

THE UNIVERSITY OF DANANG
UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES



ĐOÀN THỊ DIỆU LAN

**INTERPERSONAL GRAMMATICAL METAPHORS IN
BRITISH AND AMERICAN POLITICAL SPEECHES:
A SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL APPROACH**

**Major : ENGLISH LINGUISTICS
Code : 822.02.01**

**MASTER THESIS IN
LINGUISTICS AND CULTURAL STUDIES OF
FOREIGN COUNTRIES
(A SUMMARY)**

Da Nang, 2019

This study has been completed at University of Foreign Languages
Studies, the University of Da Nang

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. TRAN HUU PHUC

Examiner 1: Trần Bá Tiến, Ph.D.

Examiner 2: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lưu Quý Khương

The thesis was orally defended at the Examining Committee

Time: 06th January 2020

Venue: University of Foreign Language Studies – The
University of Da Nang

This thesis is available for the purpose of reference at:

- *Library of University of Foreign Language Studies, The
University of Da Nang.*

- *The Center for Learning Information Resources and
Communication – The University of Da Nang.*

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

It is obvious that language plays an important role in various aspects of our daily lives as a mean of communication. Therefore, to communicate effectively, language users have been using many figures of speech such as: simile, personification, allusion, diction to help the recipients understand the emotion of the speaker and imagery of the idea being conveyed. And one of the most well – known stylistic devices which is commonly used to convey messages from the senders, strongly affects on the listeners or the readers' understanding the messages is metaphor. Metaphor is used in literature, in art, in advertisement, in everyday speeches, in formal language, etc. and by all people who use language: children, adults, workers, farmers, businessmen, journalists, politicians, etc. Among them, politicians are the people whose speeches attract the largest number of people's attention. Language is one of the most effective and powerful weapons used by politicians and they are all aware of the importance of language to what they want to show people. They use language to persuade their listeners, to stir their emotions, to give them a sense of occasion, to make their audience thinking about what they say and to make them agree with their views.

For example, to make his audience believe and agree with him that Senator McCain really cares of American people's life. Instead of saying that "Senator McCain really cares what is going on in the lives of Americans", The President of The United States- Barack Obama says: -"I don't believe that Senator McCain doesn't care what is going on in the lives of Americans". When adding the projecting

mental clause (see 2.2.3.4.b) “I don’t believe”, Obama wants to send a message that he strongly believes that McCain really cares of Americans. The clause also gives the Finite in main clause its negative form. Hence “I don’t believe....doesn’t care” can help speaker persuade and make audiences believe that McCain really cares of their lives.

Next, language helps politicians to interact with other people, to establish and maintain relations with them. For instance, when asking someone to do something, people usually use the imperative mood. However, when The UK Prime Minister David Cameron asks British people to work to show the world that Britain is an open country for business. He hasn’t said “get down to work, to make sure we send out a big signal: this country is open for business” but said: “I want you all to get down to work, to make sure we send out a big signal: this country is open for business”. The clause “I want you” functions as an imperative mood but it makes the command softer and more polite. So it’s easily accepted and carried out by the hearers.

Moreover, language also reveals the social status and power relationship between politicians and listeners. When Cameron uses the clause “I want you”, the verb “want” sends the audience a message that this is a command. You all have to obey this. I am a president and you should do what I ask you to do.

Because of the above reasons, the interpersonal function of language is always concerned in PSs and PSs are always prepared very well before giving out to the public. To make their speeches more convincing and interesting, the use of grammatical metaphor (GM) in political speeches occur not less frequently than in other discourses. Moreover, due to their great importance, PSs are the most

favorite data source of linguistic researches. As a result, there have been many studies on the use of GM in PSs in recent decades. However, there has been no study on IGMs in British and American political speeches.

In order to explore how British and American politicians use IGMs in their PBs, and what effects these usages can bring about for the intention of the speakers, what effects they cause to listeners, and the difference in the use of IGMs between British and American politicians, I decide to conduct a study on the topic: “Interpersonal grammatical metaphors in British and American political speeches: a systemic functional approach”. I hope that the research will help readers be able to comprehend the employment of IGMs as well as exploring the difference in the ways IGMs are applied between British and American people.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.2.1. Aims

The research aims at investigating the use of IGMs by Bps and Aps in terms of their semantic and pragmatic features as well as popularity, frequency from a systemic functional perspective. Also, the study attempts to discover the differences in the use of IGMs between British people and American people.

Hopefully, the research’s results support English learners in better understanding of theoretical and practical using of IGMs and help them apply in understanding and using English more easily.

1.2.2. Objectives

With the above-stated aims, the following objectives are set:

- Examine some semantic and pragmatic features of IGMs used in PSs by British and American politicians.

- Point out the similarities and differences in the semantic role and the pragmatic features of IGMs in British and American politicians' speeches.

- Help English learners use IGMs more easily and effectively.

1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

I intend to confine this study to the semantic and pragmatic features of IGMs on the theories of SFG of Michael Halliday and present a comparison of the use of IGMs in British English and American English through the analysis of data collection from 112 British and American PSs which are divided into two corpora named APS and BPS.

1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

In order to achieve the aims and objectives mentioned above, this study should give answers to the following research questions:

1. What types of IGMs are deployed in political speeches by British and American politicians?

2. What are semantic and pragmatic features of IGMs employed in PSs by British and American politicians?

3. What are the similarities and the differences in the use of IGMs of British and American politicians?

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

With the analysis on the semantic, pragmatic features of IGMs in British English and American English, I hope that:

- The research would help Vietnamese learners have a comprehensive understanding of the use of IGMs in spoken English, especially, help language users have a better insight into the linguistic features at the systemic functional level.

- Additionally, the findings are supposed to be a useful source which can be applied for anyone who are interested in practical application in reading and writing political speeches in particular.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The study is organized into five chapters as follows:

Chapter 1. Introduction

This chapter consists of an introduction to the thesis in terms of rationale, aims and objectives, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study and organization of the study.

Chapter 2. Literature Review and Theoretical Background

This chapter presents a brief review of previous studies related to the present research. It also provides the theoretical background on which the research is based.

Chapter 3. Methods and Procedures

This chapter describes research methods, description of samples, tools used for data collection, data analysis.

Chapter 4. Findings and Discussions

This chapter analyzes semantic and pragmatic features of IGMs in British and American PSs. The similarities and differences in the use of these in PSs are identified and analyzed.

Chapter 5. Conclusions and Implications

This chapter summarizes the results of the study and provides some implications for using IGMs. Furthermore, the statement of limitations and some suggestions for further research are also presented.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDIES

Halliday (1985; 1994; 2004; 2014) in “An Introduction to Functional Grammar” claims that GM involved in ideational grammatical metaphor which concerns the variations in expressing ideas and interpersonal grammatical metaphor which concerns the interpersonal relations.

Based on Halliday’s framework of GM from the perspective of SFG there have been a lot of research works carried out on the both main types of GM. In relation to studies on IGMs, there have been some research studies carried out so far.

Suzuanne Eggins (2000) provided a thorough-going overview of how clause is structured to help people expressed kinds of interpersonal meanings. Miriam Taverniers (2008) concerned with central types of interpersonal expressions, focused on the nature of IGMs, compared the concept to the other related phenomena and defined IGMs as a construction type based on a doubling of semiosis: a doubling of scoping in structural terms, and a doubling of grounding in semantic terms. Yang (2013) tried to explore the use of IGMs in spoken Chinese. Thomas Bloor and Meriel Bloor (1995) present a short account to the way to analysis English for anyone wants to start out with SFG. Eggins (1994) introduces the principles and techniques of the functional approach to language in order to help readers begin their own researches in analyzing how meanings are made and how language is organized in authentic everyday interactions .

Regarding to British and American political speeches, Trần Hữu Phúc (2017) used a corpus- based analysis to examine the link between the employment of modality expressions and politeness strategies in British and American ambassadorial speeches. In his research he investigated the frequencies of modality markers and compared the frequencies of modal forms occurring in two corpora of British and American ambassadors' speeches. Although there are many research studies carried out on GM and IGMs, to my knowledge there has been no studies done on IGMs in American and British political speeches in the perspectives of SFG. Hence, I hope that my thesis will contribute a minor part to fulfill the overall picture of this field.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Systemic Functional Grammar

2.2.2. Grammatical metaphor

2.2.3. Types of GM under the SFG Perspectives

2.2.4. Types of interpersonal grammatical metaphors

2.2.5. Political speeches

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. METHODOLOGY

On the purpose of making an investigation into linguistic features of IGMs of PSs, a corpus-based method - the combination of both qualitative and quantitative method of collecting and analyzing data - is used to reach the aims of the study.

A corpus linguistics (“corpora” in plural) is a collection of texts used for linguistic analyses and usually stored in an electronic database so that the data can be accessed easily by means of a computer. Corpus texts usually consist of thousands or millions of words and are not made up of the linguist’s or a native speaker’s invented examples but on authentic spoken and written language.

Tran, H. P. (2014), describes corpus-based methodology “relies on research corpora and reference corpora as authentic sources of data for analysis. The former is compiled to explore a particular genre and the latter is used to explore the language in general and to provide data for comparison with results collected from the former. Corpus-based research can essentially be seen as a way of studying real-life language via a computerised collection of texts.”

From the description, it is obvious that the corpus-based method has four main following characteristics: working with authentic and natural texts; using a large and intended collection of real-life texts to analyze; using computer, both automatic and interactive techniques for analysis; using both qualitative and quantitative method for analysis. (Tran, H. P. (2014))

This method can be seen as an objective, effective and accurate way to examine and analyze data. As a result, there have been more and more researches carried out using corpus-based method and

make it become the mainstream, a tool to revolutionize the study of language and of the applications of language.

This study aims to research on the IGMs in American and British political speeches, so it is quite necessary to employ the corpus-based method to reach the result exactly and effectively.

3.2. SAMPLING

3.2.1. Building the corpora

To reach the aims of the study and to satisfy the principal issues in designing research corpora, I have to collect 112 speeches delivered by American and British politicians from 1975 to 2011 from the internet and newspapers then classify them into two groups: American political speeches (APS) and British political speeches (BPS) to build two research corpora as presented in table 3.1.

Table 3.1. The corpora used in the study

Corpora	Speakers	Date range	Number of speeches	Number of words
APS	A 01- A 04	1981-2004	58	191,316
BPS	B 01- B 04	1975-2007	44	197,479

Also, it is needed to analyze the two corpora to have the quantity of IGMs instances to provide data for the quantitative analysis. In order to have an automatic search with an exact, effective and objective result, I used the software Wordsmith 5.0, an integrated suite of programs for looking at how words behave in texts, for help.

3.2.2. Using the software Wordsmith 5.0

The software Wordsmith 5.0, the software for finding patterns in text, has three main tools with three fundamental functions: “The WordList tool lets you see a list of all the words or word-clusters in a text, set out in alphabetical or frequency order. The concordancer, Concord, gives you a chance to see any word or phrase in context -

so that you can see what sort of company it keeps. With KeyWords you can find the key words in a text.” (Mike Scott, 2010)



Figure 3.1. The main functions of WordSmith 5.0 tool

With the above advantages, the WordSmith 5.0 is used to search and have concordance lines of each type of the IGMs expressions in the corpora, to know the distributions of IGMs instances in all speeches, to visualize the source text in which IGMs expressions are located and then, to provide statistical data for a quantitative analysis. The result from the analysis is applied for the next analysis method: qualitative analysis method.

3.3. DATA COLLECTION

The data used in the study are collected from official speeches by four American Presidents and four British Prime Ministers. The process of collecting data is followed the steps below.

- Firstly, search engine Google is used to collect 112 speeches of the four presidents and the four prime ministers from online newspapers and video.

- Next, the collected speeches are manually coded to list out all the expressions of the two types IGMs of mood and IGMs of modality. In fact, I myself have to read all the collected speeches to identify the IGMs expressions used in the speeches.

- Then, the software WordSmith 5.0 is used to search for and measure the numbers of each subcategory of IGMs of mood and of modality in the corpora, to know how the IGMs occur in the speeches and to have data for the quantitative analysis.

- Finally, the statistical data collected from the quantitative analysis above is deployed and analyzed to compare the use of IGMs in APS and BPS.

In Table 3.2, the APS consists of 58 speeches delivered by the four American Presidents: Bush Junior (US01 in the period from 2001 to 2004), Bill Clinton (US02 in the period from 1993 to 1998), Barack Obama (US03 in the period from 2005 to 2009) and Ronald Reagan (US04 in the period from 1981 to 1992) in the size of 191,316 words. Likewise, the BPS consists of 44 speeches delivered by the four UK Prime Ministers: Tony Blair (UK01 in the period from 1999 to 2007), Gordon Brown (UK02 in the years from 2007 to 2010), David Cameron (UK03 in the two years 2010 and 2011) and Margaret Thatcher (UK04 in the period from 1975 to 1989) in the size of 197,479 words.

3.4. DATA ANALYSIS

The analysis of the data is carried out in the following process to produce both quantitative and qualitative information for the research of IGM.

- The samples in APS and BPS are examined and coded manually to identify the IGMS expressions by reading all the collected speeches in the two corpora.

- The IGMS expressions then categorized into two groups: metaphor of mood (MMd) expressions and metaphor of modality (MMy) expressions according to the linguistics features of the two types of IGMs (as I have presented in Section 2.2.5) to use for an automatic search.

- The software Wordsmith 5.0 is used to identify the IGMs instances and provide statistical information of each subcategory of IGMs in each corpus.

- The statistical data collected from the automatic analysis is used for the quantitative analysis to define the distribution of each element of IGMs in APS and BPS.

- The result from the quantitative analysis is used for the qualitative analysis in choosing suitable utterances from the two corpora to analyze and compare the use of IGMs between American politicians (Aps) and British politicians (BPs) in their speeches to find out the semantic and pragmatic aspects of IGMs in PSs.

3.5. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

This study with the use of a corpus linguistics method is guaranteed in the reliability and validity because:

- Firstly, the data source is collected from American and British politicians' speeches so it is quite native and real- life language .

- Next, the corpus based method with its principle and its advantages gives us objective and authentic results.

- Also, the IGMs expressions collected from the corpora are used in many different real-life context and in different situations.

- In addition, corpus method is a computerized tool, so the result given from it is not only in a very short time but automatic and accurate.

In summary, I am sure that the data, the method and the result of this thesis is believable and assured.

3.6. SUMMARY

Chapter 3 describes research methodology of the thesis and the steps the samples were collected. Additionally, the procedures for data analysis and reliability and validity are also presented in this chapter as that the foundation for detailed findings and discussion in Chapter 4 can be carried out.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. TYPES OF INTERPERSONAL GRAMMATICAL METAPHORS EMPLOYED IN POLITICAL SPEECHES BY AMERICAN AND BRITISH POLITICIANS

4.1.1. Metaphor of modality

4.1.1.1. Metaphorical realizations of probability (MRoP)

- a. MRoP high value with subjective explicit*
- b. MRoP median value with subjective explicit*
- c. MRoP low value with subjective explicit*
- d. MRoP high value with objective explicit*
- e. MRoP median value with objective explicit*
- f. MRoP low value with objective explicit*

In sum, there are six types of MRoP employed in the political speeches used in research data.

4.1.1.2. Metaphorical realizations of usability (MRoU)

- a. MRoU high value*

There is no data of MRoU high value found in the research corpora.

- b. MRoU median value*
- c. MRoU low value*

There are only four instances of metaphorical realizations of low value usability, four instances of median value and no instances of high value are found in the research data.

4.1.1.3. Metaphor of obligation

- a. MRoOb high value with subjective explicit*
- b. MRoOb median value with subjective explicit*
- c. MRoOb low value with subjective explicit*

- d. *MROb high value with objective explicit*
- e. *MROb median value with objective explicit*
- f. *MROb low value with objective explicit*

Among six types of MROb there are three types: MROb high value using subjective explicit, MROb median value using subjective explicit and MROb high value using objective explicit found in the corpora.

4.1.1.4. Metaphorical realizations of inclination(MRoI)

- a. *MROI high value*
- b. *MROI median value*
- c. *MROI low value*

Among the three types of MRoI, the MRoI high value has the highest occurrence. MRoI median value comes second in the row and MRoI low value is the least.

4.1.2. Types of metaphor of mood employed in political speeches by American and British politicians

4.1.2.1. Metaphorical realizations of Command (MRoC)

- a. *MROc expressed by modulated interrogative mood*
- b. *MROc expressed by declarative mood*

There are only 35 occurrences of command expressed by modulated interrogative mood in both APS and BPS (11 and 24 respectively), there are up to 1088 instances of command expressed by declarative mood found in the research data. The statistic data reveals the fact that Aps tend to prefer giving command to hearer(s) than Bps.

4.1.2.2. Metaphorical realizations of Statement(MRoS)

- a. *MROs expressed by interrogative mood*
- b. *MROs expressed by tagged declarative mood*

It can be noted that both Aps and Bps tend not to use many

MROS expressed by interrogative and tagged declarative to express the senses of statement.

4.1.2.3. Metaphorical realizations of Question(MRoQ)

a. MRoQ expressed by modulated declarative

There are only six occurrences found in the corpora.

4.1.2.4. Metaphorical realizations of Offer (MRoOf)

a. MRoOf expressed by declarative mood

b. MRoOf expressed by imperative mood

MRoOf is the largest type of IGMs employed by Aps and Bps in PSs used in the research. Among the 1389 instances, 976 occurrences belong to the MRoOf expressed by declarative mood, nearly twice as many as MRoOf expressed by imperative mood which has 413 instances.

4.2. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF IGM USED IN AMERICAN AND BRITISH POLITICAL SPEECHES

4.2.1. Judgement and confidence

4.2.1.1. Certain judgement

In PSs collected in the research corpuses, speakers use MRoP high value to express their certain judgments about the events mentioned in utterances. The projecting clauses used in MRoP are identified as giving speaker's certain judgments of an event/ a problem or a country's future. It is interesting that, both Aps and Bps use a lot of MRoPs with subjects *I* and *we*. It can be explained that the politicians are very confident of the possibility of the events and actions presented in the utterances. Moreover, they tend to prefer to express their confidence to hearer(s) with very specific communicative purposes.

4.2.1.2. Neutral judgement

In PSs, neutral judgement is realized by the MRoP subjective explicit with median value. This type of metaphor reveals that there is an unsure of the truth and the possibility of the events uttered in the speakers' utterance. The frequencies of MRoP median value are almost equal with 89 instances found in APS and 97 found in BPS.

4.2.1.3. Objective judgment

To express judgements objectively, politicians use the MRoP objective explicit with impersonal subjects. From the frequencies of subjective judgement found in the research data, it can be argued that both American politicians and British politicians are too confident to express their judgement objectively.

4.2.2. Command and social power

4.2.2.1. Strong command

With more than one thousand instances expressing strong command, it cannot be denied that both Aps and Bps give many strong commands using declarative mood in their PSs. Surprisingly, the data collected from APS and BPS shows that, American politicians use almost double command expressed by IGMs than British politicians do, accounting for 692 instances and 396 instances respectively. The statistic data shows that Aps tend to be more determined and powerful than Bps.

4.2.2.2. Neutral command

The neutral command used in both APS and BPS is much less than the strong command with 323 instances in comparison to 800 respectively. The statistic data reveals that politicians tend to assert their social power, social distance to the hearers through strong command by using metaphor of mood. Neutral command is used to make the hearers feel comfortable and have a sense of a close

relationship. Hence, to achieve their communicative purposes different types of command will be employed in political speeches.

4.2.3. Commitment, willingness and responsibility

4.2.3.1. Strong commitment

There are 976 instances expressing strong commitment found in the two corpuses APS and BPS. The data shows that both Aps and Bps give a lot of strong commitments to their hearers using MRoO expressed by declarative mood. As observed in the two research corpora, MRoO expressed by declarative mood occurs with the higher frequencies in APS with 548 instances out of 976 instances found, and the left 428 instances belongs to BPS.

4.2.3.2. Strong willingness

The data collected in the research corpora show that Bps employ more strong willingness expressions than Aps do. This can be explained that BPs appear to be more confident and willing to express their personal enthusiasm for doing things for people and country. The statistic shows that both Aps and Bps prefer to use an inclusive pronoun to express their willingness. The pattern are used to emphasize the speakers' persuasion of desiring the hearers' cooperation with them in performing the event mentioned in their utterances. Moreover, the use of pattern *let us* in political speeches gives hearers the feeling of wanting to contribute to and share the responsibility to build a better country, to have a brighter future.

4.3. PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF IGM USED IN AMERICAN AND BRITISH POLITICAL SPEECHES

4.3.1. MRoP expressing confidence

The high frequency of MRoP employed in political speeches in this research show that the politicians are always confident in

themselves, in their ability to make what they wish come true, in their leader skills. Moreover, they want to convey the faith to hearers to give them the belief in a good and successful future.

4.3.2. MRoOf expressing responsibility

With the use of MRoOf and MRoI, speaker is attempting to persuade hearer and to show their high responsibility, their ability to take responsibility for leading a country.

4.3.3. MRoMd expressing social power

Employing MRoC by declarative mood can help speaker express their power, the social distance to hearer.

4.3.4. IGMs expressing the solidarity

A lot of IGMs using inclusive pattern *we, it* is used to express the solidarity. The subjects give the sense of cooperation between speaker and hearer(s). Moreover, it gives hearer(s) the sense of belonging to the same social group with speaker. It shortens the social distance and creates the cooperative and friendly atmosphere between speaker and hearer(s).

4.3.5. IGMs saving hearers' face

Different types of IGMs are used to reduce the impositions from the speaker to hearers and minimize the threat to the hearers' face. . By sharing their care, respect and solidarity, speaker express the hope to shorten the social distance between them and the hearers; hence, create a closer relationship and atmosphere.

4.4. THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES IN THE USE OF IMGS OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH POLITICIANS

4.4.1. The similarities in the use of IGMs in American and British political speeches.

4.4.2. The differences in the use of IGMs in American and British political speeches

4.4.2.1. The differences in using IGMs to express probability

Comparison of the frequency use of MRoP in APS and BPS shows that British politicians use more MRoP to express the judgements about the likelihood of event or action presented in utterance than American politicians. The higher frequencies employed in BPS indicates that British politicians are quite more confident of judging events or actions than American politicians. They tend to express their personal confidence and judgements on the possibility for the performance of the event presented more easily than their peers in America.

4.4.2.2. The differences in using IGMs to express obligation

The frequencies of other types of MRoOb found in APS are much higher than in BPS. Therefore, it can be concluded that Aps prefer to impose strong obligation on hearer(s) directly and powerfully than Bps.

4.4.2.3. The differences in using IGMs to express command

In sum, with the social position of a country's leader, both American president and British prime minister prefer to give a lot of commands to hearer(s). But the frequencies of MRoC found in the research corpora shows that American politicians are stronger and more determined than British politicians in giving commands

CHAPTER 5.

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSIONS

After analyzing 112 speeches collected from four American presidents and four British prime ministers, there are a wide range of categories of IGMs found in PSs ranging from MRoP, MRoU, MRoOb, MRoI, MoC, MoOf, MoQ, MoS. Although there are some types of IGMs which are not found in PSs in the research corpora such as MRoU high value, MRoOb low value with subjective explicit, MRoOb median value with objective explicit, MRoOb low value with objective explicit and MRoQ expressed by imperative, the other types such as MRoP high value with subjective explicit, MRoP median value with subjective explicit, MRoOb high value with subjective explicit, MRoI high value, MRoC expressed by declarative mood are employed with very high frequencies by both APS and BPS. And the other types such as MRoU median value, MRoU low value, MRoP low value with subjective explicit, MRoP high value with objective explicit, MRoP median value with objective explicit, MRoP low value with objective explicit, MRoI median value, MRoI low value, MoC expressed by modulated interrogative, both types of MoS, MoQ expressed by declarative all appear in a very low frequencies in both research corpora.

Semantically, IGMs carry a wide range of meanings implied by both American and British politicians in their PSs. This thesis focuses on three main aspects of the semantic features of IGMs in political speeches. The first is judgement and confidence. The finding shows that politicians use all the six types of MRoP to express their judgements about the performance of event presented in the

utterance. Through the use of different projecting clauses in each type of MRoP, the speaker expresses confidence to what he/she is presenting. In this aspect, British politicians tend to be more confident than American politicians when they use a lot of instances of MRoP, especially MRoP subjective explicit high value to express their judgements. The second semantic aspect is command and social power. To express command, both Aps and Bps employ a considerable number of commands expressed by declarative mood. The variety of expressions used to express commands in declarative mood reveals the social power and social distance of speaker to hearer. In this aspect, American politicians tend to be more powerful and stronger when they use a lot of MRoC to give command to hearer(s). The last one regarding to commitment, willingness and responsibility. Both American and British express many strong commitments to hearers by using the MRoOf expressed by the declarative mood. The politicians employ many MRoOf expressed by imperative mood to convey their willingness to do their best for their country, for people and the world. With the same goal to persuade hearer(s), in the aspects of commitment and willingness, there is not much difference between Aps and Bps when the frequencies employed in both corpora are nearly the same.

Regarding to pragmatic features, in PSs, IGMs are used to build and maintain a friendly relationship between speakers and hearers when speakers use MRoP to express their confidence, use MRoOf to convey their responsibility. To express command, instead of using imperative mood which could lose hearers' faces, politicians use the MRoC expressed by declarative and interrogative mood to soften the commands, save the hearers' faces and reduce the social distance

between them but still show hearer(s) their higher social power. Hence, MRoC is used to express both social power and the solidarity from speakers to hearer(s). Furthermore, plural personal subject *we* and impersonal subject *it/there/etc.* are also used to maintain a close, friendly atmosphere between speakers and hearers.

In conclusion, although there are many similarities in types, semantic and pragmatic features of IGMs used in both American and British political speeches, the difference in the frequency of some types of IGMs employed in each research corpus shows us the differences in the use of IGMs of American politicians and British politicians. The statistic found in the research shows that American politicians are more interested in using types of IMGs subjective explicit high value with first personal pronoun *I* than British politicians. This means that American politicians prefer to express events and actions presented in their utterances more powerfully and determinedly when giving political speeches than British politicians.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

The study can have the following implications:

Firstly, the exploration of types of IMGs used in political speeches has made a small contribution to identifying and understanding of the use of IGMs in spoken English.

Secondly, the findings of semantic and pragmatic features of IGMs used in the data in this thesis are expected to help language users have a better insight into the linguistic features of IGMs when using in PSs by native English speakers at the SFG level.

Thirdly, the findings of the similarities and differences between the use of IGMs of American and British speakers hope to help

language learner have a better understanding of the use of IGMs in American English and British English.

Finally, this thesis is supposed to be source of useful knowledge which can supply anyone who has interest in practical application in using IGMs in reading and writing political speeches.

5.3. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Because of the limit of time and knowledge of the researcher, this study has a number of limitations despite the fact that the researcher has tried best. The first problem is as Halliday and his followers have claimed that IGMs is not a linguistic device that can be identified clearly and easily; hence, mistakes may be made during the research. Next, only the speeches of four American Presidents and four British Prime Ministers from the year 1975 to 2011 employed in analyzing. Thus, speeches from other periods of time are not included in this study, and this may cause some limitations in the use of IGMs in modern English. Moreover, the size of the corpora is not large enough to cover all the cases of IGMs used in political speeches. In addition, the study concerns the comparison between the language features of IGMs in speeches by American and British politicians only; therefore, it seems that the research cannot demonstrate throughout the distinctive features of English in general.

5.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

This current study is restricted in exploring only IGMs under the umbrella of the SFG. Moreover, due to the limitation of time and ability, the thesis is only limited to the study on the types, semantic and pragmatic features of IGMs. PSs with their very unique features are interesting linguistic source to carry out many other linguistic

studies. Hence, I would like to recommend analyses on other interesting aspects that need further research, such as:

- A study on ideational grammatical metaphors in political speeches
- An investigation into syntactic features of IGMs in political speeches