

Can be used at any level of study
from elementary to advanced Czech

Can be used in conjunction with
any textbook or other course materials

Can be used for independent study by anyone
who is interested in
maintaining and improving their Czech

Individual chapters on each case
with major case usages
explained in a use-by-use fashion

The book may be read through
from beginning to end
or in sections or used as a reference

All examples in the text and exercises
are drawn from a database of
naturally occurring Czech sentences

Examples represent a variety of
genres and topics

Focus is on case usage, not endings, but tables
of case endings are included at the beginning of
each chapter and in a comprehensive appendix

Accompanying interactive website and CD-ROM
for both Windows and Macintosh platforms

Exercises for each chapter are presented in
three difficulty levels to facilitate the
use of the book with different years of study

Interactive materials feature male and female
native-speaker recordings of all examples

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The Case Book *for Czech*

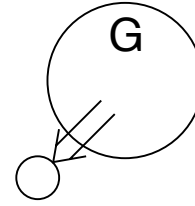
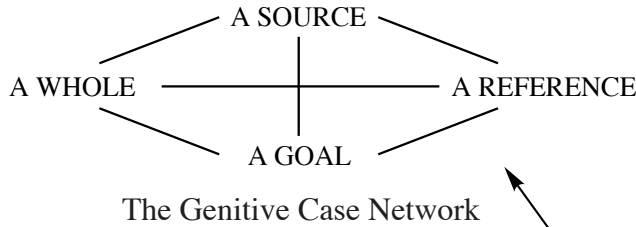
A decade of research on Czech case semantics has come together in a valuable new pedagogical tool through the work of Laura Janda and Steven Clancy. The Case Book for Czech, a textbook and exercises, presents the Czech case system in terms of structured semantic wholes. This method of explanation is easily accessible to students and provides a coherent conceptual framework that accounts for the rich and often confusing details of Czech case usage. Throughout the text, the basic meanings of the cases are illustrated with examples from a large database of Czech prose, compiled specifically for this project. Examples in the text and exercises were taken from a variety of sources (primarily books and newspapers of the past decade) and are representative of multiple genres and fields (fiction, current events, contemporary history, politics, law, economics, science and medicine, etc.).

The aim of the text is to familiarize students with the variety of case usage by using real Czech sentences as opposed to the controlled language of traditional textbook examples. By confronting real case samples in an unadulterated form, students can learn to make sense of the systematic meanings of case in a fashion that will approach the understanding of a native speaker. The accompanying exercises continue the presentation of the text and challenge students to implement the concepts they have learned.

The interactive version (website or CD-ROM for Macintosh and Windows platforms), contains recordings of all examples by both male and female native speakers, playable at the click of a button. As students work through the exercises, they can easily consult the full-text searchable electronic version of the book for quick reference and can print out summary sheets of completed assignments to hand in for class.

The Case Book for Czech

FEATURES



Clear headings provide reference points and state the main idea of each section.

Figures and case networks summarize case usages and provide a visual mnemonic for learning.

All example sentences are fully parsed and translated to help with difficult vocabulary.

96 The Dative Case

(113) Pustila jsem dceru na hory, a ona ti si **mi** zlomila nohu! (CCz)
 [Let AUX daughter-ACC on mountains-ACC, and she-NOM you-DAT self-DAT me-DAT broke leg-ACC!]
 I let my daughter go to the mountains, and, **you know what**, she broke her leg on me!

The full force of the dative in this sentence might be conveyed this way: she broke her leg and **you** are going to have to take care of her, and I want you to listen to this and feel sorry for me!

DATIVE: A COMPETITOR 1 — MATCHED FORCES

Remember that the hallmark of the dative is that a dative item has the potential to do something. Grammatically, this means the dative item can potentially be the subject of a sentence, a role usually marked with the nominative case. The fact that a dative item is potentially a nominative item implies a comparison between the dative and the nominative. The uses of the DATIVE: A COMPETITOR exploit just this comparison, for here we see the dative item in competition with a nominative item. All possible combinations are realized, so the dative and the nominative can either be equal in strength or one can be stronger than the other. When the two items are evenly matched they participate in a symmetrical relationship as equal competitors. If the dative item is more powerful than the nominative, it exerts a force to which the nominative item submits; here the dative has some kind of advantage over the nominative. If instead the nominative is superior, it dominates the dative. These three logical outcomes will be termed "matching forces", "submission", and "domination" below.

In identifying an equal competitor, the meaning of the DATIVE: A COMPETITOR overlaps somewhat with the benefit meaning of DATIVE: AN EXPERIENCER, particularly if the two parties are equally engaged in some harmonious activity. The table on the following page has some words that typically trigger the meaning of roughly equally matched forces and here are some examples of how they are used:

(114) Žádná žena patrně neodolala **jeho kouzlu**.
 [No woman-NOM apparently not-resisted his charm-DAT.]
 Apparently no woman could resist **his charm**.

(115) Státní delegace ustila ve Varšavě památku židovských bojovníků, kteří téměř měsíc vzdorovali **německým okupantům**.
 [State delegation-NOM honored in Warsaw-LOC memory-ACC Jewish fighters-GEN, who-NOM nearly month-ACC defied German invaders-DAT.]
 In Warsaw the state delegation honored the memory of the Jewish fighters who defied the **German invaders** for nearly a month.

97 Dative: a competitor

(116) Pokud jde o McDonalda, shodli jsme s Martinem, že jejich hamburgery se **řizku** nevyrovňají, ale hranolky mají docela dobré.
 [As-long-as goes about McDonald's-ACC, agreed self-ACC with Martin-INST, that their hamburgers-NOM self-ACC **cutlet-DAT** not-match, but french-fries-ACC have quite good-ACC.]
 Concerning McDonald's, Martin and I agreed that their hamburgers are no match for a **cutlet**, but their french fries are pretty good.

Words Expressing Matched Forces

'face, confront' čelit (LCz)	'be similar' podobat se	'oppose' vzpírat/vzpírat se
'compensate' kompenzovat	'take revenge on' po-mstít se	'resist' za-lu-břit/sí se
'compete against' konkurvat	'be in the way' překážet	'oppose' za-odporvat
'correspond to' korespondovat	'equal' rovnat se	'oppose' za-oponovat
'resist' odolat/odolávat	'keep up with' stačit	'oppose' z-pravit se
'repay, retaliate' odplatit/odplácet	'match, be able to compete' vyrvnat/vyrovňovat se	
'correspond to; answer' odpovídat/odpovídat	'defy' vzdorovat	

Several adjectives express a similar meaning, and also occasion the use of DATIVE: A COMPETITOR, as we see in this small table and the following example:

Adjectives Expressing Matched Forces

'analogical' analogický	'similar, resembling' podobný	'equal' rovný
'repulsive' odporný	'repulsive' protivný	

(117) Už vám někdo řekl, že jste podobný **poslanci Ivanu Pilipovi**?
 [Already you-DAT someone-NOM said, that are similar-NOM member-of-parliament-DAT Ivan Pilip-DAT?]
 Has anyone ever told you that you look like **Ivan Pilip, the member of parliament**?

Notes in the grey margins provide concise summaries of text content.

Headings, text, and example sentences are arranged on the page in a user-friendly fashion.

Tables compile information on verbs, prepositions, nouns, adjectives and the cases they govern.

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 Laura A. Janda & Steven J. Clancy
<http://languages.uchicago.edu/casebooks>

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