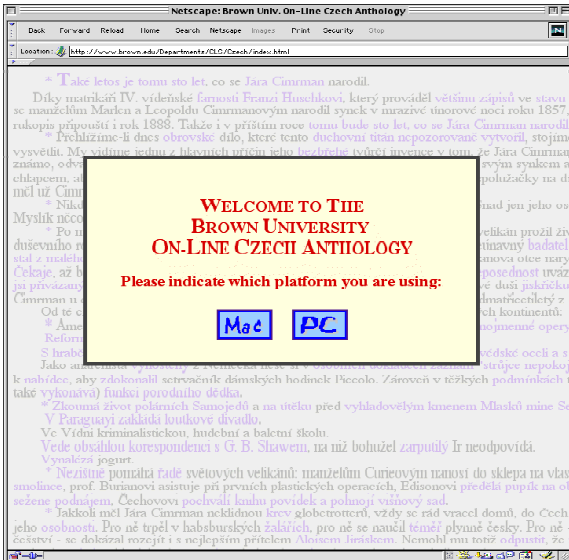


Expanding the Web Anthology at Brown

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The Department of Slavic Languages and the Center for Language Studies at Brown have been engaged in the creation of materials and websites for teaching Czech on the web (Fall 1999. 7-9). Among them is a revised NAATC website continually updated by David Kanig from the Center for Language Studies (<http://www.language.brown.edu/NAATC/newslet.html>). Thanks to David's generous assistance we are now able to view back issues of the *Czech Language News* in .pdf files. We hope that this site will function as an archive of the NAATC newsletter.

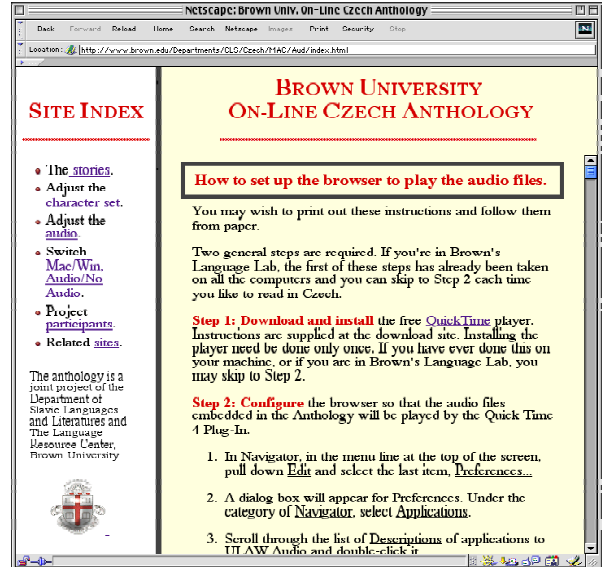
Another growing project on the web is the Brown On-Line Czech Anthology (<http://www.brown.edu/Departments/CLS/Czech/>).



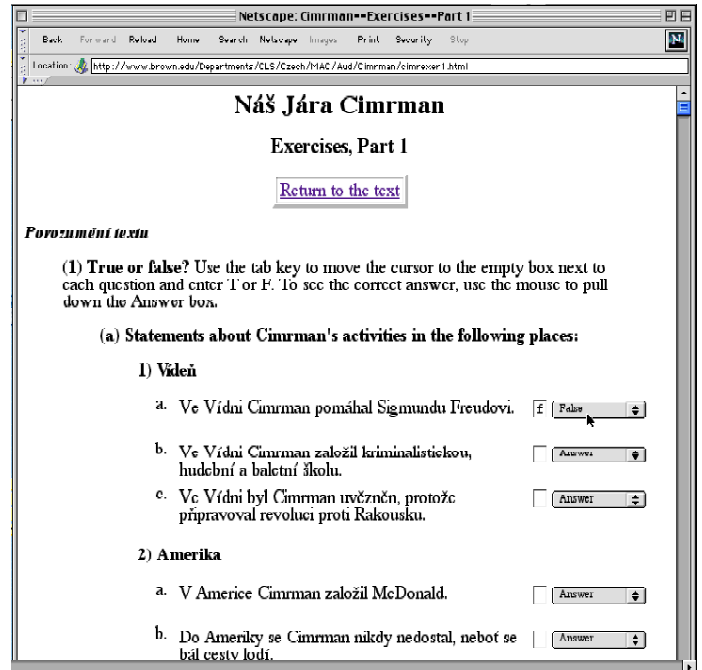
The anthology started as a small set of texts in HTML for students in Czech language courses at Brown in 1995. It was launched as a learning tool that enables students' encounter with authentic literary texts in the original. The hypertext format allows reading of many literary texts with the help of prereading questions and glosses without cluttering the text and overwhelming the reader.

The project has thus far involved some members of the Department of Slavic Languages and the Language Resource Center at Brown University and the Department of Czech Literature at Charles University in Prague. It has been partially supported by a grant from the Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning, a Francis Wayland Collegium Curricular Development Grant and a Wriston Curricular Development Grant from Brown University. Within the last two years the use of diacritics has been enabled for both the Macintosh and Windows platforms. Users are now able to access the anthology using either Navigator or the Internet Explorer browser. The anthology now offers versions with or without an audio component, allowing users who do not have fast access to the web, or

who are only interested in reading texts, to avoid the delays and complexities of loading and listening to recordings. The site provides instructions on configuring the browser for the Central European character set; an opportunity to toggle the audio component on and off; and instructions on setting up the browser to play the audio files.

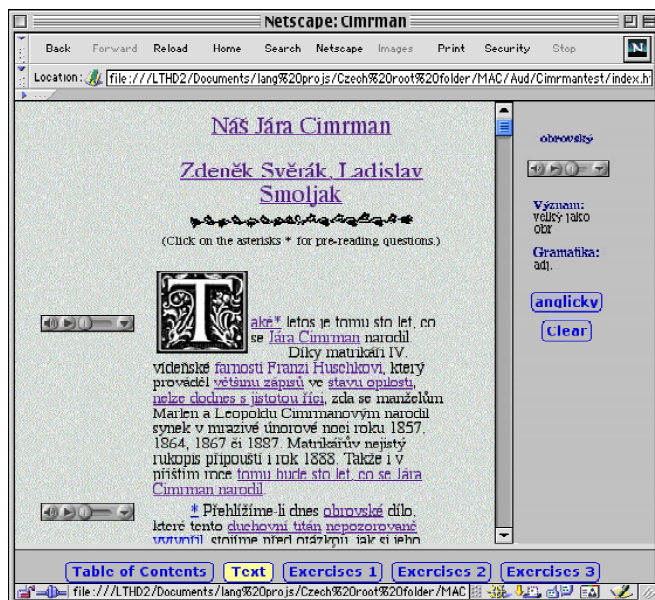


Some of the exercises are configured with pull-down windows to reveal answers.



We intend to make the exercises more sophisticated so that students can access key locations in the text in a pop-up window to answer true-false questions. Each text as well as vocabulary entries and selected exercises are accompanied by audio files. The high quality of the sound component is one of the major strengths of the site.

While the contents of the accompanying exercises require much fine-tuning, the basic structure of texts and glosses is nearly complete. Unlike the previous format where glosses cover the text, the current format enables the reader to browse the text while looking up unknown words and prereading questions. The glosses show brief grammar information and Czech paraphrasing first; the second link “anglicky” will open the English definition.



Those texts that are in the old format are in the process of being reformatted. The following is the list of texts that are or will be on the web by the end of the year 2000. Texts are selected with the intent to expose students to various aspects of Czech culture. More texts are being prepared for the topics below. New texts to fit other topics are also being considered. With the assistance of Professor Petr A. Bílek, Chair of the Department of Czech Literature and Literary Theory at Charles University, we were able to obtain copyright permission for many contemporary texts. Glosses for some of the texts will be placed on the web shortly.

1. Texts Illustrating the Roots of Modern Czech National Identity

Karel Čapek: *Malí národové*

Karel Čapek: *Malé a velké*

2. Language as an Integral Part of Czech National Identity and Source of Folk Wisdom

Karel Čapek: *Přísloví*

3. Authors as Representatives of the National Conscience

Karel Čapek: *Báseň*

Karel Čapek: *O lyrickém zloději*

4. Personal Identity and Philosophy on the Threshold of West and East: A Central European Solution

Karel Čapek: *Zločin v chalupě*

Karel Čapek: *Psí pohádky* from *Dášenka* (excerpt)

5. Czech National Traits and Qualities

Karel Čapek: *Naši hosté a my*

Karel Čapek: *O tom humoru*

6. Work and Life Style a la Czech. Czech Republic at the turn of the millennium

Jaroslav Hašek: *Obecní volby*

Ivan Vyskočil: *Takové torzo, to by si teprv žilo*

Zdeněk Svěrák, Ladislav Smoljak: *Náš Jára Cimrman*

After test-runs ~~some~~ of the texts and exercises on the web as part of the materials in Czech language courses at Brown, we can state that cultural curiosity and linguistic creativity are greatly enhanced by the possibilities offered by contemporary technology. In addition, it seems that technology has helped accelerate the learning process. Undergraduate students from our Czech courses have received various awards (Fulbright fellowship, the Rotary Foundation, scholarships to study at Masaryk University). The relative growth in enrollments in Czech (four times larger in 1999-2000 than in 1991-2) also attests to the effectiveness of our materials.

Our long-term goal is to expand the selection of texts that will focus on Czech national identity. For this reason we plan to create other HTML pages with links: Mission Statement, Contacts, Model Syllabi pages, Bibliography pages, Publication pages. The entire site will be named after J. A. Komenský (*The Comenius Web*). We are currently seeking project funding from various sources.

The Václav Havel Fellowship at the University of Michigan

On September 5, 2000, Václav Havel, President of the Czech Republic, visited the University of Michigan to receive an honorary doctoral degree. On that occasion, President Lee C. Bollinger announced the creation of the Václav Havel Fellowship Program as a way of honoring President Havel's intellectual achievements.

The Václav Havel Graduate Fellowship in Czech Studies is a five year award for incoming students who are residents of the Czech Republic, who are admitted to doctoral programs in a department of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts or a professional school of the University of Michigan, and who expect to focus their graduate studies and dissertation research on Czech lands and/or culture.

One fellowship will be awarded per year. Eligible Czech residents may apply to any doctoral program at the University of Michigan listed on the Horace H. Rackham Graduate School website noted below. Students are urged to be in direct contact with the department in which they plan to pursue a degree at the early stages of the application process.

Prospective students may not apply directly for these awards, but should notify faculty or Ms. Kirsten Willis at the International Institute of their interest. The graduate program will nominate students for the awards once they have been admitted to the doctoral program to which they have applied.

Contact: Kirsten Willis

International Institute, University of Michigan

1080 South University, Room 2632

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1106, USA

Telephone 734-763-3297, Fax 734-763-9154

E-Mail: kbakke@umich.edu, Web <www.umich.edu/~iinet>

For application materials and instructions, write to:

Office of Graduate Admissions

Rackham Graduate School

915 East Washington

Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1070

Office Phone: 734-764-8129, Email: rackadmis@umich.edu

Application materials are also available on-line:

http://www.rackham.umich.edu/ProspectiveStudents.html