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**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE ADJECTIVES
 AND THEIR COLLOCATIONS AS MODIFIERS
 OF NOUN PHRASES IN FOOTBALL
 COMMENTARIES
 IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE**

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RATIONALE

Many studies on the adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases have been carried out, however a detailed discussion of the similarities and differences between the adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases in terms of syntactic and semantic features in football commentaries in English and Vietnamese has not been dealt with so far. As a result, on the basis of the results of the previous studies, I would like to deal with the research title: *“An Investigation into the Adjectives and their Collocations as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Football Commentaries in English and Vietnamese”*.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1.2.1. Aims of the Study

This study is aimed at investigating the linguistic features of the adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun.

1.2.2. Objectives of the Study

The study is expected to examine, categorize the syntactic and semantic features of the adjectives and point out the similarities and differences between English and Vietnamese adjectives and then offer some suggestions for using them.

1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What are the syntactic and semantic features of the adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases in football commentaries in English and Vietnamese newspapers?

2. What are the similarities and differences in terms of syntactic and semantic features between the adjectives and their

collocations as modifiers of noun phrases in football commentaries in English and Vietnamese newspapers?

3. What factors should be taken into consideration in designing effective drills and exercises for using the adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases in football commentaries in English and in Vietnamese?

1.4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

A study on syntactic and semantic features of adjectives will be a contribution to the understanding and using adjectives of the learners.

1.5. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study of adjectival phrases on the aspects of syntax and semantics makes an attempt to contribute to the understanding of objects in English and Vietnamese.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Literature and theoretical background

Chapter 3: Research design and methodology

Chapter 4: Findings and discussion

Chapter 5: Conclusion

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDIES

According to Downing and Locke [6], English adjective groups vary considerably in their form, their syntactic functions and in the types of lexical and grammatical meanings they express.

Many adjectives have compound forms composed of various classes of word

According to Diep Quang Ban [20], Vietnamese adjectives and adjective phrases can postmodify or premodify the head in the noun group qualify the thing in some ways. There are many kinds of adjectives: adjectives of quality, adjectives of relation, gradable and ungradable adjectives.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. English Adjectives

2.2.1.1. Characteristics of Adjectives in English

According to Quirk and Greenbaum [17], adjectives have four common features considered to be characteristic of adjectives:

A. Morphological Characteristics of Adjectives in English

Morphologically, adjectives are often complex. They can be compound and derived ones: *good-looking, second – class, open – minded, original, careful*.

According to Downing and Locke [6], many adjectives have compound forms composed of various classes of words.

B. Syntactic Characteristics of Adjectives in English

Syntactically, adjectives can occur as the head in adjective phrases. Typically, they can function both *attributive* and *predicative* syntactic functions.

C. Semantic Characteristics of Adjectives in English

Adjectives are characteristically *stative*. Many adjectives, however, can be seen as *dynamic*.

2.2.1.2. Subclassification of Adjectives in English

A. Syntactic Subclassification of Adjectives in English

According to Quirk [17], adjectives can be subclassified into

three groups: Attributive, predicative and both attributive and predicative.

Adjectives can sometimes be *postpositive*, they can immediately follow the noun or pronoun they modify. We may thus have three positions of adjectives:

B. Semantic Subclassification of Adjectives in English

According to Quirk and Greenbaum [17], English adjectives can be divided into two classes: *Gradable* and *nongradable* adjectives. Many adjectives, however, can be seen as *dynamic*. A *stative* can not be used with the progressive aspect or with the imperative.

C. Semantic Characteristics of Adjectives in English

Adjectives are characteristically *stative*. Many adjectives, however, can be seen as *dynamic*.

2.2.2. Vietnamese Adjectives

2.2.2.1. Characteristics of Adjectives in Vietnamese

According to Diep Quang Ban [20], adjectives are words which describe the quality, colour, nationality, sound, taste.

According to Nguyen Huu Quynh [23], there are many kinds of adjectives such as adjectives of shape, colour, size, specific of things. Adjectives can function as adjunct in noun phrases.

2.2.2.2. Classes of Adjectives in Vietnamese

A. Adjectives of Quality and Relation in Vietnamese

Adjectives of quality include those adjectives of relation are those whose meanings are derived from the meanings of the corresponding nouns, which can be common nouns or proper nouns. These adjectives accept gradability by combining with “*rất*”.

B. Gradable and Nongradable Adjectives in Vietnamese

Vietnamese adjectives are also divided into two classes: gradable adjectives and ungradable adjectives.

2.3. SUMMARY

CHAPTER 3

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

The study is based on the combination of qualitative and quantitative, analysis. And the study is also based on the comparative, descriptive and statistical research.

3.2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is conducted with a combination of descriptive, qualitative and comparative methods.

3.3. DATA COLLECTION

The data collection was taken from sentences containing the adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases in football commentaries in sports newspapers. The magazines and grammar books, dictionaries in both languages was used to study and analyze, too. About 400 Vietnamese samples and 700 English samples were selected from football commentaries in electronic newspapers.

3.4. DATA ANALYSIS

After being selected the material, the samples of the adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases were examined, classified, described, analyzed and compared to enable the comparison to find out the similarities and the differences in terms of syntactic and semantic features.

3.5. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

The data were selected from English, American and Vietnamese newspapers. Most of linguistic and grammatical books are reliable. The investigation of the data followed the principles in the theoretical background presented in chapter 2.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1. SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF THE ADJECTIVES AND THEIR COLLOCATIONS AS MODIFIERS OF NOUN PHRASES IN FOOTBALL COMMENTARIES IN NEWSPAPERS

4.1.1. Syntactic Features of the Adjectives and Their Collocations as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Football Commentaries in English Newspapers

4.1.1.1. Attributive Adjectives as Premodification

Qualitative adjectives can be used as attributive: *fantastic* and *proud*. The normal way to describe quality is to use submodifiers: *very*, *rather* before the qualitative adjectives. Also, submodifiers are adverbs of degree such as: *absolutely*, *extremely*...

- (4) Chelsea has maintained its *superb start* to the season with a 2-0 win over Stoke [51]

In the above example, emphasizing adjective *superb* precedes noun *start*. In English, emphasizing adjectives are often used as attributive to emphasize the feeling.

4.1.1.2. Attributive Adjectives as Postmodification

- (6) The Turkey international fired an acrobatic effort from outside the box which Schwarzer was equal to and Etherington also tried *something spectacular* soon after. [68]

In the example above, adjective *spectacular* follows noun *something* and postmodifies it.

There are several adjectives in English which follow nouns and postmodify them.

- (9) Carlton Cole, Peter Crouch and Darren Bent are *the only forwards available*. [60]

In the above example, adjective *available* follows noun *forward* and postmodifies it. The adjective functions as postmodifiers of nouns.

4.1.1.3. Collocations of Adjectival Phrases and Noun Phrases

There are several different types of collocation.

A. Adverb + Adjective + Noun

Adverbs of degree often combine with qualitative adjectives.

- (10) Luxembourg enjoyed *another relatively successful spell* in qualification for Euro '96. [53]

Some *past participle adjectives* don't have their full meanings without adverb modifiers such as *worded, motivated*.

- (13) The Magpies released a statement confirming they had written a *strongly-worded letter* to the FA asking for. [56]

In the above example, adjective *worded* combines with adverb *strongly* and premodify noun *letter*. If there is only adjective *worded* before noun *letter*, the meaning will not clear.

B. Adjective + Noun

Most adjectives in English precede nouns and premodify them.

- (14) A move featuring the *creative talents* of Tomas Rosicky and Andrei Arshavin. [57]

From the example above, we can see that adjective *creative* precedes and premodifies the noun *talent*.

C. Compound Adjectives

Compound adjectives are formed by one or more words.

- (21) Including *a superbly-taken penalty* in the League Cup final triumph over Chelsea. [71]

In the example above, compound adjective *superbly-taken* precedes adjective *penalty* and premodifies it.

In short, from the example above, we can see that English compound adjectives often function as premodification of nouns and premodify them.

D. Present Participle Adjectives

The *present participle adjectives* are often used as attributive. These *present participle adjectives* can be modified by adverbs.

- (33) "It was *an extremely challenging match* to handle, but it would have been so for any referee." [83]

In the example above, *present participle adjective: challenging* is used as attributive. These *present participle adjectives* are often modified by adverbs: *extremely*

Some *present participle adjectives* do not relate to the meaning of the original verbs: *pressing, promising...*

- (35) It's another blow for Mancini's depleted backline, although *a promising return* from injury by Jerome Boateng [85]

The meaning of adjective *promising* does not relate to the meaning of the verb *promise*. The meaning of the verb *promise* is

contract or *guarantee*, but the meaning of the adjective *promising* is *talented* or *hopeful*. Those meanings are different from each other.

E. Past Participle Adjectives

Some *past participle* adjectives originate from nouns such as: *experience, plan, skill, foot* and *rate*.

(49) I like the player, he has got *a skilled touch*. [99]

In the example above, *past participle* adjective *skilled* is formed from nouns *skill* by adding –ed at the end of the nouns. The adjective precedes the nouns *touch* and premodifies them.

4.1.2. Syntactic Features of the Adjectives and Their Collocations as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Football Commentaries in Vietnamese Newspapers

As English adjectives, Vietnamese adjectives can also function as attributive and predicative.

4.1.2.1. Adjectives Functioning as Postmodification of Nouns

Adjectives are words which describe the quality, colour, nationality, sound, taste...

Vietnamese adjectives often function as elements in the sentence. Vietnamese adjectives can combine with adverbs.

- There are some adverbs which precede adjectives

Gradable adjectives in Vietnamese can collocate with adverbs of degree.

(50) Bayern tiếp tục chơi lấn sân, đồng thời cũng đã tạo ra được *một vài tình huống khá nguy hiểm*. [180]

In the example above, adjective *nguy hiểm* is gradable adjective which follows adverb of degree *khá*.

- There are some adverbs which follow adjectives: *lắm, quá, cực kì, tuyệt, rồi*, and some of them either follow or precede adjectives such as: *quá, cực kì, tuyệt*.

(62) Và một lần nữa Báo Đen đã dùng tốc độ để vượt qua các hậu vệ, thậm chí cả thủ môn Wiese để ấn định *chiến thắng vang dội 4-0* cho đội bóng áo *sọc xanh đen*. [189]

From the example above, we can see that adjectives *vang dội, sọc xanh đen* follow and postmodify the noun *chiến thắng*.

4.1.2.2. Adjectives Functioning as Premodification of Nouns

Only few of Vietnamese adjectives function as premodifiers of nouns.

(68) Cristiano Ronaldo lại bỏ lỡ cơ hội với pha đánh đầu đi *thiếu chính xác* từ quả tạt như đặt của Benzema. [233]

In the above examples, quantitive adjective *thiếu* precedes noun *chính xác* and premodifies the noun.

4.1.3. Similarities and Differences in Syntactic Features Between English Adjectives and Vietnamese Ones

Syntactically, adjectives in English and those in Vietnamese have some similarities:

- First, there are some adjectives in both languages which can function as premodifiers and postmodifiers of nouns. And some adjectives can only function as premodifiers of nouns and premodify them. Some can only function as postmodifiers of nouns and postmodify them.

- Second, in both languages there are adverbs of degree which can combine with adjectives.

- Third, measuring adjectives always function as postmodifiers in both English and Vietnamese.

However, there are some differences in syntactic features between adjectives in both languages:

- First, in Vietnamese, there are some adverbs either precede or follow the adjectives but in English, adverbs always precede adjectives and premodify the adjectives.

- Second, there are more adjectives as premodification in English. In contrast, there are more adjectives as postmodification in Vietnamese, and most of Vietnamese adjectives function as postmodifiers of nouns.

- Third, sometimes adjectives function as postmodifiers in Vietnamese, but adjectives function as predicative, not premodifiers or postmodifiers in English. It means that the verb is always obligatory in an English sentence, but it normally can be optional in a Vietnamese sentence.

- Fourth, in both languages, there are adverbs of degree which can combine with adjectives. However, in English, some *past participle adjectives* don't have its full meaning without adverb modifiers: *worded, dressed, motivated, deserved...*

Table 4.8 shows the syntactic features of English and Vietnamese adjectives as modifiers of noun phrases.

Table 4.8. Syntactic Features of English and Vietnamese Adjectives as Modifiers of Noun Phrases

English			Vietnamese		
Adj	Pre-modification of NP	Post-modification of NP	Adj	Pre-modification of NP	Post-modification of NP
Emphatic	+		Quantitative	+	

Adj			Adj		
Compound Adj	+		Adj of quality		+
Measuring Adj		+	Measuring Adj		+
Qualitative Adj	+		Qualitative Adj		+
affected, available, required,	+	+	Gradable Adj		+
Designate, select, responsible ...		+	Adj indicate state of a part of the whole	+	
Adj in the reduced relative clause.		+	Adj indicate distance of time and place	+	

4.2. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF THE ADJECTIVES AND THEIR COLLOCATIONS AS MODIFIERS OF NOUN PHRASES IN FOOTBALL COMMENTARIES IN NEWSPAPERS

4.2.1. Semantic Features of the Adjectives and Their Collocations as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Football Commentaries in English Newspapers

4.2.1.1. Semantic Features of Emotive and Evaluative, Descriptive Adjectives as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in English

Emotive and evaluative, descriptive adjectives are understood as adjectives whose meaning has reference not directly related to things or phenomena of the objective reality but to the feelings and emotions, evaluations of the speakers towards these things or to his emotions and evaluations, descriptions.

(79) In recent weeks, Milito scored the *decisive goals* in Inter's Italian Cup triumph over Roma and in the final match of the Serie A season. [130]

In the example above, we can see that adjective *decisive* premodifies noun *goals*. *Decisive goal* is understood as a very important goal at a very important moment.

4.2.1.2. Semantic Features of Metaphorical Adjectives as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in English Football Commentaries

In football commentaries, sports writers often use metaphor to describe players, talent, shoot, aim...

(129) Reina is a modern goalkeeper blessed as he is with impressive agility and *lightning reactions*. [170]

Adjective *lightning* indicates the quality of the noun *reactions* and then metaphorically turns the noun into other shape of meaning.

4.2.1.3. Inherent and Non - inherent Adjectives

The attribute they denote is inherent in the noun which they modify. Most adjectives are inherent. Inherent adjectives characterize the reference of the noun directly.

(130) Because they perceived the J-League as superior and more suitable for *skillful and quick players*, not the physical style of play in M.L.S. [63]

In the example above, adjectives *skillful* , *quick* are inherent adjectives. These adjectives precede the noun *player* and premodify them.

The adjectives do not describe an attribute of the noun. We refer to these adjectives as non-inherent adjectives. Noninherent adjectives do not characterize the referent of the noun directly.

(133) Aldridge was *a firm supporter* of Hodgson's appointment last summer. [62]

We can see that adjective *firm* in *a firm supporter* does not describe an attribute of the noun *supporter*. The adjective *firm* can not be reformulated as *a supporter who is firm*. Instead, it refers to *a firm supporter is a person whose support is firm*.

4.2.1.4. Restrictive Adjectives

Restrictive adjectives restrict the reference of the noun exclusively, particularly, or chiefly.

(139) The Tottenham striker has had to make do with opportunities off the bench in the Barclays Premier League, scoring his *only goal* so far in the Carling Cup defeat by Arsenal. [171]

In the example above *only* is restrictive adjective, it precedes the noun *goal* and premodifies the noun and restricts the reference of the noun exclusively.

Table 4.14 shows the semantic features of metaphor adjectives in English

Table 4.14. Semantic Features of Metaphor Adjectives in English

Metaphorical meaning depend on similar association	Literal meaning used for	Context meaning/ rhetorical meaning used for	Association depend on similarity	Occurrence	Rate
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<i>Thunderous</i>	<i>Thunder</i>	<i>Shot, volley</i>	<i>Force, intensity</i>	2	15,4%
<i>Disastrous</i>	<i>Disaster</i>	<i>Start, season</i>	<i>Loss</i>	2	15,4%
<i>Golden</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Chance</i>	<i>Preciousness</i>	1	7,7%
<i>Diamond</i>	<i>Diamond</i>	<i>Formation</i>	<i>Solidity</i>	1	7,7%
<i>Lightning</i>	<i>Light</i>	<i>Reaction</i>	<i>quickness</i>	1	7,7%
<i>Fairytale</i>	<i>Fairytale</i>	<i>Finish</i>	<i>dream</i>	1	7,7%
<i>Starring</i>	<i>Star</i>	<i>Display</i>	<i>perfectness</i>	1	7,7%
<i>Blazing</i>	<i>Blaze</i>	<i>Performance</i>	<i>enthusiasm</i>	1	7,7%
<i>Flying</i>	<i>Fly</i>	<i>Forward</i>	<i>quickness</i>	2	15,4%
<i>Cool</i>	<i>Coolness</i>	<i>Finish</i>	<i>calm</i>	1	7,7%
Total				13	100%

4.2.2. Semantic Features of the Adjectives and Their Collocations as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Football Commentaries in Vietnamese Newspapers

4.2.2.1. Adjectives of Quality in Vietnamese

Adjective of quality include those of size, shape, colour, sound, weight, destiny, general

(145) Suýt chút nữa Rooney đã gia tăng cách biệt. Giggs có **pha đi bóng quá dẻo**. [213]

In the examples above, adjective of quality **nhạt nhòa, dẻo** follow the noun **pha đi bóng**. It is adjective of quality, it describes the quality of the nouns and postmodify the nouns.

4.2.2.2. Adjectives of Relation in Vietnamese

Adjectives of relation are those whose meanings are derived from the meanings of the corresponding nouns, which can be

common nouns or proper nouns. These adjectives accept gradability by combining with **rất, cực kỳ**.

(148) Hiệp 1 cũng chứng kiến **pha bóng cực kỳ nghệ sĩ** của Ronaldo. [217]

In the example above, noun **nghệ sĩ** can combine with adverb **cực kỳ** to become **an adjective of relation**. It follows noun **pha bóng** and postmodify it.

4.2.2.3. Semantic Features of Emotive, Evaluative and Descriptive Adjectives as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Vietnamese

Emotive and evaluative, descriptive adjectives are understood as adjectives whose meaning has reference not directly related to things or phenomena of the objective reality.

(155) Jorge Nunez giúp Cerro Porteno cân bằng tỷ số 2-2 bằng một **cú sút phạt hoàn hảo**.. [223]

We can see that adjective **hoàn hảo** follows the noun **cú sút phạt** and postmodifies, emphasizes the noun.

4.2.2.4. Semantic Features of Metaphorical Adjectives as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Vietnamese Football Commentaries

In football commentaries, sports writers often use metaphor to describe players, talent, shoot, aim...

(179) Tuy nhiên, cũng chỉ 10 phút sau, đội khách đã lập lại trật tự từ **pha bóng lóe sáng** của Raul Meireles. [246]

We can see that sports language can share some similar characteristics with weapon, weather..., the adjective **lóe sáng** indicate the quality of the noun **pha bóng** and then metaphorically turn the noun into other shape of meaning.

4.2.2.5. Semantic Features of Hyperbole of Adjectives as Modifiers of Noun Phrases in Vietnamese Football Commentaries

To make sports commentaries interesting, attractive, sports writers often use hyperbole to amplify, hyperbolize the nouns.

(184) *Cú volley như búa bổ* của Del Piero đã không thắng được cột dọc của đối phương. [250]

4.2.3. Similarities and Differences in Semantic Features Between English Adjectives and Vietnamese Ones

Semantically, adjectives in English and those in Vietnamese share some similarities as follows:

- First, emotive and evaluative adjectives in both languages express different levels of degree and they belong to different semantic groups. Sports writers often use emphatic adjectives to describe, emphasize players, pass, shoot, talent, save... We can see that sports language can share some similar characteristics with weapon, material, light, weather... Adjectives seem to have their typical function of modifying a noun

- Second, metaphor adjectives are used commonly in both languages. The analysis has shown that both English and Vietnamese share almost all the ways in which the speakers of two languages perceive and conceptualize sports in terms of weather, weapon...

- Third, sports writers use more positive adjectives than negative adjectives in both languages because the positive adjectives seem to provide readers with a sense of more pleasant impression.

There are some differences in semantic features

- First, sports writers use more metaphors in Vietnamese than in English.

- Second, the use of adjectives in Vietnamese football commentaries is far more plentiful than in English football commentaries. This results in the fact that Vietnamese football

commentaries sound more subjective than English football commentaries.

- Third, in some cases, instead of using a negative evaluative adjectives, Vietnamese sports writers tend to employ positive adjectives accompanied a negative adverb of degree .

- Fourth, in English, compound adjectives are formed by two or more words, and most of compound adjectives in English are premodification of nouns.

- Fifth, in English, most of adjectives are formed from verbs, nouns. English adjectives are often present participles, past participles.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study has carried out an investigation into adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases in English and Vietnamese football commentaries. This thesis focused on syntactic and semantic functions of adjectives and their collocations as modifiers of noun phrases in football commentary language.

With the results of data analysis and the comparison between adjectives in English and Vietnamese, I would like to make some final remarks and implications about these adjectives in reference to their syntactic and semantic features.

Syntactically, adjectives in English and those in Vietnamese have some similarities:

- There are some adjectives in both languages which can function as premodifiers and postmodifiers of nouns. And some adjectives can only function as premodifiers of nouns and premodify them. Some can only function as postmodifiers of nouns and postmodify them. When English and Vietnamese adjectives are in postmodification, their orders are not changed.

However, there are some differences in syntactic features between adjectives in both languages:

- In Vietnamese, there are some adverbs either precede or follow the adjectives and premodify or postmodify but in English, adverbs always precede adjectives and premodify the adjectives.

- In general, functions of adjectives are changed from premodifiers in English to postmodifiers in Vietnamese. There are more adjectives as premodification in English. In contrast, there are more adjectives as postmodification in Vietnamese, and most of Vietnamese adjectives function as postmodifiers of nouns.

- Sometimes adjectives function as postmodifiers in Vietnamese, but adjectives function as predicative, not premodifiers or postmodifiers in English. E.g. *chợ đông...the market is crowded*, *nhà gần...the house is near*. It means that the verb is always obligatory in an English sentence, but it normally can be optional in a Vietnamese sentence.

adjectives don't have its full meaning without adverb modifiers: ***worded, dressed, motivated, deserved...***

Semantically, adjectives in English and those in Vietnamese share some similarities as follows:

- Emotive and evaluative adjectives in both languages express different levels of degree and they belong to different semantic

groups. Sports writers often use emphatic adjectives to describe, emphasize players, pass, shot, talent, save, start, finish, skill, performance, technology, result, spirit, speed...

- Metaphor adjectives are used commonly in both languages. In generally speaking, two languages share the similarity of semantic features in the sports metaphor. The analysis has shown that both English and Vietnamese share almost all the ways in which the speakers of two languages perceive and conceptualize sports in terms of weather, weapon, tools... We can see that sports language can share some similar characteristics with weapon, material, light, weather... Adjectives seem to have their typical function of modifying a noun

- Sports writers use more positive adjectives than negative adjectives in both languages because the positive adjectives seem to provide readers with a sense of more pleasant impression. Anyway, the fact that a wide range of emotive, evaluative, descriptive adjectives is chosen in football commentaries in two languages produces a definitely beautiful impact which draws the readers' attention to sports story.

However, there are some differences in semantic features between adjectives in both languages:

- Sports writers use more metaphors in Vietnamese than in English.

- The use of adjectives in Vietnamese football commentaries is far more plentiful than in English football commentaries. This results in the fact that Vietnamese football commentaries sound more subjective than English football commentaries.

- In some cases, instead of using a negative evaluative adjectives, Vietnamese sports writers tend to employ positive adjectives accompanied a negative adverbs of degree (*không mấy, chẳng chút, thiếu, không quá, không thực sự...*). The collocation between adverbs of degree and positive adjectives to indicate negative meaning appear quite common in Vietnamese football commentaries and put a good impact on readers.

In English, compound adjectives are formed by two or more words, and most of compound adjectives in English are premodification of nouns. Most of adjectives are formed from verbs, nouns. Adjectives are often present participles, past participles.

5.2. FURTHER IMPLICATIONS FOR THE TEACHING AND LEARNING OF CONCERNING THE USE OF ADJECTIVES AND THEIR COLLOCATIONS AS MODIFIERS OF NOUN PHRASES IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

5.2.1. Implications for Teachers

With the analysis of English and Vietnamese adjectives in terms of syntactic and semantic features in chapter 4, some suggestions are made in order to help Vietnamese learners avoid some types of errors when using adjectives:

- Adjectives can be combined with adverbs to modify noun phrases.
- Adjectives are found to occur before or after nouns in both languages.
- Some adjectives can be found both before or after nouns without changing or changing the meanings.
- Adjectives are formed from verbs, nouns, adjectives by adding ING, ED or prefix, suffix.

- We can find that sports language share similar characteristics with weather, planet, furniture, metal...Adjectives ***thunderous, disastrous, golden*** and ***lightning*** indicate the quality of the nouns ***volley, chance, season*** and ***reactions*** and then metaphorically turn these nouns into other shapes of meanings. Some adjectives relate to weather, weapon, taste...,but the literal meaning is about the quickness, power, failure of the match, shot, run...

- Teachers should help the learners use adjectives effectively by showing the sentential structures as well as functions, positions used for adjectives. In addition, teachers can help students to select what the most appropriate, common adjectives in order to communicate effectively.

- Teachers should provide their students with knowledge of the ambiguity in English constructions used as adjectival phrases in order to help them express what they mean precisely.

5.2.2. Implications for Learners

For the effective use of adjectives, whatever linguistic forms and functions of adjectives are learned, the learner should know the frequent ways used of adjectives.

To use adjectives in daily communication, there are a lot of ways to choose appropriate structures or functions. In addition, learners should know their purposes and how to use them effectively and successfully.

People use adjectives in order to describe things and express feelings...In order to avoid making mistakes learners need to be aware that:

- Adjectives can be combined with adverbs to modify noun phrases.

- Adjectives are both premodifications and postmodifications of noun phrases.

- Some adjectives can be found both before or after nouns without changing or changing the meanings.

- Adjectives are formed from verbs, nouns, adjectives by adding ING, ED or prefix, suffix.

- The position in which adjectives may occur is not fixed and that the same word may have a different sense according to its position.

- The meaning an adjective has in one position may in fact have no relation to its meaning in another. E.g. *the late king*; *the king is late*.

- In English, some adjectives can be found both before or after nouns but the meanings are the same. A few adjectives can be found both before or after nouns and the meanings are different.

- Some adjectives are formed from verbs, but the meanings are different.

- Metaphorically, adjectives are often used by both English speakers and Vietnamese ones. These adjectives then turn the nouns into another shape of meanings.

5.3. LIMITATIONS OF THE THESIS AND FURTHER STUDY

5.3.1. Limitations of the Thesis

First, the study is limited to syntactic and semantic features of adjectives in English and Vietnamese. With the limited data for the analysis which were mainly collected from English and Vietnamese electronic newspapers, grammar books.

Second, we can not select, classify and analyze spoken form of football commentaries on television because of limitation of materials, time and knowledge.

Third, social factors such as age, profession, sex, income, social positions...have noticeable effects on the ways of performing adjectives in both languages, but the study does not consider them completely.

5.3.2. Suggesting for Further Researches

- Syntactic and semantic features of adjectives in spoken form of football commentaries in English and Vietnamese.

- Pragmatic and cultural aspects of adjectives in English and Vietnamese.