



POSUDEK VEDOUcíHO BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: **Anglický jazyk a literatura (dvouoborové studium)**

Název práce: **Stereotypes about bilingualism**

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Short characteristics of the thesis

This thesis focuses on the topic of bilingualism, stereotypes connected with this phenomenon and bilingual upbringing. After a short introduction, the author explains the term bilingualism using several definitions formulated by famous scholars. Then, she introduces several classifications of bilingualism, simultaneous bilingualism, bilingual strategies, and other related issues (Chapter 2). The author also provides a short overview of families whose children were observed for the purpose of this thesis. The subsequent chapters focus on particular stereotypes about bilingualism with the aim to describe them and on the basis of the author's research to confirm or disprove these prejudices. The actual findings are summarised in the Conclusion.

Overall assessment

The topic addressed in this thesis is very interesting and up-to-date. What I would like to appreciate is the empirical part since it is always difficult to find suitable respondents for a particular type of research and their sufficient number, to work with them, and afterwards to transcribe their conversations. Examples of some of these transcripts may be found throughout the thesis, together with their descriptions and commentaries, which are very valuable parts.

Even though the thesis mostly accomplished its primary goals, I have certain reservations concerning some of its parts.

As regards the Introduction, I would appreciate a more detailed formulation of the aims of the thesis. The third paragraph of this section describes the empirical part. However, this is not sufficient and the author should have devoted a separate chapter/section to methodology applied in this thesis and explain it in a more detailed manner and more explicitly.

When reading the thesis, we can come across several unfounded claims, which should have been clarified or supported by relevant literature. For instance, in the Introduction we can read this sentence: *Around 60% of the worldwide population are raised as bilingual speakers.* Where did the author find this information?

In the same paragraph, there is this statement: *The topic of bilingualism is examined often, but children who are raised bilingually less so,* but we can find quite a lot of studies dealing with bilingual upbringing (e.g. Bialystok 2017, Byers-Heinlein and Lew-Williams 2013, De Houwer 2007, etc.).

Another example of an unsupported claim: *Learning two languages simultaneously from birth is still more unique but it has been a perfectly normal phenomenon since ancient times.* (Section 2.3, p. 12)

