

Title: Teaching Material Options for Advanced Czech
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Since before the fall of Communism in Czechoslovakia, there have been no textbooks produced in the English-speaking world appropriate for teaching the Czech language at the Intermediate-High or Advanced level. Since the mid-1990s, a few books aimed at Intermediate to Advanced level Czech language learners have been produced in the Czech Republic. The present study provides an overview of materials more or less readily available now to teachers and students of higher level Czech, outlining the grammatical and lexical topics covered in each publication and describing the kinds of language-learning activities to which each lends itself. The results of this survey point to the conclusion that no one of these books is ideal for developing Intermediate-High to Advanced level four-skill proficiency in the university classroom.

This paper then raises the question of whether it would be worthwhile to create a new textbook or other set of materials designed specifically for Intermediate-High to Advanced level students of Czech at English-language universities. It proposes a model that would integrate review of elementary and intermediate grammar topics and vocabulary; exposition and intensive exercise of advanced grammar topics and problems of syntax and style; reading and discussion of authentic texts; and composition exercises aimed at developing paragraph-length written expression. Since an advanced course may choose to emphasize one or two language skills more than the others, it is likely that no one model will be optimal for all teachers and learners. This paper aims to provoke discussion among instructors who have taught advanced-level Czech language courses at English-language universities and refocus the question of what kinds of curricula and materials are most effective for developing Advanced level proficiency.