

## Summary

The register of motherese is from the linguistic point of view characterised by specific features at all language levels. In monograph we focus on quantitative and qualitative analysis of the lexis of the mothers' speech in longitudinal research. The basis for the research were transcripts of 24 hours of video recordings of the speech of three mothers with their first born children in preverbal state of their speech development up to the appearance of the first words in individual children. Video recordings were carried out once a month for an hour at home during the daily routine activities for the period of eight months. Although the longitude was relatively long, variability of the motherese register did not show saliently. In the frequency lists compiled from the mothers' speech consistently the same lexemes occurred at the first places, which constitute prototypical core of the interaction between mother and her preverbal child. These were *be, right, yes, go, you, this, and, yet, what, well, already, here*, which underline situative character of mothers' topic (*this, here, yet, already*) and positive attitude to the child (*right, yes, you, well*). Prototypical core of noun lexis consists of proper names of the children *Janka, Ninka, Martinko* and a category name of the caregiver *mommy*. Most frequently used verbs were *be, go, give, have, want, look, feed*. Positive axiological lexis was present in most frequently used adjectives *little, good, big, nice, beautiful, clever* and evaluative adverbs *nicely, beautifully, well done!*. Every fourth lexeme in the frequency lexicon of CDS is a child word, the word with positive emotional connotation. Child words presented 70% of all uttered nouns. Very frequent were the interjections *ʔap, ham, buch, ŝup*.

Analysis of lexis in the child directed speech of the mothers in the light of theory of lexical motivation revealed enormous diversity of lexical inventory in contrast to prototype approach. In the lexis of the mothers multiple word-formative nests coined from the words belonging to basic semantic classes: proper names of the girls and expressing elementary activities of the child, were present. Diversiform repertoire of used lexemes is displayed by three tens of synonymous dyads and many expressive words typical just for one of the mothers. In the speech of the mothers onymically motivated lexemes were frequently used, as the proper name of the child in its various forms was the most often used noun, and proper names were also present in nursery rhymes and songs. Category names for children were also semantically motivated such as *footballer, body-builder, little mummy, self-employer, froggie*.

The high level of expressiveness in CDS is shown in the usage of phraseologically motivated lexis and in various word-formative motivated expressive category names for children, e. g. *brbloško, fuňo, jedoško, slintoško, skočko, ŝibulko, vrtielko*.