



## On Some Aspects of Developing Cognitive Strategies

**Eva Smetanová**

[eva.smetanova@ucm.sk](mailto:eva.smetanova@ucm.sk)

University of Ss Cyril and Methodius (Slovakia)

### **Abstract:**

In the present days, experts discuss some of the key elements that take place in the process of education: particularly whether it is more important to focus on information transfer or on training and developing abilities and skills of our students. That is to say that if we offer our students certain strategies or instructions how to solve a problem only within a particular area, a question of transfer may arise: the students often have difficulties to transmit techniques and strategies adopted for a certain domain from one to another – even though a similar domain. The solution could be to let the teacher introduce and develop individual strategies and to explain when to use them. It means that teachers show their students many similar tasks that help the students develop and expand the methods, techniques and strategies that they have acquired. The teachers also clarify why to choose a particular strategy for a certain domain. We assume that by adopting such a model the students therefore, will be able to solve problems in the future in an independent and accurate way.

The paper offers a brief introduction to the field of cognitive strategies. It attempts to identify those that are used most often when acquiring a foreign language and to present some techniques that teachers may find useful in order to help their students adopt a new language. The aim of the paper is to inspire present and future teachers of foreign languages and therefore to increase the effectiveness of foreign language teaching and learning.