

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
UNIVERSITY OF DANANG**

**LÊ THỊ KIM HIỀN**

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO LINGUISTIC  
FEATURES OF VERBS OF DEMANDING  
IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE**

**Field : THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
Code : 60.22.15**

**M.A. THESIS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
(RESEARCH REPORT)**

**Supervisor: PHAN THỊ BÉ, M.ed**

*DANANG, 2011*

The thesis has been completed at the College of Foreign Languages,  
DANANG UNIVERSITY

Supervisor: Phan Thị Bé, M.ed

Examiner 1: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lưu Quý Khương

Examiner 2: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Trần Văn Phước

The thesis will be defended at the Examination Council for the M.A.  
theses, University of Danang.

Time: August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Venue: University of Danang

The original of this thesis is accessible for the purpose of reference at:

- Library of the College of Foreign Languages, University of Danang.
- The Information Resources Center, University of Danang.

## CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. RATIONALE

Verb – the most complex and most commonly used kinds of words, plays the most important role in every language. Sentences cannot exist without verbs, the words in a language indicating thoughts and actions. We need nouns to name things and verbs to express what those things do. Verbs can describe the action, how many things were acting and indicate when the action happened.

Verbs are classified in different ways and according to various criteria. We have verbs of existence, verbs of creation, verbs of consumption, verbs of impaction, verbs of demanding, and so on . Among these kinds of verbs, verbs of demanding have not received much attention although they have wide occurrence in a variety of types of contexts both in English and Vietnamese. These verbs of demanding such as *ask, require, demand, expect, insist* often make learners confused when using them. For example, “ask” and “demand” describe the action of demanding, but imply different manner of demanding. Although these verbs express the same thing, they are different in many aspects such as their structures , their degrees of politeness and the occurrence frequency in written text and spoken form. In other words, they are different in syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic features.

Let us look at the following examples:

- [1] Where a property under the common ownership of husband and wife is *required* by law to be registered for ownership, the names of both husband and wife must be inscribed in the ownership certificate thereof. [28]

In this sentence, the verb “*require*” expresses compulsory meaning, stipulated by the law, so we cannot replace it by the verb “demand” or “ask”.

- [2] Katie *asked* me not to tell her parents. [4,p84-85]

“ask” in this case can be understood as a way to express an informal requirement

- [3] The fortune-teller *insisted* on telling the farmer’s fortune, and he gave an extravagantly colourful description. [26, p.225-226]

Here the verb “*insist*” is used to express a strong requirement, it has emphatic meaning.

- [5] The next day, the fortune-teller *demanded* the farmer for his lodgings and for having his fortune told. [26,p.225- 226]

In this sentence, the verb “demand” may express a polite requirement and the sentence means “ *The fortune-teller asked the farmer for his lodgings and for having his fortune told politely.*”

There are some verbs expressing the actions of demanding in English and there are differences among them in semantics, syntactics and pragmatics. Moreover, each demanding verb itself has its own usage and collocation. These demanding verbs are different from one another in terms of formality, friendliness and politeness. It is the variety of demanding verbs that creates difficulties for learners of English. In addition, most Vietnamese learners of English seem to have little systematic knowledge of demanding verbs. So they do not often make proper use of demanding verbs in communication. As a result, they can hardly achieve communication purposes. Therefore, to help Vietnamese learners of English achieve success in their learning and satisfy their communicative purpose, it is desirable to

carry out a study of linguistic features of demanding verbs in English and Vietnamese.

## **1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

### **1.2.1. Aims**

This study aims at providing Vietnamese learners of English with a better understanding of the syntactic and semantic features of demanding verbs in English and in Vietnamese and how these kinds of verbs are used in different kinds of discourse.

### **1.2.2. Objectives**

The objectives of the study are:

- To identify the syntactic and semantic features of verbs of demanding in English and in Vietnamese.
- To find out how verbs of demanding are used in different kinds of discourse .
- To put forward some implications for teaching and learning English verbs of demanding to Vietnamese learners.

## **1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

To achieve the aims and objectives of this study, I attempt to answer the following research questions:

1. What are the syntactic and semantic features of English verbs of demanding?
2. What are the syntactic and semantic features of Vietnamese verbs of demanding?
3. What are the differences and similarities of demanding verbs in terms of syntax and semantics?
4. What are the implications for teaching and learning English verbs of demanding to Vietnamese learners?

## **1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

The research does not focus on all the verbs of demanding in English but on five commonly used verbs in English: ask, require, demand, expect, insist, and five verbs in Vietnamese : yêu cầu, đòi hỏi, đề nghị, ra lệnh, qui định. However, due to the time and length limit of the thesis and the ability of our own, the paper is just intended to investigate the syntactic and semantic features of these verbs . Idiomatic verbs and phrasal verbs do not belong to this thesis.

## **1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

With the purpose of making an investigation into the syntactic, semantic and features of verbs of demanding in English and Vietnamese , this study hopes:

- Vietnamese learners have a comprehensive understanding of verbs of demanding in English and Vietnamese .
- Vietnamese learners can find out the differences of the verbs to choose suitable verbs to express different meanings in English, and they can avoid mistakes in using these verbs. So, the ultimate goal of this study is to investigate some syntactic and semantic features of verbs of demanding in English and in Vietnamese .

## **1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY**

This study is divided into five chapters as follows:

**Chapter 1**, the introduction, includes the rationale for the research, aims, objectives, research questions, scope and organization of the study.

**Chapter 2** briefly reviews previous researchers related to the topic and presents the theoretical background of the study.

**Chapter 3** indicates methods of collecting and analyzing data.

**Chapter 4** findings and discussion which studies the syntactic and semantic features of verbs of demanding in English and Vietnamese.

**Chapter 5**, the conclusion and implications, summarizes the results of the task done in chapter 4 and present the suggested implications for learning and teaching English verbs of demanding. It also puts forward some limitations and unsolved problems for further research.

## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW & THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDIES

#### 2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

##### 2.2.1. General Views of Verbs in English

###### 2.2.1.1 *Definitions of Verbs*

###### 2.2.1.2. *Classification of Verbs*

###### 2.2.1.3. *Types of Complementation of Verbs*

##### 2.2.2. Vietnamese Verbs

###### 2.2.2.1. *Definitions of Vietnamese Verbs*

###### 2.2.2.2. *Classifications of Vietnamese Verbs*

##### 2.2.3. Verbs of demanding

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, "verbs of demanding" means to say that somebody should do or have something.

In Vietnamese, Hoàng Phê [1998] defined "demanding verbs" as "nêu ra điều gì với người nào đó, tỏ ý muốn người ấy làm, biết rằng đó là nhiệm vụ hoặc quyền hạn, khả năng của người ấy" [18, p.1129]

## CHAPTER 3

### METHODS AND PROCEDURE

**3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN:** qualitative and quantitative methods

**3.2. RESEARCH METHOD:** descriptive, contrastive and deductive method.

#### 3.3. RESEARCH PROCEDURE

The procedures are as follows:

- Choosing the topic.
- Collecting the documents related to the research.
- Finding out data.
- Analyzing data:

Firstly, the syntactic features of the 5 verbs of demanding in English and Vietnamese are presented through clear and understandable examples.

Secondly, the semantic features of the 5 English verbs of demanding and their Vietnamese equivalents are presented in turn.

Next, the frequency of the 5 English verbs of demanding are investigated.

Last, some solutions for teaching, learning, and translating English verbs of demanding are put forwards.

#### 3.4. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLES

The study is conducted with 200 samples collected from different kind of discourse in English and 200 ones in Vietnamese. Samples are sentences or discourses containing the English verbs : **ask, require, demand, expect, insist** and five Vietnamese verbs: **yêu cầu, đòi hỏi, đề nghị, ra lệnh, qui định.**

The samples are extracted from short stories and novels in English (Modern English Literature), American and Vietnamese, and

some sources from the Internet, and some different kinds of discourse of law.

Lastly, the distinctive features of ESVs and VSVs were found and analyzed.

### 3.5. DATA ANALYSIS

With the collected data, we carry out the analysis of DVs in English and DVs in Vietnamese in terms of the syntactic and semantic features. The analysis results of the DVs in English and DVs in Vietnamese will be compared and contrasted in order to find out the similarities and differences between them.

The analysis results of DVs in English and DVs in Vietnamese are examined and compared in each category in an attempt to find out the similarities and differences between the two languages.

### 3.6. VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

Comparing and contrasting the uses and meanings of DVs in English and Vietnamese require collecting two corpora of literature works to be studied and analyzed. Since the whole research work relied on the corpora, it was essential that these works be carefully read and that examples be carefully selected so as to ensure a satisfying reliability of results. The patterns from the data collection are always compared with the results from theoretical background to maintain the quality of the research.

Besides the data selected are almost derived from American, English and Vietnamese literary works and are investigated on the basis of linguistic and grammatical documents so they are reliable. The criteria to examine linguistic features of DVs are used as syntactic and semantic background. Moreover, the investigation of the data follows the principles in the theoretical background

presented in Chapter 2 to guarantee the reliability and validity of the research.

In brief, the study will strictly follow the research design. The data collection will play an important part in finding the result of the research to produce a qualified study, helping Vietnamese learners of English to overcome their difficulties in using a foreign language as well as to achieve better communicative aim.

## CHAPTER 4 FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter deals with the syntactic, and semantic features of verbs of demanding in English and Vietnamese. The examples used in the analysis have been taken from the sources as already mentioned in Chapter 3. The discussion of findings on the syntactic and semantic features of verbs of demanding in English and Vietnamese including the similarities as well as differences in aspects of syntax and semantics of these demanding verbs will also be given.

### 4.1. SYNTACTICS FEATURES OF DEMANDING VERBS IN ENGLISH

#### 4.1.1. General Syntactic Features of DVs in English

Most of the DVs can be used as transitive

However, DVs can be intransitive verbs

##### 4.1.1.1. *Specific Syntactic Features of ASK*

#### Structure A

Ask + to Inf
--------------

#### Structure B

Ask + NP/Pro + to Inf
-----------------------

**Structure C**

Ask + Prep + N/NP

**Structure D**

Ask + (that)- Clause

**4.1.1.2. Specific Syntactic Features of DEMAND****Structure A**

Demand + to Inf

**Structure B**

Demand + NP

**Structure C**

Demand + NP/Pro + to Inf

**Structure D**

Demand + that-clause

**4.1.1.3. Specific Syntactic Features of REQUIRE****Structure A**

Require + to Inf +N/NP

**Structure B**

Require + N/NP

**Structure C**

Require +N/NP+ to Inf

**Structure D**

Require + that- clause

**4.1.1.4. Specific Syntactic Features of INSIST****Structure A**

Insist + Prep + N/NP/V-ing

**Structure B**

Insist + that- clause

**4.1.1.5 Syntactic Features of EXPECT****Structure A**

Expect + to Inf

**Structure B**

Expect + NP/O + to Inf

**Structure C**

Expect + Prep + NP

**Structure D**

Expect + that- clause

**Table 4.1. Summary of Syntactic Features of DVs**

Types of Structures	ASK	DEMAND	REQUIRE	INSIST	EXPECT
1. DVs+to Inf	√	√	√		√
2. DVs+N/NP		√	√		
3. DVs+NP/Pr+ to Inf	√	√	√		√
4. DVs+Prep+N/NP/V-ing	√		√	√	√
5. DVs+ that-clause	√	√	√	√	√

**4.2. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF DEMANDING VERBS IN ENGLISH****4.2.1. Semantic Features of ASK**\* *requiring sth*\* *telling someone (not) to do sth*\* *requiring sth from sb*\* *requiring to do sth*\* *requiring that sb do sth***4.2.2. Semantic Features of DEMAND**\* *asking for sth*

- \* *asking to do sth*
- \* *requiring sth from sb*
- \* *requiring that sb do sth*

#### 4.2.3. Semantic Features of REQUIRE

- \* *asking for sth forcefully*
- \* *asking someone to do sth*
- \* *asking to do sth*
- \* *asking sth from sb*
- \* *demanding that sb do sth*

#### 4.2.4. Semantic Features of INSIST

- \* *requiring sth forcefully*
- \* *requiring to do sth forcefully*
- \* *demanding that sb do sth*

#### 4.2.5. Semantic Features of EXPECT

\* *requiring sth as rightfully due or appropriate in the circumstances*

- \* *requiring sb to fulfil an obligation*

### 4.3. SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF DEMANDING VERBS IN VIETNAMESE

#### 4.3.1 Syntactic Features of Demanding Verbs

##### 4.3.1.1. Syntactic Features of “yêu cầu”

###### Structure A

yêu cầu + NP/Pro + V

###### Structure B

yêu cầu + V + NP

###### Structure C

yêu cầu + NP

###### Structure D

yêu cầu +(rằng) +Clause

###### Structure E

yêu cầu + Ø

##### 4.3.1.2. Syntactic Features of “đòi hỏi”

The verb “đòi hỏi” often happens in the narrative utterances.

This is called an opening behaviour.

###### Structure A

đòi hỏi+ NP/Pro + V

###### Structure B

đòi hỏi+ V + NP

###### Structure C

đòi hỏi+ NP

###### Structure D

đòi hỏi+(rằng) +Clause

###### Structure E

đòi hỏi+(Adv)

###### Structure F

đòi hỏi+Oi +Od

##### 4.3.1.3. Syntactic Features of “đề nghị”

###### Structure A

đề nghị+NP/Pro + V

###### Structure B

đề nghị+V+NP/Pro

###### Structure C

đề nghị+NP

## Structure E

đề nghị+(rằng) +Clause

## 4.3.1.4. Syntactic Features of “ra lệnh”

## Structure A

ra lệnh (cho)+NP/Pro + V

## Structure B

ra lệnh + V (+ NP)

## Structure C

ra lệnh + (rằng) +Clause

## Structure D

ra lệnh + (Adv)

## 4.3.1.5. Syntactic Features of “quy định”

The verb “*quy định*” often appears in the behaviour of legally compulsory requirement.

## Structure A

quy định+ V (+ NP)

## Structure B

quy định+ NP

## Structure D

quy định+ (rằng) + Clause

## Structure E

quy định+ (Adv)

Table 4.2. Frequency of Types of Structures in Vietnamese Demanding Verbs

Types of Structures	<i>yêu cầu</i>	<i>đòi hỏi</i>	<i>đề nghị</i>	<i>ra lệnh</i>	<i>quy định</i>
1. <i>DVs</i> +NP/ <i>Pr</i> +V	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2. <i>DVs</i> +N/N <i>P</i>		✓	✓		✓
3. <i>DVs</i> +V+ <i>NP</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. <i>DVs</i> + <i>that-</i> <i>clause</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. <i>DVs</i> + $\theta$ + ( <i>Adv</i> )	✓			✓	✓
6. <i>DVs</i> + <i>Oi</i> + <i>Od</i>		✓			

#### 4.4. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF DEMANDING VERBS

The common feature of these demanding verbs in semantics is high quality of requirement, it is used in the types of imperative sentences (having someone do something)

##### 4.4.1. Semantic Features of “yêu cầu”

\* *asking someone to do sth*

\* *asking someone to do sth in the way that shows you expect to get it*

##### 4.4.2. Semantic Features of “đòi hỏi”

\* *requiring or demanding sth*

\* *asking to do sth*

\* *asking for sth beyond one's ability*

##### 4.4.3. Semantic Features of “đề nghị”

\* *politely asking someone to do sth*

\* *proposing a plan or an idea for someone to discuss or consider*

\* *requiring that someone do sth*

##### 4.4.4. Semantic Features of “ra lệnh”

\* *giving an authoritative direction or instruction to do sth*

\* *ordering (sth) to be done or (someone) to be treated in a particular way*

\* *telling someone to do sth in a strong way which does not permit him/her to refuse*

##### 4.4.5. Semantic Features of “quy định”

\* *giving a requirement, a rule or a law and force everyone to follow*

#### 4.5. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES IN SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF DVs IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

##### 4.5.1. Similarities in Syntactic and Semantic Features of DVs in English and Vietnamese

##### 4.5.1.1. Similarities in Syntactic Features of DVs in English and Vietnamese

We can summarize the syntactic features of DVs in English and Vietnamese in the following table:

Table 4.3. Frequency of Types of Structures of Demanding Verbs in English and Vietnamese

Types of Structures	DVs in English					DVs in Vietnamese				
	EXPECT	INSIST	REQUIRE	DEMAND	ASK	QUY ĐỊNH	RA LỆNH	ĐỀ NGHỊ	ĐÒI HỎI	YÊU CẦU
1. DVs+to V+ NP	>		>	>	>	x	x	x	x	x
2. DVs + NP/Pr + to V			>				x	x		
3. DVs + N/NP			>					x	x	
4. DVs + Prep + NP/V-ing			>		>					
5. DVs + that-clause					>					
6. DVs + $\theta$ + (Adv)					>					
7. DVs + Oi + Od										

As we can see from syntactic features of DVs in English and Vietnamese, all of DVs can be followed by “that-clause”.

Moreover, except for the verb “*insist*” in English and “*quy định*” in Vietnamese, we can find that there is a similarity of the structure “*DVs + NP/Pr + to Inf*” in English and Vietnamese. This structure includes *Actor + Affected + Process* in English and Vietnamese (DVs +ai + làm gì). Clearly, there is no difference between English and Vietnamese structure. The English sentences can be translated into Vietnamese by a similar structure without changing the position of the elements in the sentence.

In addition, also apart from the verb “*insist*”, there is a similarity of the structure “*DVs + V+ NP*” in English and Vietnamese. (DVs +làm gì).

Besides, some of DVs have direct object as *demand, require* in English and *đòi hỏi, đề nghị, quy định* in Vietnamese.

#### 4.5.1.2. Similarities in Semantic Features of DVs in English and Vietnamese

As we can see from semantic features, the common meaning of these DVs is to ask the hearer to do something just because it is the speaker’s wishes. The most considerable element that brings about the force of requirements is the speaker’s authority over the addressee. For example, *ask, demand, require* in English and *yêu cầu, đòi hỏi, đề nghị, ra lệnh* in Vietnamese are the most popular among DVs. They are neutral verbs and they both show the meaning of asking someone to do something. Most of these verbs mean that the power of the speaker is higher than that of the hearer.

The verb *order* and *ra lệnh* are similar in meaning, they are often used to give an authority over the hearer, expressing the highest power.

From semantic features of DVs in English and Vietnamese, we can conclude that DVs have a common meaning “asking someone to do something” just because it is the speaker’s wish and the speaker’s authority is over the addressee. Some of DVs have similar meanings, for example, “*ask, demand, require* and *yêu cầu, đề nghị*” or “*order and ra lệnh*” are similar in their semantic features.

#### 4.5.2. Differences in Syntactic and Semantic Features of DVs in English and Vietnamese

##### 4.5.2.1. Differences in Syntactic Features of DVs in English and Vietnamese

Through the table 4.13, most of DVs in English and Vietnamese combine with a verb and a noun phrase, (except for *insist*) and combine with a noun or noun phrase or a pronoun and a verb (*DVs + N/NP/Pr + To V*), (apart from *quy định*). Meanwhile, the structure like *DVs + N/NP* is taken for the structures of *demand, require* in English and *đòi hỏi, đề nghị, quy định* in Vietnamese. Moreover, the structure “*DVs + Prep + N/NP/V-ing*” is applied in English, but this does not exist in Vietnamese. However, most of English structures are active structures with an active English DV meaning, whereas Vietnamese DVs have the passive meaning like *được yêu cầu, được đề nghị, được quy định*.

##### 4.5.2.2. Differences in Semantic Features of DVs in English and Vietnamese

In both languages, the level of politeness and formality in requirement is different. Besides, the conditions of each verb’s nuance are quite different. The verb *ask* and *insist* can be used in an informal situation to request someone to do or give something, or to ask the hearer to perform the action. The meaning of *demand* is

asking someone to do something forcefully, asking the hearer to do it with a strong will, whereas the verb *require* is to give an order as compulsory.

The significative nuance of the English DVs is also different. We can arrange them in a grade from higher to lower: insist – demand – ask – require- expect. The verb “*insist*” is asking someone to do something forcefully with a strong attitude of the speaker and forcing the hearer must perform it by the way.

In communication, the level of formality in the structure “*DVs+NP/O+to Inf*” is rather complex. For example, the verb “ask” is often used by an older wiser person to an inferior. When something require something, we use the verb “*require*” or “*demand*”, but when someone with a high position asks something, we only use the verb “*demand*”. (The opposition demanded that the prime minister should resign. [25])

In the discourses of law, the verb “*require*” in English and “*yêu cầu*”, “*đề nghị*”, “*quy định*” in Vietnamese are often used most.

As for *order*, it can be seen that the difference between *order* and other DVs is that the former is much stronger and this strength comes from the speaker’s being in a position of considerable power over the hearer. One can give an order from a position of any kind of power.

In conclusion, the following remarks can be drawn from the findings:

- In both English and Vietnamese, demanding action is expressed by using verbs indicating requirements. They include *ask*,

*demand, require, insist, expect* in English and *yêu cầu, đòi hỏi, đề nghị, ra lệnh, quy định* in Vietnamese.

- However, these DVs are not analogous in degree of politeness and level of formality. Markers of politeness and mitigating devices of English and Vietnamese languages are quite different.

- Generally, the differences between DVs in English and Vietnamese create certain difficulties for learners and helping them to overcome these obstacles to reach a thorough understanding is necessary. For this reason, these conclusions will be used as a background for implications for teaching and learning English in the next chapter.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

#### 5.1. CONCLUSIONS

Our life depends much on the quick and effective use of language. Language serves society as a means of communication between people which is considered the basic function of language. Without it, the relationship among people in society become looser and society cannot exist. In communication, language is used on different purposes.

From the investigation, the DVs in English can be generalized as having wide range of meanings. They combine with other word-classes to form lexico-grammatical structures in which various manifestations of meaning could be expressed.

The matters under investigation are the syntactic and semantic features of DVs in English and Vietnamese. Through the result of data collection and data analysis of English, American and Vietnamese literary works, novels and some sources from the Internet, the thesis provokes some problems on language teaching and learning and suggests some solutions. The followings are what the study has reached in the course of investigating.

Syntactically, the study has described the syntactic features of DVs in English and Vietnamese. Most of DVs in English are transitive, some are intransitive. Whereas, DVs in Vietnamese are much simpler, they often need an object (except for “đòi hỏi” which can be followed by two objects) Moreover, both English and Vietnamese have a strong tendency in using “**that-clause**” after DVs. Besides, the structure “*DVs + NP/Pro +to Inf*” (DVs ai làm gì) is commonly used in both English and Vietnamese.

Semantically, from analyzing the examples taken from literary works and some sources from the Internet, we can come to the conclusion that the differences in meaning between DVs in both languages are not great. The common meaning is to ask the hearer to do something just because it is the speaker's wishes. The speaker's authority over the addressee is the most important element that brings about the force of requirement. Most of these DVs mean the power of the speaker is higher than that of the hearer. In addition, the use of these DVs in both English and Vietnamese also has a great effect on the choice of the level of politeness and formality of the language.

In sum, the study has provided learners of English with detailed description on DVs in comparison with these in Vietnamese basically. Although the result is still relative and not as satisfactory as we have expected, we hope to help Vietnamese learners of English as well as foreign learners of Vietnamese to overcome some problems they can encounter when learning and studying a language.

## **5.2. SOME IMPLICATIONS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING ENGLISH DVs**

Syntactically, most students often make some mistakes because of their habits of using DVs when writing or speaking without noticing their structures. For example, "She insisted to buy some new clothes." instead of having to say "She insisted on buying some new clothes.". Therefore, students should be supplied with adequate knowledge of the structures of DVs in English so that they can use the verbs better and more effectively.

Semantically, to help student understand and distinguish the meaning of these DVs is not easy at all. It requires a process of

improving knowledge and practicing it. For example, some students often say "School regulations ask students to be in uniform." instead of having to say "School regulations require students to be in uniform." Although the verb "ask" and "require" have a common meaning (ask sth to do sth), however, in this case, we must use the verb "require" because it is often used in the discourses of laws or regulations.

Therefore, the teacher should spend more time helping students familiarize with these DVs and explain the specific meaning each verb encodes so that they can know how to use them effectively. Teacher also should encourage them to use a variety of DVs on written and spoken forms.

## **5.3. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

As mentioned in the scope of the study in the introduction, the thesis undoubtedly has some limitations though we have tried our best to perfect it. Due to limitation of time and data collected, there are unavoidable weaknesses in the study, for example the verbs of demanding were not comprehensively studied so that the results would be more convincing.

## **5.4. SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER STUDY**

The study has focused on the syntactic and semantic features of verbs of demanding in English and in Vietnamese, therefore, the following aspects can be dealt with in further studies:

- Firstly, pragmatic features of DVs should be studied.
- Secondly, the thesis just focuses on written language, so investigation of DVs into spoken language, for example, the language from films, tape should be carried out.