

Indirect Naming Units in Czech Sign Language

Mgr. Radka Nováková

Institute of Deaf Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles
University Prague

Summer School Open
Prague, Czech 28th Aug 2014

Code switching

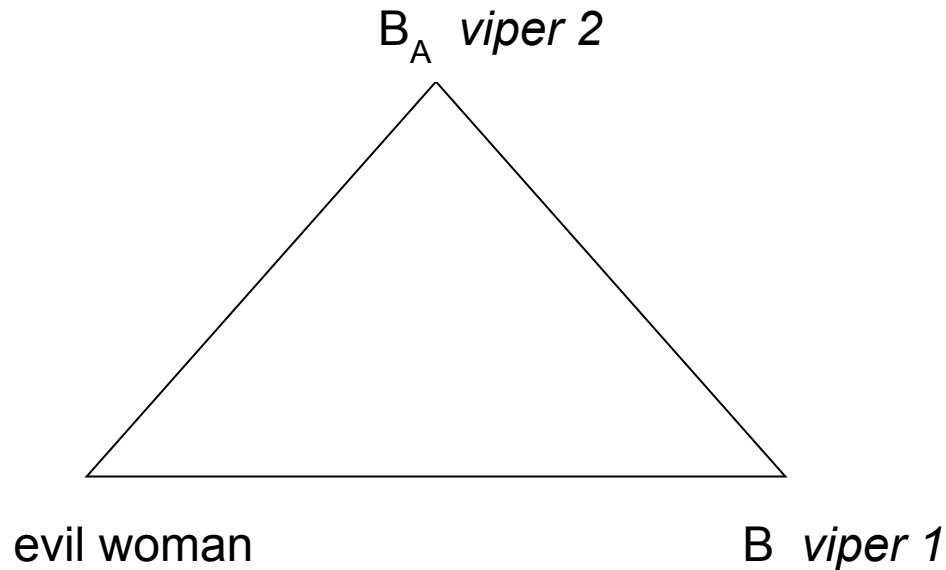
- Intercultural vs intracultural communication

Indirect Naming Unit (INU)

- created by the so-called semantic formation, i. e. using an existing name for a new reality in a new situation related to the originally named reality. The meaning is transferred metonymically or metaphorically.
- in the Czech lexicology , the term indirect naming units includes several types of transfer, known as metaphor, metonymy and synecdochy.

Process of creating INU

- Semantic triangle (Filipec – Čermák, 1985)



INU in Czech Sign Language

- Thesis (2009)
- 60 INU expressions found
- Combined method (intuitive reflection, elicitation, observation)
- 8 Deaf respondents

Criteria of INU in CzSL

- Context not fitting
- Mouthing and the form of the sign
- INU is a fixed expression

Analysis of INU in CzSL

Methaphorical meaning:

1. Conformity with the Czech language – semantic calque (6)
 2. Partially overlaps with the Czech language (16)
 3. Specific Czech Sign Language (38)
- Semantic motivation
 - INU in CzSL (identically with Czech) used for naming people, activities, inanimate objects and natural phenomena. In CzSL these INU are motivated (identically with Czech, too) by other names from the fields of humans, animals, inanimate nature etc.

Conformity with the Czech language –

semantic calque

- BLOOD (KREV)
 - reference to the origin

CzSL: I **BLOOD** STRONG DEAF

Translation: I m bloody Deaf.

Partially overlaps with the Czech language

- HEN (SLEPICE)

- To make fool of someone

CzSL: THINK DEAF LIKE HEN OR WHAT WANT
DISCRIMINATION HURT A-LOT

Translation: . They probably thought that the deaf are some sort of poor or stupid people, unless they would not treat us like this.

- To follow someone/something

CzSL: HE SAY COME THERE PUB I NOT-KNOW ASK
HEN FOLLOW

Translation: They have invited me to a pub, but I did not know how to get there. So I told them they have to take me there.

Specific Czech Sign Language

- VIOLIN (HOUSLE)
- HORSE (KŮŇ)
- GRAVE (HROB)
- GRANDFATHER (DĚDEČEK)
- PASSWORD (HESLO)
- MUSEUM (MUZEUM)

VIOLIN (HOUSLE)

- "long talk for nothing,,

CzSL: TO-SHAKE-HAND CONGRATULATE ALL THE
BEST KISS CL:cheek FINISHED TO-SHAKE-HAND
ALL LONG LONG-TEXT **VIOLIN** NOT-HAVE I

Translation: The Deaf congratulates to each other easily, just one sentence, „all the best“ a handshake, a kiss on the face. They do not need any stuff around.

HORSE (KŮŇ)

- To ignore the surroundings; to focus on one activity (consciously or unconsciously)

CzSL: CALL(him+lot of effort) CONCENTRATE

HORSE CALL (him) IMPOSSIBLE HARD

Translation: I waved at him but he did not see me.

CzSL: WORK DEAF TYPE **HORSE** CONCENTRATE

WORK HEARING TALK (together)

Translation: At work the Deaf concentrate just at their job, while the hearing talk all the time.

GRAVE (HROB)

- To be completely drunk or without movement

CzSL: MAN THAT WOW DRUNK FALL HE **GRAVE**
TERRIBLE

Translation: He is completely drunk

- To not know anything (not learn, study anything)

CzSL: SCHOOL I SIT CL: semicircle TEACHER CALL
(me) TEST ME SAID (next to me to my schoolmate) I
GRAVE

Translation: The teacher wanted to test me. I have said to my schoolmate beside me, that this is going to be my end, because I have not studied at all.

GRANDFATHER (DĚDĚČEK)

- Too slow (a human activity, movement, transports etc.)

CzSL: YOU EAT **GRANDFATHER** HURRY-UP EAT

Translation: Do not eat so slowly, hurry up!

CzSL: CAR TRABANT ITS TRY I TAKE DRIVING
GRANDFATHER

Translation: I have borrowed a Trabant car, just to try it, but I would have better to walk there.

PASSWORD (HESLO)

- stereotype of activity, place of activity

CzSL: TOGETHER (me+she) EVA **PASSWORD**
MEETING WHERE ANDĚL

Translation: I always meet Eva at Anděl.

- A group people which meets often

CzSL: GROUP WE+3 **PASSWORD** | OTHER NEVER I

Translation: We are three, no one else.

MUSEUM (MUZEUM)

- Untouched/unused things

CzSL: HEARING AID MY LEAVE MUSEUM

GESTURE: wave

Translation: I never use the hearing aid, I have it at home in a drawer.

- Conclusion

- Thank you 😊