected with our feelings, body, and their meaning is mostly based on symbolism and comparison to various situations and our opinions.

The bachelor thesis is divided into two parts. The first one, theoretical part, is aimed at idioms, their definitions, positions in a language, characteristic features and their types. Then, interpretation and translating of idioms is specified. Finally, the semantics and classification of equivalents are mentioned as the main basis for the analytical part.

The practical part deals with the division and analysis of Czech equivalents according to their correspondence with English idioms. The classification by Kvetko (2006 53-55) is selected because of its clear arrangement, clarity and simplicity. In the analysis I employ the following procedure. I collect idioms from two English dictionaries, find identified their Czech equivalents, classify them and compare from the semantic, lexical and grammatical point of view.

The main goal of the work is to find out to which extent English idioms are similar to their Czech equivalents. The objective is to find out whether most idioms are translated literally and if there are some similarities or differences.

I. THEORY

1 IDIOMS: THEIR DEFINITIONS AND POSITION IN THE LANGUAGE

Due to the fact that the bachelor thesis deals with idioms, it is appropriate to introduce idioms. These subsequent chapters focus on idioms in general including their definitions and position in the language.

1.1 Definitions of idioms

It is necessary to define the term idiom itself. The Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2003, 633) emphasizes an idiom as a "group of words in a fixed order that have a particular meaning that is different from the meaning of each word understood on its own." Similarly, Seidl (1990, 13) contends an idiom as "number of words which, when taken together, have a different meaning from the individual meanings of each word." Langlotz (2006, 5) rather concentrates on the construction noting that an idiom is an "institutionalised construction" which is composed of two or more words and has "the composite structure of a phrase or semi-clause, which may feature constructional idiosyncrasy." Makkai (1972, 122) focuses on a "lexemic idiom" which is described as being "subject to a possible lack of understanding despite familiarity with the meaning of the components." Tabossi and Zardon (1993, 145) define idioms as "strings of words" and regarding semantic interpretation they point out that idioms "cannot be derived compositionally from the interpretation of their parts." Čermák (2007, 83) expresses also an opinion that an idiom is not only fixed, but additionally "reproducible combination of elements."

Different definitions are mentioned by The Concise Oxford Dictionary (1995) defining an idiom from four points of view. These definitions include all main key ideas from the given sources. First of all, an idiom is described as "a group of words established by usage and having a meaning not deducible from those of individual words." (Kvetko 2006, 15) The second and third explanations focus on the expression which occurs in the language, peculiar to the certain group of people or country and having a specific character. The last definition provided explains an idiom as a "characteristic mode of expression in music, art." (Kvetko 2006, 15)

To sum up, the term idiom is a "polysemous and relatively ambiguous word" that has to be considered from a grammatical, lexical, semantic as well as pragmatic point of view. (Kvetko 2006, 14)

1.2 Idioms in language

According to Čermák, (2007, 141) the term idiom appears in all languages although under varied labels and thanks to Kvetko (2006, 37) idioms are also used in a spoken language, friendly conversations and political meetings. He considers idioms as a necessary and natural part of language (Kvetko 2006, 37) as well as Seidl (1990, 11) who provides the opinion that “idioms are not a separate part of the language,” which one can decide to omit. Therefore, idioms have the crucial role in a language because they represent significant social function, express attitudes, feelings, humour and opinions. (Kvetko 2006, 37) Cowie, Mackin and McCaig (1983, 38) summarize that idioms are “used to perform special function (for example greeting or warnings).” The importance and extended use of idioms are emphasized by Cacciari and Tabossi (1993, 13) in the informal rule of conversation: “speak idiomatically unless there is some good reason not to do so.”

Seidl points out (1990, 13) that it is important to be aware of appropriateness and naturalness of using idioms in a given situation. Some idioms are used only in slang or informal language. For example, *cost someone an arm and a leg*, *get off someone's back* are informal idioms that can be used them in spoken English and in personal letters. Seidl further (1990, 13) assumes that learners of English have to beware of using slang and taboo expressions. One example of slang idiom is *screw something up* (Seidl 1990, 141) and slang as well as taboo idiom is *cock something up*. (Seidl 1990, 112)

The main problem according to Cowie et al. (1983, 21) in using and understanding of an idiom is given by the fact that some “the choices open to him may vary both in kind and in degree.” For instance *bridges* in plural form may be replaced by *boats* however the meaning remains same. Because of many forms of an idiom which are very unpredictable, a lot mistakes may be made. (Cowie, Mackin and McCaig 1983, 21)

On the grounds of permanently changing language through the centuries, new words and idioms are arising. (Seidl 1988, 11) Creating idioms is related to a process named idiomatization that means forming an idiom, in other words, the combination of free expressions which acquire new sense and meaning. (Kvetko 2006, 23)

2 CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF IDIOMS

It may be very difficult to characterize idioms because they are very “elusive”. (Cacciari and Tabossi 1993, 13) Thus it is required to focus on the features of idioms to understand them better. According to Kvetko (2006, 17), basic characteristic features of idioms are “institutionalization, multi-word character, fixedness, non-literal character of an expression and functional unity.” These characteristics will be discussed below.

The first mentioned feature, institutionalization, means that idioms have conventional character, namely “their recognition and acceptance as a lexical item of the language.” (Kvetko 2006, 17)

Fernando (1997, 3) provides the term compositeness and contends that idioms are multiword expressions (for example *red herring*, *make up*, *smell a rat*).

Another feature of an idiom as Kvetko (2006, 28) argues is fixedness meaning that idioms are fixed expressions but in fact there is a small number of entirely unchangeable idioms such as *by the way*, *out of sight*, *once in a blue moon*. These are examples of frozen forms of idioms. On the other hand, changeable forms are more typical and these idioms can change grammatically or lexically. For instance *a horse of another colour* can occur in the variant *a horse of different colour*. (Kvetko 2006, 28)

Similarly, Cacciari and Tabossi (1993, 80) focus on the frozenness and flexibility of an idiom arguing that there is a certain degree which allows the possibility how idioms can change morphologically and syntactically, depending on “the degree of frozenness of an idiom.” For example the idiom *the bucket was kicked by John* cannot be passivized because it destroys the idiomatic meaning.

Baker (1992, 63) mentions frozenness of an idiom and insists that idioms are “frozen patterns of language.” Besides, she states that the given form of an idiom should not be changed because it can change the meaning or can be misunderstood. For example the idiom *bury the hatchet* (‘to become friendly again after disagreement or quarrel’) must be in the exact form, where the word order, deletion or addition of a word, or change in its grammatical structure is not possible. (Baker 1992, 63)

Regarding to the non-literal character, there are two types of meaning – literal and non-literal. The literal meaning is related to the meaning of individual words while the non-literal meaning refers to the meaning of the whole expression. For instance *a dark horse* can be interpreted as ‘a horse of dark colour’ (literal meaning) or as ‘a person who hides special personal qualities’ (non-literal meaning). (Kvetko 2006, 30-31)

Cacciari and Tabossi (1993, 80) notes the relation of two features, transparency and opacity denoting that idioms can be more opaque or less transparent. For example *leave the cat out of the bag* is a transparent idiom where the literal meaning is understood as accessible. In comparison to the opaque idiom *to take a leak*, the literal comprehension is not possible.

Kvetko's (2006, 31-32) categorization of idioms according to their degree of opacity or transparency offers three distinct groups:

- pure idioms – in other words opaque idioms demonstrate no relation between “the meaning of single words and the sense of the whole.” They are not easily understandable. (e.g. *hair of the dog*)
- semi-opaque idioms – also called semi-transparent or figurative idioms display some relation between the meaning of the whole and the sense of single words (e.g. *behind closed doors*)
- semi-idioms – these idioms are restricted or bound collocations. They have one or more words which are used in the figurative meaning, while the other word or words are translated literally (e.g. *foot the bill*)

One more property of an idiom is provided by Cacciari and Tabossi (1993, 81) as “the point of an idiom uniqueness.” It signifies the moment at which an idiom starts to be “uniquely identifiable.” In other words, every idiomatic phrase has a moment of clarity that it is an idiom. In the case of the idiom *to spill the beans* (meaning ‘to violate a secret’), without a context, has a point of uniqueness because of the word *beans*. Nevertheless, with a previous context the idiom is identified through the word *spill*. (Cacciari and Tabossi 1993, 81)

3 TYPES OF IDIOMS

Since idioms acquire many different forms, variations and structures, there are varied types of idioms divided using different points of view. Seidl (1990, 13) provides three grammatical structures:

- regular form with clear meaning (e.g. *do someone proud, do the dirty on someone*)
- irregular form with unclear meaning (e.g. *cut no ice, have a bee in one's bonnet*)
- regular form with unclear meaning (e.g. *be at large, go great guns*)

On the other hand, Kvetko (2006, 38) treating idioms from the functional perspective offers the following classification of idioms:

- idioms with a nominative function denoting objects, states, actions or qualities (e.g. *second fiddle, as cool as cucumber, white elephant*)
- idioms with a communicative function expressing statements and relating to situations (e. g. *while the sun shines, the coast is clear, make hay*)
- idioms with nominative and communicative functions having various structures (e. g. *close the door on* can be also used in the form *the door is closed*)
- idioms without any characteristic nominative and communicative function including modal and interjectional idioms or having cohesive function (e.g. *like hell, as well as, by the way*)

Čermák (2007, 115) emphasizes two main functions of language:

- denominative function – “idioms follow from the need to denominate”
- structural function – idiom has function “to fulfil its role in the higher unit”

Apart from these two, Čermák (2007, 116) also adds more functions of idioms:

- aesthetic function – meaning need to express metaphors and images
- economic function – described as a “highly economic means of expression”
- evaluative function – defined as a very rich source of “expressing assessment”
- metalinguistic function – means “to comment on or correct the actual line of a message”

From the pragmatic point of view, Fernando (1996, 72-74) classifies idioms as follows:

- ideational idioms – express actions, events, situations, people and things, attributes, evaluations, emotions (e.g. *lose one's heart*)
- interpersonal idioms – relate to greetings, directives, agreements and rejections (e.g. *come off it*)
- relational idioms – have a cohesive function (e.g. *in addition to*)

Moreover, variation of idioms are provided by Kvetko (2006, 47) from the geographical point of view. Most of idioms are used in all English-speaking countries. However, there are some particular idioms that are typical of geographical regions. In the UK, there occur different idioms contrary to the USA or Australia.

Kvetko (2006, 47) divides idioms into the following two groups.

- identical idioms
- different idioms
- partially different idioms
- false friends

Generally, identical idioms are commonly used in the UK, USA as well as Australia. Their examples include *white elephant*, *lose one's head*, *keep an eye on*, *be in the black*. Identical idioms can have more meanings, forms and stylistic features. In American English, the idiom *draw a blank* means 'to be unable to answer a question or unwilling to give an information.' (Kvetko 2006, 47)

Different idioms differ absolutely in the various countries. Idioms that can be found only in American English are, for instance, *be off base*, *beat the bushes*, *apples and oranges*, *sure thing*, *be loaded for bear*. In contrast, idioms such as *go under hammer*, *be in a cleft stick*, *cut the cackle* are related to British English. (Kvetko 2006, 48)

Partially different idioms vary only in their parts. One of the orthographical variant in British English is idiom *show one's true colours*. In the American English, it is *show one's true colors*. There is just a small difference in spelling. The examples of other partially different idioms are in British English, for example, *shoe*, *have green fingers*, *cupboard*, *street*, *if the shoe fits* and in American English *cap*, *have a green thumb*, *closet*, *alley*, *be left holding the bag*. (Kvetko 2006, 48-49)

Hardly ever false friends appear, for instance, homonyms or paronyms - *be one the up and up*, which in British English means ‘to become more successful’ but in American English ‘to be honest’. On the other hand, Australian English contains both British and American idioms, and moreover has its own characteristic idioms such as *be at the sea* used in all three countries in contradiction to *like a shag on a rock* used only in Australia. (Kvetko 2006, 48 - 49)

4 INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION OF IDIOMS

With regard to the matter that the bachelor thesis deals with equivalents, let me mention the main problems of correct interpretation and translation of idioms. There are two areas that a translator has to consider. Firstly, he/she has to be able to recognize and interpret an idiom in a correct way. Secondly, a translator has to rightly express an idiom into the target language. (Baker 1992, 65)

4.1.1 Interpretation of idioms

Some idioms are more likely to be recognizable immediately. This includes expressions which do not make sense in a given context and it is therefore difficult to understand them. Thus, a translator can analyse them as idioms. For instance, *storm in a tea cup*, *food for thought*, *it's raining dogs and cats* are considered to be idioms which break truth conditions. Other expressions that do not follow the grammatical rules are such as *put paid to*, *the powers that be*, *blow someone to kingdom come*. Generally speaking, these idioms do not make sense if they are translated literally. (Baker 1992, 65)

On the other hand, Mona Baker (1992, 66) claims that idioms in English have expressions which may be very deceptive. These idioms seem to be clear but they have completely different meaning. The idiom *go out with* means 'have a romantic or sexual relationship with someone.' Therefore, it can be understood as 'to walk to the street, from the house.' Another difficulty with interpreting of an idiom can be a word in the source language which is very close to the idiom in the target language which seems to be similar but as a matter of fact it can have a different meaning. For example, the French idiom *donner sa langue au chat* in English 'to give one's tongue to the cat' meaning 'to give up.' Baker (1992, 66-67)

4.1.2 Difficulties in translating idioms

A lot of difficulties appear when translating idioms. Therefore, non-native translators cannot acquire such sensitivity as native speakers can. According to this, translators should only translate into their native language or language they ordinarily use. (Baker 1992, 64) Moreover, Seidl (1990, 13) claims that for learners of English it is imprudent "to translate idioms into or from one's native language" as it can sound very strange and amusing for English native speaker.

Baker (1992, 68) points out that the first problem occurs when there is no equivalent in the target language. Therefore, there are some ways of expressing the meaning depending on the given language. The meaning can be expressed by a single word, by a transparent fixed expression or by an idiom. For example, fixed formulae *Yours sincerely* and *Yours faithfully* have no accurate equivalents in Arabic language. Culture-specific idioms are harder to translate but a translator should find the most similar expression or try to explain it.

Baker (1992, 69) declares that an idiom can have a similar counterpart in the target language, though a possible use of such an idiom may differ slightly. For instance, to *sing a different tune* is the English idiom meaning ‘to say or do something that signals a change in opinion because it contradicts what one has said or done before.’ In Chinese, *chang-du-tai-xi* (‘to sing different tunes/ to sing a duet’) has also a “contradictory points of view” but a distinct usage. However this idiom used in the certain context can be understood to convey a “complementary rather than contradictory point of view.” (Baker 1992, 69)

Baker (1992, 70) holds an opinion that literal meaning is “as important as its idiomatic meaning” of an idiom. She provides the example from Arab Political Humour by Kishtainy (1985, 157-8) jokes and anecdotes of Arabic origin that are written in English. Thus, English is the target language here. He uses the idiom *cut off one’s right arm* which in Arabic means that ‘something is impossible or at least highly unlikely to happen.’ The same meaning has the expression *pigs might flight* in English. Therefore, an English speaker would not understand its idiomatic meaning and it would not work as a joke as intended by the writer. (Baker 1992, 70)

According to Baker (1992, 71), another key point in translating is the awareness of differences between written and spoken discourse because in the languages like Arabic or Chinese there is a strong distinction between these two discourses. Written texts have high level formality so idioms tend to be avoided. To sum up, Fernando and Flavell (1981, 85) claim that “translation is an exacting art” meaning that a translator should always consider the sensitivity of “rhetorical nuances of the language.”

5 SEMANTICS

To introduce what semantics basically signifies, the quotation by Kearns (2000, 1) is given. “Semantics deals with the literal meaning of words and the meaning of the way they are combined which taken together form the core of meaning, or the starting point from which the whole meaning of a particular utterance is constructed.” The simpler definition is suggested by Fromkin, Rodman and Hyams (2003, 173) describing the semantics as “the study of the linguistic meaning of morphemes, words, phrases, and sentences”. Semantics is essential because the meaning of words and morphemes is the main key to understanding a language. The context and combination of certain words must be taken into consideration when determining a meaning. (Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams 2003, 173)

There are two subfields of semantics: lexical and phrasal semantics. Lexical semantics is connected with meanings of words and their relationships. Phrasal, in other words, sentential semantics is related to “the meaning of syntactic units larger than the word.” (Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams 2003, 173)

5.1 Semantic properties

Every word has a semantic property taking a certain meaning. (Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams 2003, 174) In some cases semantic properties are not as obvious as the meaning. For instance, idioms may “break the rules on combining semantic properties.” (Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams 2003, 207) For example, the word *eat* has ordinarily the semantic property *edible*. Although the sentence ‘*Eat your heart out*’ does not make sense if someone does not know the meaning of the given idiom. Due to the fact that idioms have special grammatical and semantic features, speakers must learn “the special restrictions” related to their use. (Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams 2003, 207)

6 CLASSIFICATION OF EQUIVALENTS

Before analyzing the Czech and English idioms, it is useful to introduce the classification on which the thesis is based on. Kvetko focuses on the comparison of English and thus provides the division of idioms according to their equivalents. To give an idea what the term equivalent means, Kvetko (2006, 52) defines it as “an idiom, free/ open collocation (word combination) or a word which can substitute the idiom in L1 in L2 without any change of meaning.”

6.1 Absolute equivalents proper

Kvetko (2006, 53) points out that absolute equivalents have “identical imagery, symbolisms, and literally or almost literally a corresponding lexical component of their basic forms.” This group assumed by Kvetko (2006, 53-54) includes two subcategories:

- absolute equivalents proper – containing idioms which correspond literally with the same lexical and grammatical compositions as well as symbolism and imagery. For example *an eye for an eye – oko za oko*,
- similar equivalents - containing idioms which have the same symbolism and imagery, however, differing lexically or grammatically. For example, in a word order, inflectional or analytical character of the language, articles, e.g. *hang by hair – viset na vlásku* (different preposition and the use of the diminutive word in Czech).

6.2 Relative equivalents proper

Relative equivalents are characterized as “interlingual synonyms – idioms with identical or very close meaning, based on different symbolism and imagery, i.e. idioms with different or partially different lexical components.” (Kvetko 2006, 54) This group based on Kvetko’s (2006, 54) categorization contains two types of equivalents:

- totally different, relative equivalents proper – having completely distinct lexical components, symbolism and imagery. For example *the coast is clear – vzduch je čistý (*the air is clean)*

- partially different equivalents – involving idioms with distinct imagery, symbolism, objects, different properties although having at least one literally matching lexical constituent such as verb, adjective, pronoun, noun, etc., for example *the last straw* – *poslední kapka* (**the last drop*).

deceptive equivalent – the last groups involves false friends, interlingual hyponyms or paronyms. For example, *lose heart* is not identical to the Czech literal parallel *ztratit srdce*. The correct equivalent would be *klesat na duchu* whereas the corresponding idiom to the Czech one would be *fall in love*. However, the analytical part does not include this group because deceptive idioms seem to be idioms similar literally and lexically but they have different meaning.

II. ANALYSIS

7 INTRODUCTION TO ANALYSIS

The main goal of the practical part is to compare English idioms with their Czech counterparts. Since the bachelor thesis concentrates on body parts idioms, I have decided to choose four body parts which are among ten most frequent types of idioms in Czech according to the research by Čermák (2007, 234).

The compilation of idioms is created from two reliable English sources, the first being *English Idioms* (Seidl 1990). In addition to this, the more up-to-date source represented by *Oxford Dictionary of Idioms* (Siefiring 2004) is also used. I suppose the arrangement of these dictionaries is very suitable for the analysis. To obtain their Czech equivalents, two Czech books are used. The first one is *Anglicko-český frazeologický slovník: ustálené fráze, expresivní výrazy a idiomy, Anglicko-česká přísloví* (Bočánková and Kalina 2007), and the second one, *Anglicko-český slovník idiomů: English-Czech Dictionary of Idioms* (Kroulík and Kroulíková 1993). For easier reference in the below analysis the following acronyms are used. The Czech dictionaries are marked with (FS) for the first book and (SI) for the second one while the English dictionaries will be referred to using the (EI) and (ODI) acronyms.

In this compilation, the idioms include all kinds such as colloquial, informal, British, American or Australian idioms labelled with abbreviations (*inf.*, *Brit.*, *Am.*, *Aust.*) Furthermore, some proverbs related to body parts will also be mentioned as they are included in the above mentioned dictionaries. If there is an overlap between idioms contained in the given dictionaries, the identified idiom is used only once in the analysis. In the case of multiple Czech counterparts to an English idiom, only the most suitable Czech expression is chosen and in the case of no equivalents found, dictionary definitions are provided. It needs to be clarified that the purpose of the double inclusion of some idioms was to facilitate a comparison of two different equivalents contained in either of the dictionaries. It shows that various dictionaries provide distinct counterparts.

After creating this compilation of English idioms and assignment of their Czech counterparts, I divide the particular equivalent of each body part according to its similarity with the English idiom. The modified classification of equivalents is explained above. Finally I analyze these equivalents from the semantic, lexical and grammatical point of view.

7.1 Classification of equivalents used for analysis

In the thesis, the Czech and English idioms will be compared according to Kvetko's (2006, 52-54) division as previously explained. The classification is though modified as required and needed. The group *No equivalents* was added because I have not found any Czech equivalents in two mentioned dictionaries. Totally different and partially different equivalents are further subdivided according to their occurrence or non-occurrence of the word relating to body part. The third group, deceptive idioms, was excluded as explained above.

Therefore, the modified division of equivalents is as follows:

1. Absolute equivalents

These equivalents are completely identical literally, grammatically and lexically as well as having the similar symbolism and meaning. For example *at hand* = *při ruce*.

2. Similar equivalents

Similar equivalents have the same symbolism but vary slightly lexically or grammatically, such as changes in word order, inflectional changes, different articles etc. (e.g. *make eyes at someone* = *dělat na někoho oči*, where a word order is different).

3. Totally different equivalents

They are completely different and they have no grammatical, lexical or imagery relations except for the same meaning. In some cases even another body part can occur in the Czech equivalent in this group. Thus, I make two subgroups dividing equivalents according to the occurrence of a specific body part.

- with different body part (e.g. *have an eye on* = *brousit si zuby na co*)
- without body part (e.g. *half an eye* = *letmý pohled*)

4. Partially different equivalents

Partially different equivalents differ lexically, grammatically or in their symbolism but have in common at least one similar part of speech (verb, adjective or noun) with the English idiom. These expressions can use the same, different or no body part.

- with the same body part (e.g. *have both feet on the ground* = *stát oběma nohama na zemi*)
- with a different body part (e.g. *have your feet on the ground* = *nemít hlavu v oblacích*)

- without a body part (e.g. *force someone's hand* = *přimět někoho*)

5. No equivalents found

During my research for the Czech equivalents, some Czech corresponding equivalents were not found in two Czech dictionaries. It does not mean they do not exist but they can appear in other dictionaries.

8 ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH IDIOMS

Each English idiom and its Czech equivalent are divided into groups, and therefore, analyzed for their differences or similarities. Absolute equivalents as well as totally different equivalents do not need to be commented on due to their difference or total concordance being evident. Four body parts such as eye(s), foot/ feet, hand(s) and nose(s) were used for the analysis.

8.1 EYE

The second most extensively used part of four analyzed idioms relates to the idioms containing word *eye(s)*. In total, forty-three idioms were collected from two English dictionaries as previously described. Absolute equivalents were not found at all while similar equivalents are noticed in the number of five. A small number of equivalents were also ascertained in the group of partially different equivalents with a numerical superiority of counterparts without body part. Totally different equivalents have the major part with the overall number of nine. As well as in the case of partially different equivalents, the most of equivalents are equivalents without a body part. The category of equivalents not found at all contains twenty Czech counterparts.

8.1.1 Absolute equivalents

Relating to the body part eye, there was no totally corresponding literal phrase found.

8.1.2 Similar equivalents

English idiom: *an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth* (ODI, 97)

Czech equivalent: *oko za oko, zub za zub* (FS, 291)

The Czech equivalent is the same as the English one, apart from the preposition *and* which is missing in the Czech expression but the idiom itself is the same.

English idiom: *make eyes at someone* (EI, 218)

Czech equivalent: *dělat na někoho oči* (SI, 65)

The Czech equivalent varies only in the word order. The English expression gives the lexeme *eyes* in the second place, the Czech one gives it at the end, in the fourth place.

English idiom: only have eyes for (someone/ something) (EI, 218)

Czech equivalent: *mít oči jen pro* (SI, 65)

These expressions are almost the same but the word order is different. The English idiom uses adverb in the first place compared to the Czech equivalent where the adverb is used in the third place. In addition, both phrases use the same body part in their plural form.

English idiom: *open someone's eyes* (EI, 218)

Czech equivalent: *otevřít komu oči* (FS, 170)

Only a different use indefinite pronoun has been identified here. In English it was a possessive pronoun while the Czech equivalent contained a personal pronoun. Thus, they seem to be almost similar.

English idiom: *with (your) eyes open* (OID, 98)

Czech equivalent: *s otevřenýma očima* (FS, 72)

The Czech equivalent is very similar. The adjective *open* is used at the end of the English phrase while in the Czech expression it occupies the second position after the preposition.

8.1.3 Totally different equivalents

8.1.3.1 *With a different body part*

English idiom: *have an eye on* (EI, 217)

Czech equivalent: *brousit si zuby na co* (FS, 72)

Both idioms use a verb in the first place but not the same verb. In addition the Czech expression contains a word related to the body part *zuby*. Thus it is different from the English word *eye*.

English idiom: *pull the wool over someone's eyes* (EI, 219)

Czech equivalent: *věšet komu bulíky na nos* (FS, 72)

These two idioms are totally different although there is a body part is used in the Czech equivalent as well as in the English idiom. In the Czech expression however, there is a body part *nos*. The literal translation of the English idiom would be completely different and deceptive.

8.1.3.2 Without body parts

As mentioned above these equivalents do not need to be commented as their difference between the English idiom and the Czech counterpart is obvious.

English idiom: *half an eye* (ODI, 97)

Czech equivalent: *letmý pohled* (SI, 84)

English idiom: *give someone the (glad) eye* (ODI, 97)

Czech equivalent: *koketní pohled* (SI, 65)

English idiom: *have an eye for the main chance* (EI, 217)

Czech equivalent: *koukat jen po penězích* (SI, 65)

English idiom: *keep your eye on* (ODI, 98)

Czech equivalent: *dohlížet* (FS, 65)

English idiom: *keep your eyes open/peeled/skinned* (EI, 218)

Czech equivalent: *dávat si bacha* (FS, 135)

English idiom: *my eye (inf)* (ODI, 98)

Czech equivalent: *Houby!* (FS, 72)

English idiom: *see eye to eye (with someone) (on something)* (EI, 217)

Czech equivalent: *shodnout se (s někým) (na čem)* (SI, 65)

8.1.4 Partially different equivalents

8.1.4.1 With the same body part

English idiom: *be all eyes* (EI, 218)

Czech equivalent: *mít oči na stopkách* (SI, 65)

Only the use of the same body part *eyes* in plural form is clear but the verbs are different. The English idiom is expressed by the determiner *all* while the Czech phrase is replaced by *na stopkách*.

English idiom: *give someone the glad eye* (ODI, 97)

Czech equivalent: *hodit po kom očkem* (FS, 71)

The Czech equivalent uses the same body part, however, expressed by diminutive *očko*. In Czech, there is preposition following the verb and there is no adjective before the noun *očko* as is the case in the English expression.

8.1.4.2 *With a different body part*

In this category, no partially different equivalents with a body parts were found.

8.1.4.3 *Without a body part*

English idiom: *catch someone's eye* (EI, 217)

Czech equivalent: *upoutat pozornost* (SI, 65)

These expressions are completely different as the Czech expression, unlike the English one, does not use any body part as the English one. However, both idioms have similar verbs in the first position. In English, the indefinite pronoun appears after the verb.

English idiom: *have an eye for* (ODI, 97)

Czech equivalent: *mít smysl pro* (SI, 65)

Both expressions have the possessive verb and the same preposition *for* and in Czech *pro*. However, there is no use of a body part in Czech.

English idiom: *have an eye on* (EI, 217)

Czech equivalent: *mít co na mušce* (SI, 65)

The similar use of possessive verb and preposition is noted while the rest of the expression is different. Apart from the body part *eye* in the English idiom, the Czech equivalent expresses it by words *na mušce*.

English idiom: *run one's eye over something* (ODI, 217)

Czech equivalent: *přelétnout něco zrakem* (SI, 65)

The English phrasal verb corresponds to the verb used in the Czech equivalent. In addition to this, the indefinite verb is the same as in Czech but with a different word order. The relation between *eye* and *zrak* is very close in meaning.

8.1.5 No equivalents found

In some cases Czech corresponding equivalents were not found in the given dictionaries, thus definitions from two English dictionaries are taken for nearer specification.

| The idiom | Definition |
|---|---|
| <i>the eye of a needle</i> | “a very small meaning or space” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>the eye of the storm</i> | “the calm region at the centre of a storm or hurricane “ or “the most intense part of a tumultuous situation” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>clap/ lay/ set eyes on (informal)</i> | “see” (<i>inf</i>) (ODI, 97) |
| <i>close/ shut your eyes to</i> | “refuse to notice or acknowledge something unwelcome or unpleasant” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>do a person in the eye</i> | “defraud, thwart, or humiliate person” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>eyes out on stalks</i> | “full of eager curiosity or amazement” (<i>infor</i>) (ODI, 97) |
| <i>a gleam in someone’s eye</i> | “a barely formed idea” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>go eyes out</i> | “make every effort” (<i>inf. Aust.</i>) (ODI, 97) |
| <i>have eyes in the back of your head</i> | “observe everything that is happening even when this is apparently impossible” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>have square eyes</i> | “habitually watch television to excess” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>hit someone in the eye/ between the eyes</i> | “be very obvious or impressive” (ODI, 97) |
| <i>keep an eye out/ open for</i> | “look out for something with particular attention” (ODI, 98) |
| <i>keep your eye on the ball</i> | “keep your attention focused on the matter in hand” (ODI, 98) |
| <i>one in the eye for</i> | “a disappointment or setback for someone or something specially one hat is perceived as being well deserved” (ODI, 98) |
| <i>up to your eyes in</i> | “very busy with or deeply involved” (<i>inf</i>) (ODI, 98) |

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>with an eye on</i> | “giving some but not all your attention to” (ODI, 98) |
| <i>easy on the eye</i> | “pleasant to look at” (EI, 217) |
| <i>a smack in the eye</i> | “a sudden and unexpected setback, loss, defeat, sudden failure” (EI, 217) |
| <i>there’s more to something/ someone than meets the eye</i> | “a situation/person is more complex than it/he appears on the surface” (EI, 217) |
| <i>with an eye to (doing) something</i> | “with a special intention or aim” (EI, 217) |
| <i>do something with one’s eyes closed</i> | “do something very easily, without any effort or trouble” (EI, 218) |
| <i>eyes down!</i> | “prepare to look and listen with your full attention” (<i>inf.</i>) (EI, 218) |
| <i>have eyes in the back of one’s head</i> | “be very alert, see and notice everything going around one” (EI, 218) |

8.2 FOOT

Another analysed body part is *foot/ feet* where the plural forms are also included in the bachelor thesis. Thirty-six idioms were collected in the two mentioned English dictionaries and ten of them were not ascertained in the Czech dictionaries. In contrast to the category of *eye*, most idioms were classified as partially different equivalents reaching the number of fifteen, eight of them have no word denoting a body part and five of them have the same body part. All idioms containing different body part present the category of totally different equivalents. Only one similar equivalent is noticed same as in the group of body part *nose*.

8.2.1 Absolute equivalents

Absolute equivalents were not ascertained in the Czech dictionaries.

8.2.2 Similar equivalents

English idiom: *stand on one’s own feet* (EI, 222)

Czech equivalent: *postavit se na vlastní nohy* (FS, 219)

The Czech equivalent varies in the use of reflexive verb *se* and a different word order of preposition in the English idiom. Moreover, an occurrence of a possessive pronoun is noted in the English idiom while the Czech equivalent contains none.

8.2.3 Totally different equivalents

8.2.3.1 *With a different body part*

No other body part related to this group was found.

8.2.3.2 *Without a body part*

All in all, these ten mentioned idioms relate to this group as they do not have body part in the Czech equivalents. These equivalents are completely different lexically but some of them contain a related word based on the same symbolism. For example *put one's foot in it* is very close to the Czech equivalent *udělat kopanec* as this noun is obviously connected to foot.

English idiom: *drag you feet* (ODI, 113)

Czech equivalent: *rušit spolupráci* (SI, 59)

English idiom: *get (back) on one's feet* (EI, 222)

Czech equivalent: *zmátořit se* (FS, 89)

English idiom: *get cold feet* (EI, 222)

Czech equivalent: *bát se* (FS, 83)

English idiom: *get your feet wet* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *namočit se do něčeho* (SI, 195)

English idiom: *put a foot wrong* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *šlápnout vedle* (FS, 186)

English idiom: *put one's foot in it* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *udělat kopanec* (FS, 187)

English idiom: *put your foot down (inf. Brit.)* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *silně trvat na svém* (SI, 73)

English idiom: *put your foot in it/ put your foot in your mouth (inf.)* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *neomaleně mluvit* (SI, 73)

English idiom: *run off your feet* (EI, 222)

Czech equivalent: *utahat koho k smrti* (FS, 198)

English idiom: *the boot is on the other foot* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *ted' se obrátila karta* (FS, 83)

8.2.4 Partially different equivalents

8.2.4.1 *With the same body part*

English idiom: *be run off one's feet* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *uběhat si nohy* (FS, 197)

In the Czech equivalent, there is the use verb *uběhat* which is close in meaning to the English verb *run off* as in the English expression. The word related to the body part is the same. In addition, indefinite pronoun appears in Czech.

English idiom: *fall on your feet* (ODI, 113)

Czech equivalent: *postavit se na nohy (finančně)* (SI, 67)

Both expressions have the verb in the first and body part in the fourth position. Although the verbs do not convey the same meaning, they are based on the same imagery. Moreover, the Czech expression provides an explanation that the idiom is connected with finances.

English idiom: *have both feet on the ground* (EI, 222)

Czech equivalent: *stát oběma nohama na zemi* (FS, 115)

The Czech equivalent varies in the use of the verb as there is no possessive verb as in the English one. The rest of the Czech expression is absolutely identical. Thus, it can be misleading that it belongs to the group of similar equivalents.

English idiom: *have one foot in the grave (inf.)* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *být jednou nohou v hrobě* (FS, 83)

The same situation as above is noted here, there is a different verb but completely corresponding equivalent. The word order also concurs with the Czech one presented by verb + numeral + noun + preposition + noun.

English idiom: *pull the carpet from under someone's feet* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *podrazit komu nohy* (FS, 184)

These expressions differ only in their first parts as in the English idiom there is used lexical verb with noun while the Czech counterpart has only lexical verb though based on the similar symbolism. The same body part in both phrases is evident as well as indefinite pronoun *someone*.

8.2.4.2 *With a different body part*

English idiom: *have your feet on the ground* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *nemít hlavu v oblacích* (SI, 73)

The first equivalent as mentioned above in the different group was translated differently and having the same body part as in the English idiom. In this counterpart, there is used another body part *hlava*, in English *head*. In the Czech phrase, there is noted the use of a possessive verb in the negative form whereas the English one does not have negation.

English idiom: *put one's foot down* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *postavit si hlavu* (FS, 185)

In the Czech equivalent, there is an identical verb as in the English idiom while the rest of the phrase varies absolutely. The Czech equivalent uses the different body *hlava* as is the case of the idiom described above.

8.2.4.3 *Without a body part*

English idiom: *foot the bill* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *zavaknout účet* (FS, 83)

There is the same word order, verb + noun but the expressions differ in their distinct use of the verb. The noun *účet* has the same meaning as the English one. The Czech equivalent does not have a lexeme denoting any body part.

English idiom: *fall on one's feet* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *dopadnout na všechny čtyři* (FS, 74)

The Czech equivalent is expressed by number *čtyři* and is preceded by a pronoun. The only aspect in which they are similar is the use of a verb, where in English there is a phrasal verb and the use of the same preposition.

English idiom: *find one's feet* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *najít schopnost jednat nezávisle* (SI, 73)

There is again the same, literally corresponding verb. The Czech phrase does not contain any body part and its literal translation would be to *find ability to act dependently*.

English idiom: *get off on the wrong foot* (ODI, 113)

Czech equivalent: *špatně začít (chybou)* (SI, 77)

These phrases vary in the word order. The Czech compound starts with an adverb and is followed by a verb while the English one starts with the phrasal verb and is followed by the preposition, adjective and noun. However, they use the same word *wrong* which in Czech means *špatně* or *špatný*. Thus, this equivalent belongs to the group of partially different idioms.

English idiom: *put your best foot forward* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *ukázat se v nejlepším světle* (SI, 73)

There is a very similar situation as in the Czech equivalent given above as the adjective *nejlepší* is the same as *best* in the English idiom.

English idiom: *set foot in/ on somewhere* (EI, 221)

Czech equivalent: *vstoupit, vkročit do/ na* (SI, 73)

The only aspect in which these two idioms correspond with each other is the use of similar verbs and prepositions. The rest of the compound differs lexically as well as grammatically. In the Czech equivalent, there is no use of indefinite pronoun.

English idiom: *six feet under* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *být pod drnem* (FS, 211)

The Czech counterpart differs in the use of a verb at the beginning whereas the English idiom is expressed by number at the beginning. They correspond in the same use of preposition, though in English, it is used in the third place, and in Czech in the second place. The literal translation is *to be under the divot*, thus completely deceptive.

English idiom: *sweep someone off their feet* (ODI, 114)

Czech equivalent: *nadchnout koho* (FS, 227)

These phrases differ lexically as well as grammatically. The Czech equivalent is not taken as an idiom and is expressed by a verb followed by pronoun, which also occurs in the English compound.

8.2.5 No equivalents found

| English idiom | Definition |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>dig in your feet</i> | “resist stubbornly, refuse to give in” (ODI, 113) |
| <i>get your feet under the table</i> | “establish yourself securely in a new situation” (<i>brit.</i>) (ODI, 114) |
| <i>have something at your feet</i> | “have something in your power or command” (ODI, 114) |
| <i>keep your feet</i> | “manage not to fall” (ODI, 114) |
| <i>put foot</i> | “hurry up, get a move on” (<i>inf afr.</i>)(ODI, 114) |
| <i>think on your feet</i> | “react to events quickly and effectively” (ODI, 114) |
| <i>vote with your feet</i> | “indicate an opinion by being present or absent” (ODI, 114) |
| <i>have a foot in both camps</i> | “be a sensible, realistic, practical person” (ODI,114) |
| <i>have one’s foot in the door</i> | “have secured an introduction or have made oneself known to some person, group” (ODI, 114) |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| <i>my foot!</i> | “Certainly not! Expression of disagreement, e.g. with a speaker’s statement” (EI, 221) |
|-----------------|--|

8.3 HAND

This category contains most idioms from all four body parts. It includes fifty found idioms with twenty of them relating to the class of no equivalents found. In addition, this group of idioms containing word *hand* is the only one which has four absolute equivalents. Two equivalents occur in the group with similar equivalent. The category of totally and partially different equivalents contains almost equal numbers. In contrast to the group with *eye*, counterparts having the same body part appear in the category of partially different equivalents, in overall number of seven. In the case of all body part groups, the most of equivalents of totally different equivalents do not contain any body part. Here, it is twelve counterparts.

8.3.1 Absolute equivalents

English idiom: *at first hand* (EI, 222)

Czech equivalent: *z první ruky* (SI, 85)

English idiom: *at hand* (EI, 222)

Czech equivalent: *při ruce* (SI, 85)

English idiom: *give someone a free hand (in something)* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *dát komu volnou ruku* (FS, 109)

English idiom: *live from hand to mouth* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *žít z ruky do huby* (FS, 146)

8.3.2 Similar equivalents

English idiom: *have one’s hands full* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *mít plné ruce práce* (FS, 109)

Almost identical expressions vary in the word order. The Czech equivalent use adjective *plné* followed by the noun *ruce*. In comparison to the English phrase, the adjective is preceded by the body part hands. Both expressions use body part in their plural forms.

English idiom: *someone's right hand (man)* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *pravá ruka koho* (FS, 109)

These expressions differ in the word order as well as the use of different pronoun. In the English idiom there is noted an occurrence of a possessive pronoun compared to the Czech counterpart containing a different personal pronoun. The same body part *hand* preceded by adjective is evident.

8.3.3 Totally different equivalents

8.3.3.1 *With a different body part*

English idiom: *on/ off someone's hands* (ODI, 135)

Czech equivalent: *mít koho/ něco na/ z krku* (FS, 118)

Instead of the same body part, the Czech counterpart contains the different body part *krk* or *neck* in English. In the first language, there is no verb whereas possessive verb appears in the second one. Speaking of prepositions, there are same but they are not taken as a word that can stand alone.

8.3.3.2 *Without a body part*

English idiom: *a dab hand (at something)* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *být na co kadet* (FS, 109)

English idiom: *cap in hand* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *s prosíkem* (FS, 109)

English idiom: *give /lend someone a hand* (ODI, 134)

Czech equivalent: *helpnout komu* (FS, 95)

English idiom: *hand in glove* (OID, 135)

Czech equivalent: *velmi důvěrně známé* (IS, 85)

English idiom: *hands down* (ODI, 134)

Czech equivalent: *hladce, bez obtíží* (SI, 85)

English idiom: *gain/get the upper hand* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *nabývat vrchu* (FS, 87)

English idiom: *hand over first* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *snadno, ve velkém množství* (SI, 85)

English idiom: *hands off!* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *nedotýkat se! nesahat!* (SI, 85)

English idiom: *play into someone's hands* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *nahnat vodu na mlýn* (FS, 110)

English idiom: *sit on your hands* (ODI, 135)

Czech equivalent: *nedělat předpokládané* (SI, 159)

English idiom: *turn your hand to something* (ODI, 135)

Czech equivalent: *zabývat se* (SI, 187)

English idiom: *wait on someone hand and foot* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *dělat komu poskoka* (FS, 253)

8.3.4 Partially different equivalents

8.3.4.1 *With the same body part*

English idiom: *bound hand and foot* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *svázan/ mít svázané ruce* (SI, 85)

Apart from the one body part *hand*, another body part *foot* occurs but the Czech equivalent shows only the first body part. The Czech expression has two variations as the first is expressed only by one word, and the second one takes a verb followed by adjective and noun. On the other hand, the English compound is expressed by an adjective followed by a noun, conjunction and again a noun.

English idiom: *eat out of someone's hand(s)* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *zobat komu z ruky* (FS, 69)

These expressions are distinct in the use of different verbs. The same body part is noticed but in Czech, it is used in its singular form, where the English compound allows a single and plural form.

English idiom: *get your hands dirty* (ODI, 134)

Czech equivalent: *ušpinit si ruce* (FS, 90)

Besides the same body part, there is an occurrence of a similar word *dirty*, however, the English phrase presents adjective, the Czech phrase has it in its verb form. The reflexive word is noted in the Czech phrase in contrast to the English one where the verb is excluded.

English idiom: *give someone the glad hand* (ODI, 134)

Czech equivalent: *podat komu pomocnou ruku* (FS, 97)

The Czech counterpart corresponds in three words and varies in the use of adjective, which in Czech is translated as *helping*. Therefore, it strongly contrasts with the English adjective *glad* that can be translated as *veselý = cheerful*.

English idiom: *many hands make light work* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *když se ruka k ruce vine, tak se dílo podaří* (FS, 301)

In fact, the Czech equivalent is almost different except for the same body part where the plural form is used in the English phrase. The single form is found in the Czech compound. Moreover, the body part *ruka* appears twice in the Czech counterpart.

English idiom: *put one's hand to the plough* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *přiložit ruku k dílu* (FS, 109)

The phrases are different in the second parts of expressions. The verbs and prepositions as well as body parts correspond with each other. However, the word *plough* is not identical with the Czech word *dílo*.

English idiom: *wash your hands of* (ODI, 135)

Czech equivalent: *mýt si ruce nad čím* (FS, 110)

Both phrases have the body parts in their plural forms and verbs are literally the same. The reflexive verb occurs in the Czech phrase and quite naturally is missing in English.

8.3.4.2 *With a different body part*

In this group no equivalents were recorded.

8.3.4.3 *Without a body part*

English idiom: *force someone's hand* (EI, 223)

Czech equivalent: *přimět někoho* (SI, 85)

The possessive pronoun is used in the English idiom whereas the Czech one has a personal pronoun. The body part is missing in the Czech counterpart but the verbs are identical.

English idiom: *make money hand over first (inf.)* (ODI, 134)

Czech equivalent: *vydělat snadno hodně peněz* (SI, 85)

The phrase *make money* is translated as *vydělat peníze*. The words *hand over first* are replaced by the Czech adverb *snadno*. The word order corresponds with the place of verbs, noun *money* is used at the end of the phrase contrary to English where the noun occupies the second position and is followed by the word related to the body part.

English idiom: *show/reveal one's hand* (EI, 224)

Czech equivalent: *ukázat karty, ukázat pravé úmysly* (SI, 157)

There appears the same verb in the Czech equivalent. The literal translation would be *show the cards/true intentions* that is totally different from the meaning of the English idiom. The possessive pronoun is missing in the Czech phrase with comparison to the English one.

English idiom: *win something hands down* (EI, 225)

Czech equivalent: *lehce zvítězit* (FS, 109)

Firstly, the same verbs are noticed but in different places. The English phrase contains a verb in the first place and is followed by a pronoun. The Czech equivalent has a verb in the second place and is preceded by adverb. In addition, they are different in number of words.

8.3.5 No equivalents found

| English idiom | Definition |
|----------------------|---|
| <i>all hands</i> | “the entire crew of a ship” (ODI, 134) |
| <i>a hand's turn</i> | “a stroke of work” (<i>inf.</i>) (ODI, 134) |

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>do something with one hand (tied) behind your back</i> | “do something easily” (ODI, 134) |
| <i>have your hand in the till</i> | “stealing from your employer” (ODI, 134) |
| <i>put your hands together</i> | “applaud” (ODI, 135) |
| <i>put your hands up</i> | “raise your hands in surrender or to signify assent or participation” (ODI, 135) |
| <i>set/ put your hand to</i> | “to start work on” (ODI, 135) |
| <i>the right hand doesn't know what the left hand's doing</i> | “there is a state of confusion or a failure of communication within a group or organization” (ODI, 135) |
| <i>with your hand in the cookie jar</i> | “engaged in surreptitious theft from your employer” (<i>inf.</i>) (ODI, 135) |
| <i>come the heavy hand (with someone)</i> | “criticize strongly, blame or threaten” (EI, 223) |
| <i>give/ someone a big/good hand</i> | “applaud someone, usually after a good performance, speech” (EI, 223) |
| <i>have/ take/ want no hand in something</i> | “not to be involved active in something” (EI, 223) |
| <i>in hand</i> | “under control, being undertaken” or “spare, left over to use or be put to use” (EI, 223) |
| <i>keep one's hand in</i> | “keep in practice” (EI, 224) |
| <i>off hand</i> | “without much thought or preparation” (EI, 224) |
| <i>out of hand</i> | “out of control” (EI, 224) |
| <i>strengthen one's/ someone's hand</i> | “improve one's/ someone's position or power/freedom to act” (EI, 224) |
| <i>take a hand (in something)</i> | “intervene, take control” (EI, 224) |
| <i>take something/ someone in hand</i> | “take control of/ deal with something/someone” (EI, 224) |
| <i>to hand</i> | “within reach, in one's possession at the moment” (EI, 224) |

8.4 NOSE

The last and the smallest category includes English idioms connected with the word *nose*. The overall fourteen phrases are noted. No absolute equivalents were found as well as equivalents with different body part. In comparison with the group containing eye where five similar equivalents were identified here only one counterpart was detected. The group of totally different equivalents contains fewer items than the group of partially different equivalents. The most of the phrases related to the word *nose* are these with the same body part in total number of five.

8.4.1 Absolute equivalents

Absolute equivalents do not occur in the mentioned Czech dictionaries.

8.4.2 Similar equivalents

English idiom: *under one's nose* (EI, 229)

Czech equivalent: *přímo pod nosem* (FS, 249)

These phrases are different in the word order of components and the use of a pronoun. In the English idiom appears the possessive pronoun, while in the Czech counterpart is completely missing. The Czech equivalent even adds adverb *přímo*.

8.4.3 Totally different equivalents

Four of absolutely distinct equivalents were ascertained.

8.4.3.1 *With a different body part*

Equivalents containing a different body part were not identified.

8.4.3.2 *Without a body part*

English idiom: *keep one's nose to the grindstone* (EI, 229)

Czech equivalent: *dřít někoho do úpadu* (SI, 118)

English idiom: *put someone's nose out of joint (inf.)* (ODI, 202)

Czech equivalent: *udělat někomu čáru přes rozpočet* (SI, 119)

English idiom: *turn one's nose up at something* (EI, 229)

Czech equivalent: *dobírat si někoho* (SI, 119)

8.4.4 Partially different equivalents

8.4.4.1 *With the same body part*

English idiom: *keep one's nose clean* (*inf.*) (EI, 229)

Czech equivalent: *nestrkat nos nikam* (SI, 118)

The Czech equivalent uses the body part *nose* which is also the case of the English idiom while the verbs are slightly closer to each other semantically. The Czech counterpart is expressed by negation. After the word *nose* a pronoun is used pronoun whereas in the English idiom an adjective follows.

English idiom: *lead someone by the nose* (ODI, 202)

Czech equivalent: *věšet komu bulíky na nos* (FS, 142)

This English idiom can be easy to confuse with the Czech idiom *vodit někoho za nos*. However, the meaning is completely different and not corresponding. The expressions are the same in the use of the same pronoun and body part.

English idiom: *look down one's nose at something/someone* (EI, 229)

Czech equivalent: *ohrnovat nos nad* (SI, 119)

The Czech equivalent corresponds with the English one only in the occurrence of the same body part. The verbs are different and in the English idiom there is a possessive pronoun and indefinite pronoun while in Czech they are excluded.

English idiom: *turn up your nose at* (*inf.*) (ODI, 202)

Czech equivalent: *ohrnovat nad čím nos* (FS, 247)

Similar verbs are used in both phrases but the English idiom is expressed by the phrasal verb. The preposition occupies the second place in the case of the Czech counterpart while in English it is used at the end.

English idiom: *with your nose in the air* (ODI, 202)

Czech equivalent: *nosit nos vzhůru* (FS, 167)

These phrases mainly differ syntactically. In the English idiom there is used a preposition in the beginning compared to Czech where a lexical verb occurs. The word *air* is based on the same symbolism like Czech *vzhůru*.

8.4.4.2 *With a different body part*

No equivalents were found related to this group.

8.4.4.3 *Without a body part*

English idiom: *have a good nose for something* (EI, 229)

Czech equivalent: *mít čuch na co* (FS, 113)

The Czech lexeme *čuch* is not the same as the English body part *nose* but these words are connected by the virtue of representing the sense of *nose*. The verb *have* is identical to the Czech verb.

English idiom: *pay through the nose* (EI, 229)

Czech equivalent: *platit jako mourovatý* (SI, 125)

The Czech equivalent is expressed by the preposition *jako* in comparison to English, where *through* is used. Instead of the word related to body part, the Czech phrase has an adjective that is preceded by the preposition. Only the verbs correspond in these phrases.

8.4.5 No equivalents found

| English idiom | Definition |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>by a nose</i> | “(of a victory) by a very narrow margin“ (ODI, 202) |
| <i>count noses</i> | “count people, typically in order to determine the numbers in a vote” (ODI, 202) |
| <i>on the nose</i> | “to a person’s sense of smell” “distasteful” <i>(inf, Aust.)</i> (ODI, 202) |

9 SUMMARY OF THE ANALYSIS

9.1 Tables with numbers of idioms and equivalents

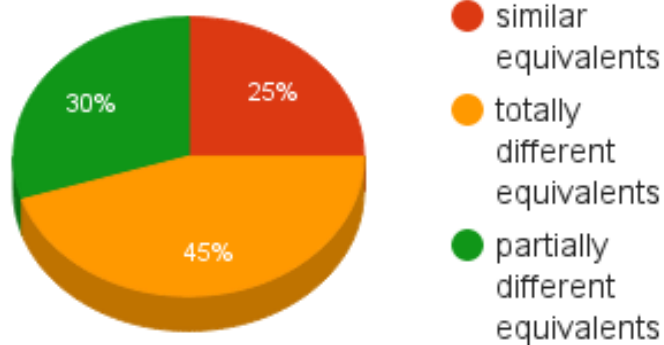
The summary of all the English idioms and their Czech equivalents is expressed numerically. The charts provided below show the figures as percentage values. The yellow parts of tables contain the number of phrases with the same, different or without body part while totally and partially different equivalents in orange colour summarize the overall number including the occurrence or non-occurrence of a body part.

| | EYE | FOOT | HAND | NOSE |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------|------|------|
| all English idioms | 43 | 36 | 50 | 14 |
| absolute equivalents | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| similar equivalents | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| totally different equivalents | 9 | 10 | 13 | 3 |
| - with the different body part | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| - without a body part | 7 | 10 | 12 | 3 |
| partially different body equivalents | 6 | 15 | 11 | 7 |
| - with the same body part | 2 | 5 | 7 | 5 |
| - with the different body part | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| - without a body part | 4 | 8 | 4 | 2 |
| no equivalents found | 23 | 10 | 20 | 3 |

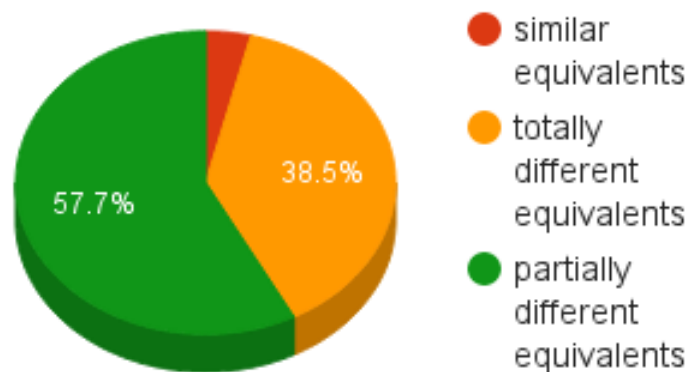
9.2 Charts of equivalents

These four subsequent diagrams express percentage of the Czech equivalents within each group of body part. Absolute equivalents occur only in one category with a body part *hand*. Only small percentage represents the similar equivalents in all groups whereas in most cases Czech equivalents were found in the group of totally or partially different equivalents. In summary, English idioms collected in this work are believed to have their Czech counterparts identical only in some words or be absolutely distinct.

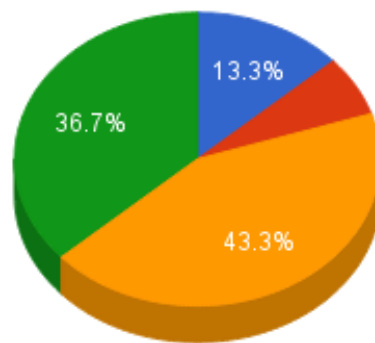
Eye



Feet

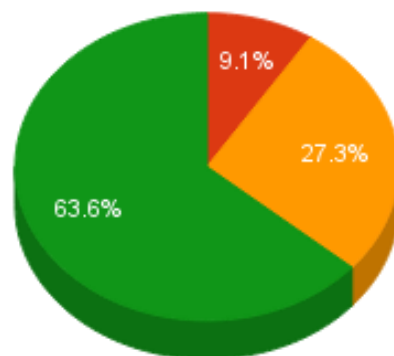


Hand



- absolute equivalents
- similar equivalents
- totally different equivalents
- Partially different equivalents

Nose

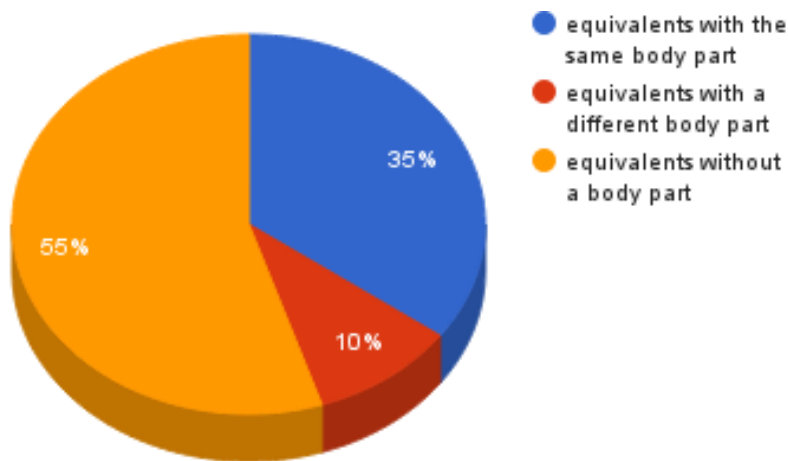


- similar equivalents
- totally different equivalents
- Partially different equivalents

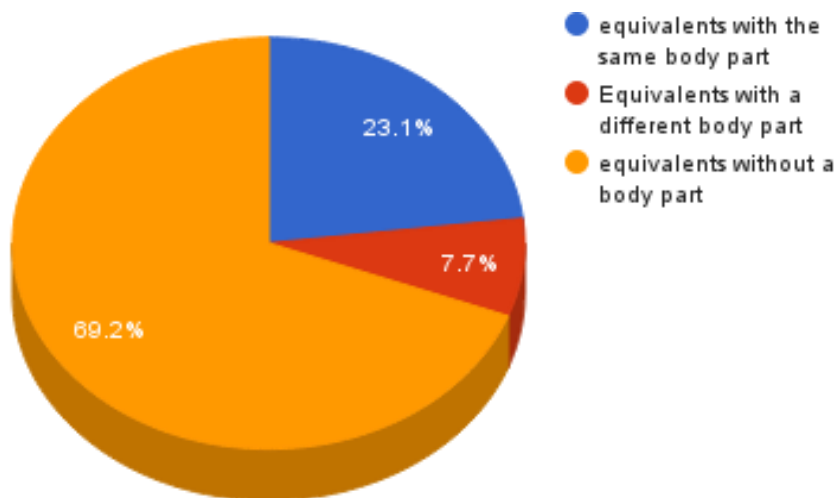
9.3 Tables with the presence of a body part

Let me introduce four tables portraying percentage values of the Czech equivalents within each group having the same body part, a different body part or no body part as the English idiom. It starts to become apparent that in the three categories with body parts, Czech counterparts are predominantly recorded without a body part. Only the group with *nose* carries the same body part as the English idiom. There is only a slight occurrence of equivalents with different body parts in the Czech compounds.

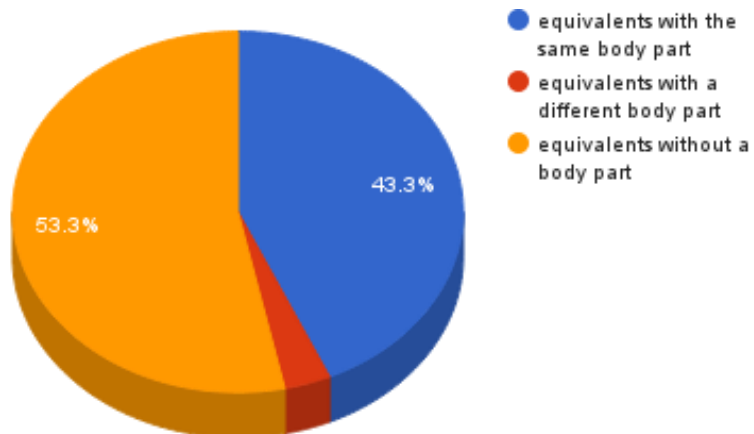
EYE



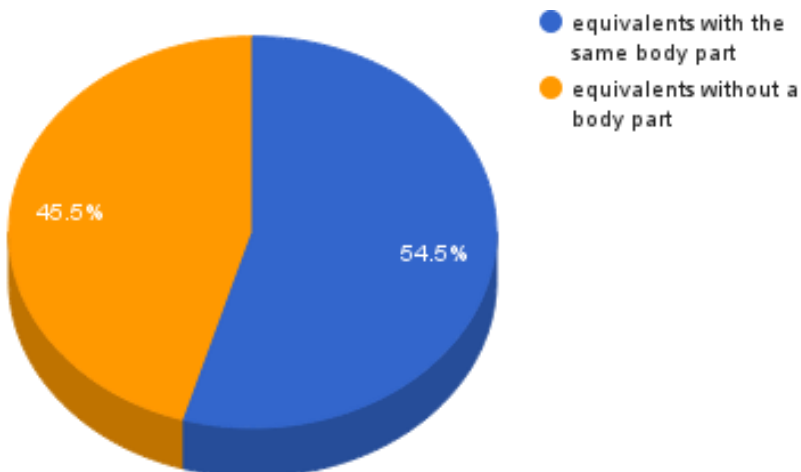
FOOT



HAND



NOSE



CONCLUSION

The thesis focused on idioms containing body parts. The main aim of this bachelor thesis was to compare and analyze collected English idioms relating to four groups of body parts with their Czech equivalents. In the process, the idioms were first classified according to the degree of their correspondence with the English idioms, and subsequently analyzed from the semantic, lexical and grammatical point of view. I have chosen idioms containing four body parts: eye, foot, hand and nose including their plural forms. These four body parts belong to the ten most frequent body parts in Czech according to the research of Čermák (2007, 234).

The theoretical part described idioms, semantics and the used methodology while in the practical part I compared and analyzed English idioms and their Czech equivalents. After the division of Czech counterparts it was discovered that most idioms related to each of the body parts mentioned have totally or partially different equivalents meaning that Czech counterparts do not correspond absolutely with their English idioms. The biggest part of totally different equivalents is recorded in the case of *eye* with 45 percents and *hand* with 43 percents. I found out that only idioms with *hand* contained 4 absolute equivalents whereas the remaining groups have no absolute equivalents. The similar equivalents were occurred in a small percentage as the body part *nose* represent 9 percents though *eye* has 25 percents indicating quite big part in comparison to other groups. Most equivalents have no body part, although the proportion of counterparts having the same body part was very close to the number of those without a body part. However, the group containing nose as the only one has most counterparts with the same body part expressed in 55 percents. Equivalents with a different body part seldom occurred, in the case of eye 10 percents, foot include 7 percents and equivalents having no different body part are related to *nose*.

To sum up, this work proved that the collected English idioms containing a body part are not translated literally into Czech and their meaning has to be taken into consideration. Some Czech equivalents are expressed with the same body part as in the English idiom, very small number of them with a different body part and most of them without a body part.

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APPENDICES

