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**A CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF LINGUISTIC FEATURES
OF “WHITE” IN ENGLISH
AND “TRẮNG” IN VIETNAMESE**

Major: ENGLISH LINGUISTICS

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RATIONALE

Color has received much attention in linguistics because of their apparently universal character. Besides, the colour nourishes our whole living style, supplying a source of energy that is an essential and wonderful part of life. As highly colorful beings, our forms are made up of ever- changing color and we respond to our color actively or passively in all that we do. In addition, the coloured rays not only affect our physical bodies but also our emotions, mood or mental faculties.

It is the fact that words denoting color (WsDC) occupy a considerable amount and are considered an interesting phenomenon in language. In daily communication, people often use WsDC to communicate and express their attitude, feelings, behaviour, related inspiration or the world outlook. In daily life, we use color to characterize things: “*as white as snow*”, “*trắng như tuyết*” or to differentiate the same thing between “*black T-shirt*” and “*white T-shirt*”.

Theoretically, many relevant studies on *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese have been done so far. However, researches on linguistic features of *White* and *Trắng* to find out their similarities and differences between two languages have not been carried out. Therefore, it is necessary to do a research on this matter to enrich characteristics of *White* and *Trắng*. As a result, the topic “*A Contrastive Analysis of Linguistic Features of “White” in English and “Trắng” in Vietnamese*” has been carried out according to the reasons above.

1.2. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE STUDY

With the contrastive analysis of the different features of meaning of *White* and *Trắng*, pragmatic acquisition of how to apply such a word in appropriate and suitable ways, learners will be able to improve their understanding of the field, and get the final goal – communication in an effective way.

1.3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1.3.1. Aims

The study is hoped to:

- Help teachers and learners understand the semantic diversity and usage of *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese.
- Help teachers and learners explore similarities and differences of cultural characteristics of each country implied through its language.

1.3.2. Objectives

The study is hoped to:

- Make a contrastive analysis of semantic and pragmatic features of *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese.
- Find out similarities and differences of semantic and pragmatic features of *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese.

1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The paper will find the answers to the following questions:

- (1) What are the semantic similarities and differences of *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese?
- (2) What are the pragmatic similarities and differences of *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese?

1.5. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study is restricted to describe, analyse and contrast the

semantic and pragmatic features of *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese in compound words, collocation and idiomatic phrases. The contrastive analysis is based on the source language of English in contrast to Vietnamese. The study is carried out with the essential sources on 250 *White*, 250 *Trắng* and 250 samples selected from British, American and Vietnamese stories, novels, and idioms books. Also, some educational, political, economic and health newspapers and magazines are added to.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

Chapter 1 – “The Introduction”

Chapter 2 – “Literature Review and Theoretical Background”

Chapter 3 – “Method and Procedure”

Chapter 4 – “Findings and Discussions”

Chapter 5 – “The Conclusion”

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS STUDIES

Color categorization and the expansion of color terms have been discussed. In the study by Truong Thanh Ngoc (2003), what attracts the reader is detailed mention of semantic facets of such colors as black, white, green, red, yellow, blue, brown, grey, orange, pink and purple. However, in other study by Mai Nguyen Dieu Khoa (2003), it does go far in this semantic level. She focuses her attention on the study of metaphoric meaning of such kind of adjective which includes six main colors. Taking notice of diverse and symbolized significance similarly, in her study, (Nguyen Thi Dieu Hao, 2005)

finds that people often tend to use Idioms denoting color words in daily communication. In the recent study, Phan Thi Le Huyen (2011) marked a new trend. She made contrastive analysis on both semantic and pragmatic features of the adjective “Black” in English and “Đen” in Vietnamese in compound words, collocation and idiomatic phrases. In term of Red, Bui Thi Thanh Hien (2011) studied the metaphor related to Red in English and Vietnamese. In term of Green, Pham Thi Kim Chuyen (2012) investigated some semantic diversity and usage of the word Green in English and Xanh (lá cây) in Vietnamese and also explored similarities and differences of cultural characteristics of each country implied through its language.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Definition of Color

Each colour has its own meanings which paints our life more colorful. According to Crowther (1995), colour is “the property possessed by an object of producing different sensations on the eye as a result of the way it reflects or emits light”. According to Richard et al. (1987), colour is “the quality of an object or substance with respect to light reflected by the object, usually determined visually by measurement of hue, saturation, and brightness of the reflected light; saturation or chroma; hue”.

2.2.2. Basis Color Terms

According to Brent Berlin and Paul Kay, in a classic study (1969) of worldwide color naming, argued that these differences can be organized into a coherent hierarchy, and that there are a limited number of universal "basic color terms" which begin to be used by individual cultures in a relatively fixed order. Berlin and Kay based their analysis on a comparison of color words in 20 languages from

around the world. To be considered a basic color term, the words had to be monolexemic ("green", but not "light green" or "forest green"), high-frequency and agreed upon by speakers of that language.

2.2.3. Words Denoting Colors (WsDC)

Color words are freely used to describe different things, such as features of the characters faces, clothes, jewellery, make-up, cars, landscapes and seascape, pieces of art etc. In fact, English has a self-contained set of 11 words that can be described as “basic colour words” black, white, red, yellow, green, blue, brown, pink, orange, purple and gray (đen, trắng, đỏ, vàng, xanh lá cây, xanh lơ, nâu, hồng, cam, tím và xám). We normally mention WsDC as natural characters or in denotative meaning. However, WsDC are also used to express different ideas, thoughts, feelings, attitude in connotative and social meaning in daily communication.

2.2.4. Word

2.2.4.1. Definitions of Word

Word is an important part of linguistic knowledge and constitutes a component of our mental grammars. Considered as the principal and basic unit of the language system, the word is the largest on the morphonic and the smallest on the syntactic plane of linguistic analysis. It has been universally acknowledged that many words have a great composite nature and are made up of morphemes; the basic units on the morpheme level, which are defined as the smallest indivisible two-facet language units.

2.2.4.2. Classification of Word

a. In English grammar, according to the common point of Plag (2002: 12-25) words can be classified into single words and complex words.

b. In Vietnamese grammar, according to Vietnamese linguists, in general, the word is classified into three kinds: single words, complex words and reduplicational words.

2.2.5. Approaches to Collocations

This paper deals with the definition by Watson [42, p.7]: “*collocation is the placing together of words which are often associated with each other, so that they form common patterns or combinations*”.

2.2.6. Idioms

An idiom is an expression, word, or phrase that has a figurative meaning that is comprehended in regard to a common use of that expression that is separate from the literal meaning or definition of the words of which it is made.

However, with limitation of data, in this paper we just consider idiomatic phrases denoting the word *White* and *Trắng*.

2.2.7. Semantic Features

Semantic features play a very important part in differentiating the match between word and meaning. We need a very large number of features to do this work. But linguists believe that a much smaller number of features would be needed in writing grammar description.

2.2.7.1. Components of Word Meaning

a. Denotation is a part of the meaning of a word or phrase that relates it to phenomena in the real world or in a fictional or possible world.

b. Connotation is the additional meanings that a word or phrase has beyond its central meaning. These meanings show people’s emotions and attitudes towards what the word or phrase refers to.

2.2.7.2. Transference of Meaning

a. Metaphor

According to Arnold (1986), a metaphor is a transfer of name based on the association of identical features and this is actually a hidden comparison.

b. Metonymy

According to Arnold, metonymy can be defined a transfer based on the association of contiguity. In fact, it is a transfer of names between things which are known to be in some ways or others connected in reality or the substitution of the name of an attribute of a thing for the name of the thing itself.

c. Polysemy

Polysemy which is characteristic of most words in English is property of a single word, so we should talk something about polysemy. It is a semantic phenomenon in which a word has two or more similar meanings.

2.2.7.3. Semantic Fields

The semantic structure of vocabulary of a language can be studied in a precise and systematic way by means of componential analysis of which the theory of semantic field greatly leans.

2.2.8. Pragmatic Features

Pragmatics is a subfield of linguistics which studies the ways in which context contributes to meaning. Pragmatics encompasses speech act theory, conversational implicature, talk in interaction and other approaches to language behavior in philosophy, sociology, and linguistics.

2.2.9. Culture in Language

It is considered that features of our lifestyle are our use of things in the world around us to extend the capabilities, the complex social structure and so forth. In fact, language has become the vital means whereby we can carry out our social lives: language for learning, language for planning, language for co-operation. Speakers and writers, within the context of culture, use language in many more specific situations.

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURES

3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

With the purpose of making a description and contrastive analysis of linguistic features between *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese, this study is intended to follow qualitative approach and develops in different chapters containing some basic theoretical concepts related to semantic and pragmatic features of *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese.

3.2. RESEARCH PROCEDURES

Many steps are employed to carry out this paper including data collection, data sorting and finally data analysis, however, the following two phrases will be specifically mentioned as follows:

3.2.1. Data Collection

I select 250 phrases containing the word *White* and 250 phrases containing the word *Trắng* in different collocations randomly to be samples of the thesis. The study is also carried out with the essential sources from British, American and Vietnamese stories, novels and idioms books. Also, some educational, political, economic and health newspapers and magazines are added to.

3.3.2. Data Analysis

The thesis is conducted out through a contrastive analysis. The source language is Vietnamese and English is the target language. The data are classified according to their semantic and pragmatic features. The researcher observes and investigates the data taken from literary works and their Vietnamese ones examine how they are used and describe them. A final analysis is to find out the similarities and differences among them and compare them basing on typical features between two languages and cultures from which a conclusion is drawn finally.

3.3. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

The data selected are derived from English and American literary works and are investigated on the basis of linguistic materials, so they are reliable. Linguistic features of the words White and Trắng are used as semantic. More importantly, the investigation of the data is on the theoretical background mentioned in Chapter 2.

In brief, the research will strictly follow the research design. The data collection of the words White and Trắng and the way to deal with the data will play an important part in finding the result of the paper to give a qualified study, with a view to helping learners of English to have a good feeling in using this sort of word as well as to achieve better communicative aim.

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF THE WORD "WHITE" IN ENGLISH AND "TRẮNG" IN VIETNAMESE

4.1. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF THE WORD "WHITE" IN ENGLISH AND "TRẮNG" IN VIETNAMESE

4.1.1. Semantic Features of the Word *White* in English

4.1.1.1. *Semantic Structures of the Word White in English*

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionaries (1992), English Dictionary and New Shorter Oxford (1993), the word *White* denotes the following cases of meaning:

- a. of the colour of fresh snow or of milk: *various shades of white, white board*
- b. a member of a race people who have pale skin: *white Australian culture*
- c. white wine: would you like red or *white?*, a very dry *white*
- d. the part of an egg that surrounds the YOLK (=the yellow part): use *the whites of two eggs*
- e. the white part of the eye: *the whites of her eyes* were bloodshot
- f. white clothes, sheets, etc. when they are separated from coloured ones to be washed: don't wash *whites* and coloureds together
- g. white clothes worn for playing some sports: *cricket/ tennis white*
- h. belonging to or connected with a race of people who have pale skin: *middle-aged white men* in suits
- i. (of the skin) pale because of emotion or illness: with sth *white with shock*
- j. (of tea or coffee) with milk added: two *white coffees*, please!

However, through collected data from British and American novels, stories, newspapers and other sources from internet, the word *White* is surveyed to contain cases of meaning as follows:

Firstly, White denotes meaning of color defined as the colour of fresh snow or of milk, due to the reflection of all visible rays of light. It is used in some phrases: *white clouds*, *white teeth*, *white paper*, etc

Besides being a word denoting white color, White also gets transference of meaning through two ways: metaphor and metonymy.

4.1.1.2. Semantic Fields of The Word White in English

Table 4.1: The semantic fields of the word “White” summarized from collected data

Semantic Fields of "White"	Compound	Collocation	Idiomatic Phrases	Percentage
1. Color	white coffee	white clouds	as white as the driven snow	58 (23,2%)
2. Complexion	white skin	white slaves	as white as snow	42 (16,8%)
3. Animals	white sharks	white bear	white elephant	27 (10,8%)
4. Plants	white birch	white pepper	like white on rice	23 (9,2%)
5. Clothes	white suit	white dress	in white tie	18 (7,2%)
6. Marriage	white bride	white wedding	white lie	16 (6,4%)
7. Disease	white blood cells	white plague	as white as sheet	15 (6%)

8. Ideas/ thought/ feelings	white face	white-van man	whiter than white	13 (5,2%)
9. Technology	white goods	white hat	black-and- white	11 (4,4%)
10. Politics/ Military	White Paper	White Australia policy	wave a white flag	9 (3,6%)
11. Business/ Investment	white gold	white sale		7 (2,8%)
12. Art/ Entertainment	white witch	white magic		6 (2,4%)
13. Evil	white-collar crime		bleed both of them white	5 (2%)

4.1.2. Semantic Features of the Word *Trắng* in Vietnamese

4.1.2.1. Semantic Structures of the Word *Trắng* in Vietnamese

According to Vietnamese - Vietnamese Dictionary - Bui Phung (1999, 2003) (World Publisher), *Trắng* includes some cases of meaning as follows:

- a. Color of lime and cotton: *áo trắng, phấn trắng, tóc trắng như cước, ...*
- b. Bright color, distinguished from those of the same kind that are dark or of a different color: *đường trắng, người da trắng, ...*
- c. Absolutely nothing or nothing at all: *làm giàu từ hai bàn tay trắng, thức trắng đêm, bỏ phiếu trắng, ...*
- d. Speaking clearly the truth, not hiding anything: *có gì thì chị cứ nói trắng ra, ...*

- e. Pitches are as long as two quarter crotchets or a half of full note: *nốt la trắng, ...*
- f. Completely out: *mùa màng mất trắng, trả trắng nợ, ...*
- g. Unused: *quyển vở trắng, bỏ phiếu trắng, ...*
- h. Conformity with ethical and right: *phân biệt trắng đen, ...*

Nevertheless, based on collected data from Vietnamese novels, stories and lots of newspapers and magazines, Trắng is recognized to contain the following cases of meaning:

First of all, Trắng denotes meaning of white color that can be listed in some phrases: *phấn trắng, băng trắng, áo trắng, rượu trắng, váy trắng, etc.*

In fact, similar to *White*, Trắng is also semantically transferred through two devices of metaphor and metonymy.

4.1.2.2. Semantic Fields of the Word Trắng in Vietnamese

Table 4.2: The semantic fields of the word “Trắng” summarized from collected data

Semantic Fields of “Trắng”	Compound	Collocation	Idiomatic Phrases	Percentage
1. Màu sắc	băng trắng	răng trắng	Trắng như bông bươi, trắng như bột	52 (20,8%)
2. Làn da	trắng nõn	mặt trắng	Da trắng vồ bì bạch	37 (14,8%)

3. Động vật	hạc trắng	chuột bạch	Trâu trắng đi đầu mất mùa đến đầy	26 (10,4%)
4. Thực vật	củ cải trắng	đậu ván trắng	Gạo trắng nước trong	24 (9,6%)
5. Quần áo	váy trắng	trắng tinh tươm	Áo trắng quần là	19 (7,6%)
6. Hôn nhân		trình trắng	đầu bạc răng long	16 (6,4%)
7. Bệnh tật	máu trắng	bạch hầu		15 (6%)
8. Tư tưởng/ Tình cảm	trắng trợn	thức trắng đêm	Dờ trắng dờ đen	14 5,6%)
9. Kỹ thuật công nghệ	kiểm thử hộp trắng	cân bằng trắng		12 (4,8%)
10. Quân sự/ chính trị	cờ trắng	Sách trắng Quốc phòng		11 (4,4%)
11. Kinh tế/ Chứng khoán	vàng trắng		Tay trắng hoàn trắng tay	9 (3,6%)
12. Nghệ thuật	phim trắng đen	ảnh đen trắng		8 (3,2%)
13. Tội ác	á phiện trắng		đôi trắng thay đen	7 (2,8%)

4.1.3. Similarities and Differences in the Semantic Features of the Word *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese

Table 4.3: Relative frequency of **White** in English and **Trắng** in Vietnamese

Order	White in English	Percentage	Trắng in Vietnamese	Percentage
1	Color	58 (23,2%)	Màu sắc	52 (20,8%)
2	Complexion	42 (16,8%)	Làn da	37 (14,8%)
3	Animals	27 (10,8%)	Động vật	26 (10,4%)
4	Plants	23 (9,2%)	Thực vật	24 (9,6%)
5	Clothes	18 (7,2%)	Quần áo	19 (7,6%)
6	Marriage	16 (6,4%)	Hôn nhân	16 (6,4%)
7	Disease	15 (6%)	Bệnh tật	15 (6%)
8	Ideas/ thought/ feelings	13 (5,2%)	Tư tưởng/ Tình cảm	14 (5,6%)
9	Technology	11 (4,4%)	Kỹ thuật công nghệ	12 (4,8%)

10	Politics/ Military	9 (3,6%)	Quân sự/ chính trị	11 (4,4%)
11	Business/ Investment	7 (2,8%)	Kinh tế/ Chứng khoán	9 (3,6%)
12	Art/ Entertainment	6 (2,4%)	Nghệ thuật	8 (3,2%)
13	Evil	5 (2%)	Tội ác	7 (2,8%)

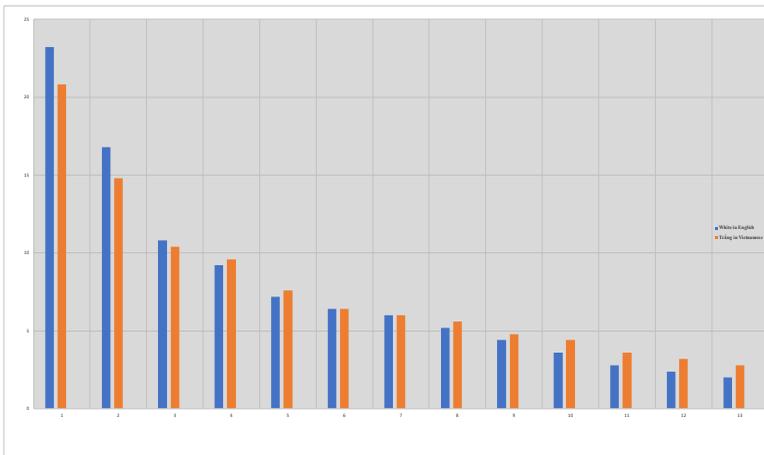


Figure 4.1. Comparison between **White** in English and **Trắng** in Vietnamese

4.1.3.1. Similarities:

a. Frequency:

The counted percentage shows that frequency of usage of word-groups in semantic combination with the word White and Trắng in most of fields is quite equivalent.

b. Semantics: In general, the word *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese contains cases of meaning such as: colour of snow or fresh milk, white wine, pale skin,

4.1.3.2. Differences

a. Frequency

Through description, classification and contrast, we recognize that most of the word-groups combined with *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese used in different fields hardly get greatly different frequency.

b. Semantics

In English, the *White* always stands before a head noun to form a combinative phrase such as: “white coffee, white goods, white birch, white skin”. However, this rule is contrastive to the *Trắng* in Vietnamese. In fact, it is sometimes not necessary for *Trắng* to combine with or appear before a noun. Unlike *White*, *Trắng* can combine with either a noun or an adjective to form a compound adjective or compound noun, for example, “răng trắng, trắng nõn, trinh trắng, củ cải trắng, ...”.

4.2 PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF THE WORD "WHITE" IN ENGLISH AND "TRẮNG" IN VIETNAMESE.

4.2.1. Pragmatic Features of the word *White* in English

Firstly, based on historical features, social and cultural backgrounds, the English would like to use *White* to mention educational aspects in certain periods of society in order for people around the world to deeply understand their culture.

Secondly, in practice *White* is also used to refer to paleness resulting from illness or fear *as white as a sheet, white face*.

Thirdly, *White* is used to mean something illegal, unhealthy or unsuitable for the rules or moral values in economy or in society, for examples *say that black is white/ swear black is white*.

Fourthly, the white color of snow is used as a comparative thing to show the good physical appearance of one thing or somebody in English. In fact, the phrases *white tie, whiter than white* in examples below will help us be able to explain universal phenomenon.

4.2.2 Pragmatic Features of the Word *Trắng* in Vietnamese

Firstly, together with effects of Eastern culture, social background, and historical events, Vietnamese people tend to use *Trắng* to imply something dealing with their belief. It can be seen that *Trắng* mentioned in Vietnamese novels, stories or newspapers not only refers to white color but also mainly focuses on expressing good appearance.

Secondly, like *White*, *Trắng* is also used to reflect educational characteristics to explain schooling aspects in certain cultural stages.

Thirdly, *Trắng* in Vietnamese also expresses bad human characteristic, unkindness, evil, bad thought and soul that can rule or harm human's life.

Fourthly, interestingly, *Trắng* in Vietnamese is also used to refer advantages of plants for one's health.

Fifthly, Vietnamese people tend to use *Trắng* to express the beauty of the soul or the personality like "trinh bạch".

Sixthly, more distinctively, *Trắng* in Vietnamese is used to refer to a surprising situation that makes someone feel bad, nervous, scary or disappointed such as "*trắng nhợt, trắng bợt*".

4.2.3 Similarities and Differences of Pragmatics Features of the Word *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese

4.2.3.1. Similarities:

Firstly, *White* in English and *Trắng* in Vietnamese are used to mention educational aspects.

Secondly, both *White* and *Trắng* in two languages focus on reflecting something illegal or irregular in society.

Thirdly, something considered the good physical appearances are also used in both languages.

Lastly, the phrases of plants “*as white as sheet, white face*” and “*trắng nhợt, trắng bợt*” are used in both English and Vietnamese and they refer to paleness resulting from illness or fear.

4.2.3.2 Differences:

The first thing is due to cultural differences between two countries, *White* in English tend to imply the innocence, formality, pureness and they often wear white dresses in white tie in formal and important events or parties. In contrast, *White* in English is considered as the color of sadness, mournfulness and death. Therefore, Vietnamese people wear white dress with a ribbon on their heads when they are in a funeral and they have a family relationship with the death.

The second thing is that when Vietnamese people mention *Trắng*, they often think the good physical appearance of something or someone such as “*trong ngọc trắng ngà, bạch diện thư sinh...*”. Nevertheless this is contrastive in English. Practically, it cannot be found these equivalent phrases “*white than white, white tie...*” in English.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION

5.1. CONCLUSION

The basic goal of this thesis is to describe, analyze and contrast linguistic features of the word White in English and Trắng in Vietnamese to explore various meanings belonging to White and Trắng as well as to find out similarities and differences between two languages and two cultures.

In fact, in Chapter One, the first important thing should be done is to mention the rationale of the study, the aims and objectives the study towards. Moreover, the research questions and scope of the study are also added.

The Chapter Two of the study started with a review of related previous studies, necessary theories of the topic are carefully examined which brings a basic foundation for the data analysis as well as the content of discussion of finding in the following chapters. Besides, the knowledge of word-meaning, collocation, idioms, semantic and pragmatic theories presented in details are valuable for deeply studying about semantic and pragmatic features of the words White and Trắng.

Meanwhile, in Chapter Three, it is essential to give out the methods and procedures of the study. In addition, the source of data as well as data analysis are also mentioned.

And in Chapter Four the findings of the research on the semantic and pragmatic features of the words White and Trắng are presented.

Through the four chapters, we have attempt to give answers to the research questions about semantic features of the word White

in English and Trắng presented on some British, American and Vietnamese novels, short stories and some magazines.

Semantically, meanings of the words White and Trắng are diverse. Actually, in order to deeply understand their cases of meaning, it is important to consider them in their collocations. With the desire of discovering in what fields White and Trắng refer to, they should be summarized in each field of color, complexion, animals, plant, clothes, marriage, disease, ideas, feelings, technology, politics, entertainment, ...Through the collected and analyzed data, the meanings of the words White and Trắng are affected by the noun behind and in front of them.

Pragmatically, based on the outward meaning of white color, the words White and Trắng focus on reflecting various aspects of human's life. Hence, it is necessary to examine and analyse White and Trắng in appropriate contexts to explore how their implicatures worked out.

It should be noted in the last chapter, the paper intends to provide some suggestions for translational equivalents in Vietnamese and English of the words White and Trắng with the desire of helping learners be able to achieve the best translational versions as well as make progress in their translation.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS ON TEACHING, LEARNING AND TRANSLATION

5.2.1. Implications on Language Teaching and Learning

Through the paper, the semantic and pragmatic features of the words “White” and “Trắng” have been found. This finding helps the learners achieve the proper use of the words. Besides, teachers can encourage their students to exploit the meaning of the word

“White” in different situations flexibly and effectively.

Furthermore, the learners should consider the meaning of the word “White” in the contexts where it appears due to the fact that the meaning of a word is not decided by itself. In addition, each word possesses various meanings. This may confuse the learners in choosing appropriate meaning. In order not to make mistakes in using it, teachers should remind their students to explain the word by accompanying with its contexts.

Finally, any learners of foreign languages are affected by their mother tongue. There is no exception to Vietnamese learners. It is common for them to impose the use of their native language on that of the target language. This eventually provokes interlingual errors. Therefore, teachers’ duty is to point out all the similarities and differences between the two languages concerning the matter under discussion. In other words, contrastive and comparative analysis of the language matter should be recommended. This method makes it easy for teachers to diagnose as well as indicate errors committed by learners.

5.2.2. Implications on Translation Work

It can be seen that any of the linguistic thesis is directed to pedagogical implications. A study on semantic and pragmatic features of the words White and Trắng leads both teachers and learners of English and Vietnamese to some implications. Due to the fact that there are differences in perception of the words White and Trắng, translative complexity is unavoidable. People have to pay a special attention on the context and cultural factors between English and Vietnamese to acknowledge what the authors mean. It is also the requirement for both Vietnamese and English learners and translators who have ambition of getting an appropriate translation.

On translation study, the learners usually cope with certain obstacles in the process of translation, especially in translating polysemous words. The reason accounting for this is that translators seem to promptly apply the typical meaning of White and Trắng to cover all the cases where White and Trắng is exploited in discourse, whereas other implications White and Trắng seem to be ignored. For example, in the following example:

<p>105) “Soon after that she had a little daughter, who was as white as snow, and as red as blood, and her hair was black as ebony, and she was therefore called little snow-white.”</p> <p>(Grimm, 1972, p.249)</p>	<p>106) Ít lâu sau bà sinh được một cô con gái da trắng như tuyết, môi đỏ như son và tóc đen như gỗ mun, vì thế bà đặt tên con gái là Bạch Tuyết.</p> <p>(Lương Văn Hồng (dịch), 2020)</p>
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Or in another case, *White* that exists in idiomatic phrases can create a specific meaning as an example below:

<p>(107) At this defiant heresy, Mammy's brow lowered with indignation. What a young miss could do and what she could not do were as different as black and white in Mammy's mind; there was no middle ground of deportment between.</p> <p>(Hemingway, 1995, p.137)</p>	<p>(108) Trước một sự vi phạm nguyên tắc như vậy, bà má bực mình cau mày lại. Đối với bà, có một sự khác nhau rõ ràng giữa cái được phép đối với một cô gái và cái bị cấm giữa những người giới hạn.</p> <p>(Nguyễn Lâm, 2000, p.66)</p>
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Clearly, the learners of translation should bear in their mind that all texts might have connotations. For that reason, the attachment

to the importance of the lexical meanings and the undervaluation of the contextual ones is not encouraged, especially, in discourse where the denotations may come before the connotations. This is also true with the comprehension of the words White and Trắng.

Briefly, in order to get a proper translated version of the words White and Trắng, it requires the translator to consider various cultural features of the words White and Trắng, and the words White and Trắng in their collocations to have a careful analysis of the whole text.

5.3. LIMITATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

It cannot be denied that this paper cannot cover all meanings possessed by the words White and Trắng under discussion, which may be due to the limitation of time and reference books as well as the many constraints faced by the researcher. For these reasons, further researches should go into more details of meanings expressed by the words White and Trắng.

This thesis has made a study of the linguistic features of the words White and Trắng which includes the semantic and pragmatic features. Consequently, it is necessary to give some suggestions for the possible translational equivalents of the words White and Trắng in each separated sense. However, there are some aspects that have not been dealt with within this framework, calling for further investigation:

- Syntactic features of the phrases containing White and Trắng.
- Cultural characteristics of another words denoting colors “blue, yellow, ...”