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A STUDY ON SYNTACTIC, SEMANTIC AND PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF EXAGGERATION IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

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M.A THESIS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

(A SUMMARY)

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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALES

Exaggeration which is commonly heard within conversation or seen in short stories, also goes beyond what is truthful and accurate. People talk about having "*a million things to do*". What is said and what is meant are very often two different things – by saying they have "a million things to do" they probably mean they have a considerable amount of work to do; additionally, they may be unhappy about being so busy, or that they are feeling the pressure of the amount of work they have. Exaggeration appears frequently in conversation, in discourse as well as in short stories.

Furthermore, exaggeration can be used in short stories to emphasize or dramatize a person's opinion or emotion as in "*I can't live without him. I'd sooner kill myself*" [43, p.35]

We can find that exaggeration appears in English and Vietnamese with a high frequency. It creates a satisfactory feeling when exaggeration is understood. However, it is uneasy for readers or listeners especially for Vietnamese learners of English to identify, understand and use. Therefore, I choose the topic "A study on Syntactic, Semantic and Pragmatic Features of Exaggeration in English and Vietnamese" for my thesis.

1.2. JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

The thesis is designed to study the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic characteristics of English and Vietnamese exaggeration. . On this ground, the thesis analyzes the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese. In

practice, the study aims to supply some implications to language teaching and learning. It is hoped that the practical information can provide teachers and Vietnamese learners of English with various ways of expressing exaggeration. At the same time, it also helps students, learners identify and use exaggeration so that they can communicate more successfully in real life language interaction.

1.3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.3.1 Aims

This study is aimed at finding the similarities and differences in English and Vietnamese in terms of syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features.

The findings of the research are expected to improve the ability to use exaggerated expressions effectively; particularly, in the teaching and learning of English and Vietnamese as a foreign language.

1.3.2 Objectives

- To identify, describe and present the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese.

- To compare and contrast the features mentioned above to clarify the similarities and differences of the two languages in this field.

- To suggest some implications for using exaggeration successfully

1.4. SCOPE OF THE PRESENT STUDY

I will concentrate on the analysis of the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of exaggeration in daily conversations, short stories and novels in the hope of finding out the similarities and

differences in English and Vietnamese, and then to provide some practical suggestions for teaching and learning these two languages.

1.5. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What are the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese?

- What are the similarities and differences of exaggeration used in English and Vietnamese?

- What are some suggestions for the language teaching and learning as well as language used in everyday speech?

1.6 HYPOTHESIS

- English and Vietnamese have a wide range of exaggerating expressions

- There are some differences and similarities in using exaggerating expressions in English and Vietnamese.

1.7. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Literature Review and Theoretical Background

Chapter 3: Methodology and Procedures

Chapter 4: Findings and Discussions.

Chapter 5: Conclusions and Implications.

CHAPTER 2
LITERATURE REVIEW
AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 PREVIOUS STUDIES RELATED TO THE TOPIC

H.P.Grice in his theory on the logic of conversation. suggested the Cooperative Principle(CP) which is a basis of conversational analysis .

Austin (1962) in the book "**How to do things with words"** presented the speech act theory. Austin claims that an utterance consists of 3 types of acts: locutionary act, illocutionary act and perlocutionary act. He also made distinctions between illocutionary and perlocutionary acts. However, the perlocutionary act is more suitable for exaggeration than illocutionary one. Therefore, speech act theory is very useful for studying and understanding exaggeration.

In addition, Galperin [5, p.176] gave a definition of hyperbole and he distinguish the little difference between hyperbole and mere exaggeration.

Penelope Brown and Stephen C. Levinson give their definitions of positive and negative politeness

Furthermore, in scientific research article **"At the risk of exaggeration: how do listeners react to hyperbole?"**, Mora (2003) provides a general framework for the description and understanding of exaggeration in interaction.

A more recent ray of light in exaggeration research came from the experimental psychology research area, with an investigation by Kreuz, et al. (1998)..

Joan Cutting [9, p.37, 72] presents theory which the speaker flouting the maxim of quality by exaggerating as in "*I could eat a horse*".

In Vietnamese, exaggeration has been dealt with by many Vietnamese linguists such as Đinh Trọng Lạc, Nguyễn Thái Hòa, Cù Đình Tú, Hoàng Tất Thắng, and so on.All these authors consider hyperbole as a stylistic device used to express various meanings.

In "**Để Tiếng Việt ngày càng trong sáng** ", Phan Hồng Liên emphasizes that exaggeration is the way using means of language to draw attention and to make a strong impression. He also states that Vietnamese people usually use words denoting the parts of human body such as *"Buồn nẫu ruột", "Nói vỗ vào mặt"*… She assumes that exaggeration is somewhat related to simile. [32, p.106-111]

Nguyễn Thị Thảo (2005) investigates ways of expressing absolute meanings in English and Vietnamese , gives a definition of exaggeration (hyperbole) and considers hyperbole as a way of expressing absolute meanings effectively .

Phan Thị Uyên Uyên (2006) deals with exaggeration as one of the commonly used stylistic devices in advertising language in newspaper.

 Unsolved problem

The comparison and contrast of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese conversations and short stories have not received appropriate attention of linguists. Therefore, this study attempts to discover exaggeration in three aspects (syntax, semantics and pragmatics) with comparison and contrast in English and Vietnamese everyday conversations, poetry and short stories.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1 Definition of term

If we understand simply, "*exaggeration is representation of something as greater than it really is*" (Oxford English Dictionary) [20, p.138]

According to Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, "*exaggeration means the describing of something and making it more than it really is*". Similarly, WordNetSearch.edu gives the following definition of exaggeration: "*Exaggeration is the act of making something more noticeable than unusual* "

Cano Mora [3, p.14] defined exaggeration as "*A form of extremity that either magnifies or minimizes some real state of affairs. Exaggerated expressions has traditionally been thought of as overstated stimulacrums of reality*".

In Vietnamese, Đinh Trọng Lạc says that " *Phóng đại là dùng từ ngữ hoặc cách diễn đạt để nâng lên gấp nhiều lần những thuộc tính của khách thể hoặc hiện tượng nhằm mục đích làm nổi bật bản chất của đối tượng cần miêu tả, gây ấn tượng đặc biệt mạnh mẽ* "

(Exaggeration is using words or expressions several times to multiply the properties of the object or phenomenon. It aims to highlight the nature of the object which need describing, and to make particularly strong impression)

Based on the above definitions, the exaggeration is defined in this paper as "*Exaggeration is deliberate overstatement of a feature essential to the object or phenomenon to produce a strong impression or to draw attention. Exaggeration is closely associated with TRUTH, or rather going beyond TRUTH.*"

2.2.2 Stylistic Devices

Stylistics - one of the branches of General Linguistics – studies the nature, functions, and structure of stylistic devices. According to Galperin [5], stylistics observes not only the nature of an expressive means but also its potential capacity of being a stylistic device.

Galperin defines that a stylistic device is "*a conscious and intentional literary use of some of the fact of the language (including expressive means) in which the most essential features (both structural and semantic) of the language forms are rised to a generalized level and thereby present a gernerative model*" [5, p.26]

2.2.3 Figurative Aspects of Exaggeration

Hyperbole is not only non- literal but often has figurative or metaphorical aspects associated with it, for example in phrases like "*books coming out of my ears", "laugh my head off*", etc. Figurative and non- literal speech is a common part of our everyday conversations and interactions. Other figurative language research has also assessed hyperbole and the reasons why it is used. [13, p113]

2.2.4 Exaggeration and Politeness Theory

Brown and Levinson provide a slightly different perspective on politeness phenomena. They point out that many speech acts are Face Threatening Acts (FTA), those which are some way threatening to either, the speaker's or hearer's face.

Nguyen Quang [18, p.11,24,88] in the light of cross-cultural communication, presents conceptualization of politeness: "***Positive politeness** is any kind of behavior that is intentionally and appropriately meant to show the speaker's concern to the addressee, thus, enhancing the sense of solidarity between them.* " and

"***Negative politeness** is any kind of behavior that is intentionally and appropriately meant to show the speaker does not want to impinge on the addressee's privacy, thus, maintaining the sense of distance between them.* "

Brown & Levinson (1987) recognized that exaggeration is an essential part of positive politeness and going off record in their treatment of linguistic politeness. Social factors are the most apparent in the uses of exaggeration for politeness.

2.2.5 Grice and Conversational Implicature

H. P. Grice in his theory on the logic of conversation. He suggested that conversation follows a Cooperative Principle (CP)

When introducing these maxims, he points out that they are not always strictly followed by speakers. We sometimes violate the maxims when we communicate. Thus, if someone purposely flouts one or more of the above maxims and remains within the CP, they set up a different meaning, or implicature. In the case of exaggeration, it is the Maxim of Quality and Quantity that is normally flouted by saying what is obviously untrue.

It may be necessary to investigate factors that may influence the production of exaggeration as well as linguistic features of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese.

2.2.6 Exaggeration as the Violation of CP

By flouting this maxim, say by exaggerating, speaker can convey a different meaning. Let us take into consideration this utterance of simple exaggeration: *He's got tons of money.*

2.2.7 Exaggeration and other linguistic units

2.2.7.1 Exaggeration and Lie

Lie is the deliberate act of deviating from the truth. Accordingly, both lie and exaggeration are the act of magnifying more than the truth. Along with the purpose, the nature of exaggeration, lie is used to deceive other people. Otherwise, "*exaggeration is inflation beyond the limits of truth and making something seem larger, better, worse, etc., than it really is*" (Longman, 1999). Exaggeration is aimed to make the hearer/ reader pay more attention to and understand more deeply what the speaker/writer's intention.

*(2) Your kindness **will impress on my heart to grave**, say I*

[23, p.111]

2.3.7.2 Exaggeration and Litotes

In stylisics, litotes is a figure of speech in which, rather than making a certain statement directly, the speaker expresses it even more effectively, or achieves emphasis, by denying its opposite.. Litotes is nearly the opposite form of exaggeration.

2.3.7.3 Exaggeration and Simile

Simile, in English and Vietnamese is a very common poetic device, and also occurs frequently in everyday language. Many experiences, feelings, and ideas are difficult to express in words. Therefore similes are used to express them.

Exaggeration is a type of figurative language. Exaggeration also compares two objects to make something greater than it really is. For example, if you say "*my cat is as big as a house*" or "*She was as brave as a lion*", you would be exaggerating. This is also a simile, which is exaggerated to create a strong impression on the hearer.

2.2.7.4 Exaggeration and Irony

Once using irony, speakers/ writers do not use it unconsciously. Irony has a strong power of expressive and therefore through it many writers proved that a pen is mightier than a sword.

Irony does not cause a humorous effect.. Phan Hong Lien analysed clearly using exaggeration to mock everybody " *Cảm ơn tiên sinh, tiên sinh cứ dạy quá lời*". The hearer knows that he/ she is not "tiên sinh" and the ironic utterance implies a negative meaning. It creates the opposite meanings compared with its environment. She also distingwishs the difference between exaggeration and irony.

(6) *Mr Henry often helped us with hard work in difficult moments. We regarded him **as superhuman**.* [23, p.78]

2.3.8 Speech Act

Levinson [16, p.226] claims: "*Of all the issues in the general theory of language usage, speech act theory has probably aroused the widest interest*"

According to Yule, "*Actions performed via utterances are generally call speech acts*". Austin [1] defines speech acts as the actions performed in saying something

They also stated three speech acts performed by producing an utterance:

a. Locutionay Act:

b. Illocutionary Act

c. Perlocutionary Act:

(7) *I **feel a hundred times more thankful** than I do* [56, p.78]

(8) *His speech was **endless**. Most of people felt asleep.*

[59, p.36]

Furthermore, Searle classified speech acts into functions: declarations, representatives, expressives, directives and commissives.

Perlocutionary act is used for exaggeration more than illocutionary one. Therefore, my paper pays attention to perlocutionary utterances.

CHAPTER 3
METHOD AND PROCEDURE
3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN AND RESEARCH METHOD

This research is conducted using the Qualitive and Descriptive methods to achieve the aims and objectives specified in chapter 1.

3.2 RESEARCH PROCEDURES

- Choosing the topic to investigate by reviewing the previous studies carefully

.- Choosing the relevant materials (books, researches and thesis) and research articles, extracting exaggerating expressions from film scripts in English and Vietnamese

- Calculating the frequency of occurrence.

- Generalizing and identifying the similarities and differences between two languages of exaggeration in the fields of syntax, semantics and pragmatics.

- Making tables and calculating the frequency of occurrence.

- Suggesting some implications for teaching and learning of exaggeration.

3.3 DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLES

In order to survey samples of thesis, the study is focused to reach 1000 samples of English and Vietnamese exaggeration.

3.4 DATA COLLECTION

The data collection consists of samples obtained from various sources in different languages: English and Vietnamese.

3.5 DATA ANALYSIS

In this study, the reviewed existing theories serve as a basis of the data analysis. Particular is paid to analyzing and categorizing the data syntactically, semantically and pragmatically.

3.6 RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

Reliability and validity are two most important criteria to guarantee the quality of the data collection procedures.

CHAPTER 4
FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 The Syntactic Features of Exaggeration in English and Vietnamese

4.1.1 Syntactic features of Exaggeration in English

Table 4.1. A summary of English exaggeration in syntactic

Noun Phrase	Simple N	
	Adj + N	
	N + Prep + Adj + N	
	N + N	
Adjective Phrase	Simple Adj	
	Present/ Past Participle	
	N + Adj	
	Adj + PP	
Verb Phrase	V + N	
	V + N + PP	
	V + Prep + NP	
	V + N + Adj	
Adverb Phrase	Simple Adv	
	Adv + Adv	
Prepositional Phrase	Prep + NP	
Clause Structure	Clause of Comparison	S1 + V + As + Adj/ Adv + As + S2
		S1 + V+ Comp Adj/ Adv + Than + S2
		Nothing + V + Comp Adj + Than + S2
		S1 + V + The superlative Adj/Adv + N + PP
	Noun Clause	

4.1.2 Syntactic features of Exaggeration in Vietnamese

Table 4.2. A summary of Vietnamese exaggeration in syntactic patterns

Noun Phrase	Compound N
	Pre-modifier + H Noun
	Head N + Post-modifier
Adjective Phrase	Adj Compound
	Head Adj + Post-Modifier
	Pre-modifier + Head Adj
	Pre-modifier + Head Adj + Post-modifier
Verb Phrase	Simple V
	Pre-modifier + Head V
	Head V + Post-modifier
	Pre-modifier + Head V + Post-modifier
Exaggerating Clauses of Comparison	S + V + Adv/ Adj + tới mức/ đến/ đến mức + Clause
	S + Adj + bằng / bằng cả/ như + Clause
	S + Adj+ đến vô cùng
	S + V + N + Adj + nhất
Exaggerating Clauses of Result	S + V + Adv/ Adj + tới mức/ đến/ đến mức + Clause

4.1.3 Summary

This part showed how exaggerating expressions behave syntactically into common patterns: phrases and clauses. The results of analysis indicate that exaggerations in English and Vietnamese are similar to each other in form. Both English and Vietnamese possess a system of exaggeration words such as adjectives, nouns, adverbs. Besides, we can see exaggeration appearing in phrases: adjective phrases, noun phrases, verb phrases.

However, exaggerations in English and Vietnamese are not completely similar in syntactic patterns. It is discovered that there is no case of exaggeration in prepositional phrases and adverb phrases. The study also reveals that exaggeration by means of a single verb is absent in English. Moreover, noun clauses appear in English exaggeration while no examples of exaggerating noun clauses can be found in Vietnamese. In contrast, exaggerating clauses of result don't appear in English.

4.2 The Semantic Features of Exaggeration in English and Vietnamese

We can realize that exaggeration can be categorized into the following topics:

4.2.1 Exaggeration of Sadness

4.2.2 Exaggeration of Happiness

4.2.3 Exaggeration of Anger

4.2.4 Exaggeration of Suffering

4.2.5 Exaggeration of Wish

4.2.6 Exaggeration of Quality of People/ Things

4.2.7 Exaggeration of Love

4.2.8 Exaggeration of Strength

4.2.9 Exaggeration of Value, Quantity

4.2.10 Exaggeration of Poverty

4.2.11 Exaggeration of Appearance

4.2.12 Exaggeration of Beauty

4.2.13 Exaggeration of Ugliness

4.2.14 Exaggeration of Sexuality

4.2.15 Exaggeration of Tiredness

4.2.16 Exaggeration of Movement

4.2.17 Summary

In summary, this research has analyzed the semantic features of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese The semantic features of exaggeration are shown in table 4.3 below where all the features have been categorized into common topics.

Based on an analysis of exaggeration of various aspects such as love, appearance, beauty, sex, and others, this part of the study shows the importance of culture in language Exaggeration in both languages can be categorized into 16 groups that mention 16 interesting topics. From our data corpus in English and Vietnamese, Exaggeration of Tiredness and Poverty cannot be found in English.

Table 4.3 Frequency of Semantic Features of Exaggeration in

English and Vietnamese

Semantic Type	English		Vietnamese	
	Occurrence	Percentage	Occurrence	Percentage
Sadness	78	15.6%	72	14.4%
Happiness	102	20.4%	105	21%
Anger	46	11.2%	59	11.8%
Sufering	38	7.6%	33	6.6%
Wish	17	3.4%	12	2.4%
Quality of People/ Things	12	2.4%	18	3.6%
Love	97	19.4%	65	13%
Strength	25	5%	38	7.6%
Value/ Quantity	8	1.6%	11	2.2%
Poverty	0	0%	8	1.6%
Appearance	26	5.2%	28	5.6%
Beauty	18	3.6%	0	0%
Ugliness	11	2.2%	11	2.2%
Sexuality	10	2%	12	2.4%
Tiredness	0	0%	8	1.6%
Movement	12	2.4%	20	4%
Total	500	100%	500	100%

4.3 Pragmatic Features of Exaggeration in English and Vietnamese

4.3.1. Exaggeration of Emphasis or Highlight

4.3.2. Exaggeration of Humor

4.3.3. Exaggeration of Showing Compliment

4.3.4. Exaggeration of Showing Complaint

4.3.5. Exaggeration of Sympathy

4.3.6. Exaggeration of Thanking

4.3.7. Exaggeration of Irony

4.3.8. Exaggeration of Interest

Table 4.4 Frequency of Pragmatic Features of Exaggeration in

English and Vietnamese

Pragmatic Function	English		Vietnamese	
	Occurrence	Percentage	Occurrence	Percentage
Emphasis or Highlight	112	22.4%	98	19.6%
Humor	60	12%	75	15%
Compliment	39	7.8%	34	6.8%
Complaint	44	8.8%	37	7.4%
Sympathy	0	0%	28	5.6%
Thanking	28	5.6%	0	0%
Irony	96	19.2%	126	25.2%
Interest	121	24.2%	102	20.4%
Total	500	100%	500	100%

4.3.9 Summary

So far in this part, I have studied exaggeration in term of pragmatics in English and Vietnamese. There are both similarities and differences between English and Vietnamese exaggeration. They both use exaggeration of highlight, humor, compliment, complaint, irony and interest as shown in table 4.3

It seems that there are no big, considerable differences between English and Vietnamese exaggeration. Exaggeration of thanking can appear in English since it could not be found in Vietnamese. In contrast, we cannot find exaggeration of sympathy in English from the data. Besides, the differences between them lie in their frequency. Table 4.4 also points out that there is a significant difference in the distribution of exaggeration creating ironic effect in English and Vietnamese. 19,2% of English exaggeration investigated show this purpose. Meanwhile, 25,2% of Vietnamese exaggeration are found in creating ironic effect. In English, the exaggeration of humor and showing compliment are nearly evenly distributed.

CHAPTER 5
CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS
5.1 SUMMARY OF THE STUDY OF EXAGGERATION IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

As it was presented in the four previous chapters, the study involves descriptive and contrastive study of syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese.

It is possible to conclude from the findings of the thesis that there is, in short stories and in daily conversations, a tendency of employing exaggeration in order to make impressions, and to attract the attention of the readers or the listeners.

5.1.1 Similarities

Basically, exaggerations in Vietnamese and English share many characteristics in common.

Firstly, in terms of syntax, most of the exaggerating expressions in English and Vietnamese are expressed through noun phrases, verb phrases and adjective phrases.

Secondly, in term of pragmatics, exaggerating structures are used with the same purposes of showing emphasis, compliments, criticisms, irony, etc. as well as showing emphasis is the highest frequency in both languages.

Thirdly, the semantic features of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese are expressed in the same topics such as sadness, happiness, anger, suffering, love…

5.1.2 Differences

Syntactically, while in English, exaggeration tends to be recognized in the form of prepositional phrases, adverb phrases, in Vietnamese this form are not in use. Another difference is that, while

in Vietnamese, exaggeration appears in superlative form with "đến vô cùng" and Clauses of Result with "tới mức", "đến mức" is common, these structures are not found in English.

It is clear that in two languages, the order of the frequency from the largest percentage to the smallest is rather similar. However, there is a difference in percentage of each structure. In English, for instance, the percentage of the topic "love" is larger than that in Vietnamese, 19.4% of the former compared with 13% of the latter. In English corpus, we do not discover any exaggeration on tiredness and poverty. In contrast, exaggeration of wish and beauty are not found in Vietnamese.

Pragmatically, differences exist between English and Vietnamese exaggeration. English employs a number of exaggerations to show thanking. Meanwhile, among all of exaggerations investigated, there has not been any exaggeration found in Vietnamese to express this function. Morever, while showing sympathy is a popular function of exaggeration in Vietnamese, this function is not found in English.

5.2 CONCLUSION

Exaggeration is a very essential and important device, which is used to produce emotional, artistic effects on the hearers or readers. Its aesthetic value is hardly disputed. It cannot be denied that exaggeration is a device which sharpens the reader's ability to make a logical assessment of the utterance. Exaggeration is a common and prevalent phenomenon, often being used in ordinary conversational situations and readily understood and interpreted.

Through studying between different languages and cultures to see whether the same phenomenon exists and to show ultimately that exaggeration is a universal phenomenon.

The result analysis and discussion also gives an overview that most exaggerating expressions in English can be translated into Vietnamese, however, they are transformed by some ways having the similarities and differences, especially in the form of languages, cultures and society.

5.3 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING AND TEACHING

The English language learning and teaching cannot ignore exaggeration, a common phenomenon in language. Through the study of exaggeration in English and Vietnamese, we hope that the study will be part of contribution to the process of teaching and learning English. Therefore, we should suggest some useful implications for learning and teaching English as a foreign language.

5.3.1 Problems in Foreign Language Teaching and Learning

In reality, learning to interpret and express exaggeration seems to be a difficult task for Vietnamese learners of English. Exaggeration can present interesting challenges to the readers. The comprehension process involves not only identifying the possible interpretation through analyzing the syntactic structure, but also using contextual clues to eliminate some interpretations.

5.3.2 Suggestions for Language Teaching and Learning

Exaggeration, a common phenomenon in language, is obviously a necessary part in English language learning and

teaching . For this reason, we hope that the results of this study will be partial contribution to the improvement of teaching and learning English. In other words, I'd like to put forward some the following suggestions, which might be applicable in language teaching and learning.

For teacher, I think that the effective use of language and communication with exaggeration, whatever in linguistic form or function must be taught or learned, the linguistic form, context appropriateness must be introduced all together. With the aim of helping learners of English to write as well as to communicate effectively, teachers should draw their attention to subtle topics of everyday life and provide them with a considerable number of exaggeration. Futhermore, there is difference between what is stated and what is really meant and what we actually say cannot always be taken literally, we can manage to help learners understand the exaggerating expressions in reading comprehension.

Teachers and syllabus or materials should take into account this detail in teaching and preparing the linguistic content and the set of exercises for the teaching and practising exaggeration or function of exaggeration in context.

For learners, they usually improve their knowledge of language to be able to read professional magazines or reference books in the field. They can understand easily reading texts, or can make daily conversations using exaggeration. Moreover, they can use and translate exaggerating statements easily if they are equipped with a wide background knowledge of culture, custom and society, moral and psychological standards

5.4 LIMITATIONS OF THE PRESENT STUDY

My study has been relatively limited in its scope and aims and is meant more as a foundation or initial study to pave the way for future research. Due to the limited time and resources, I was not able to carry out empirical testing on the different aspects of exaggeration. Likewise, not all samples from short stories, films and conversational situations were considered. My search for data initially concentrated on areas where exaggeration was more likely to appear ,so that I could have occurrences of exaggeration to consider. In addition, the lack of time, reference and material make it impossible for the researcher to provide more sufficient and more intensive focus on exaggeration. As a result, mistakes and shortcomings are inevitable.

5.5 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES

The present study attempts to provide some distinguishing linguistic features of exaggeration. For further research, the following topics should be explored to produce more valuable results in this area.

5.5.1 Emotion and Exaggeration

5.5.2 Hearer Interpretation of Exaggeration

5.5.3 Exaggeration in style of sports commentaries

5.5.4 The responses of exaggeration English and Vietnamese.