

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
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**STYLISTIC DEVICES USED IN ENGLISH AND
VIETNAMESE TEXTS DESCRIBING
NATURAL SCENERY**

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

**MASTER THESIS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
(RESEARCH SUMMARY)**

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DANANG, 2011

This thesis has been completed at the University of Danang

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The thesis will be defended at the Examination Council for the M.A

Time : September 30th 2011

Venue : Quang Trung University

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

Language, its characteristics as well as its important function are always attractive topics towards many linguists. Throughout the developing history of human society, it is clear that language is always one of the most important means of human communication.

V.Fromkin, R.Rodman and N.Hyams used to use the quote of G.H.Lewes to assert *The nature of human language* in the book “*An Introduction to language*”: “*Just as birds have wings, man has language. The wings give the bird its peculiar aptitude for aerial locomotion, language enables man’s intelligence and passions to acquire their peculiar characters of intellect and sentiment*” [7, p.2]. It is clear that language is always considered as something wonderful and mysterious to human. Thanks to this aid, people can communicate, transfer their ideas and turn their purpose, their thought into reality.

In texts describing natural scenery (TDNS), stylistic devices (SDs) are often used for many purposes. Thanks to these SDs, people can imagine vivid pictures of a tourist attraction, can understand or predict some details or authors’ implication, have an insight of what they are reading.

[1] “*Then there is another day – to the eye nothing whatever has changed – when **all the smells are new and delightful, and the whiskers of the Jungle** People quiver to their roots, and **the winter hair comes aways from their sides in long, dragged locks.**Then, perhaps, **a little rain fall, and all the trees and the bushes and the bamboos and the mosses and the juicy-leaved plants wake with a noise of growing that you can almost hear, and under this noise runs, day and night, a deep hum.** That is **the noise of the spring** – a vibrating boom which is neither bees, nor falling water, nor the wind in tree-tops, but*

the purring of the warm, happy world” [32, p.5]

The writer uses enumeration, personification and simile, chooses descriptive words or phrases: “*new*”, “*delightful*”, “*juicy-leave*” to describe the beauty of the Jungle in spring. He uses some verbs: “*wake*”, “*run*”, “*come away*” to mention to the natural and mysterious change of everything in the Jungle when the spring is coming. This description also lets us see the hopeful and optimistic viewpoint, the warm, happy and peaceful life in the Jungle at that time.

Let us analyze the following example:

[3] “*Khí nóng nặng nề của mùa hạ đã tan rồi. Cái rét sắc như dao của mùa đông chưa tới. **Trời xanh ngắt. Nắng êm êm. Gió phoi phới trên da, cho người ta cái cảm giác nhẹ nhõm sau khi tắm. Tạo vật hiền hòa lắm. Tạo vật không hề nén và dọa nạt. Người ta tin vào đời hơn***” [60, p.118]

By using SDs such as simile, enumeration skilfully in the example above, Nam Cao writes an effective text describing scenery which contributes to expressing the character’s psychological factors such as mood, inner feelings without using any direct descriptive words to his character.

Living in a shortage of food, a poor family with four children, and an oppressive society with so many kinds of tax, the mother in the story has to count and face up to daily impasse. However, her mood has something change when she thinks of her lovely children. She smiles herself and thinks of their happiness and expectation when getting her special gifts: “*bón cây mía vừa ngon vừa dài*”. She had hesitated for a long time, worried a lot and finally decided to buy the gifts although she did not have enough money to buy rice for the whole family. Her thoughts about her children made her forget real life. She now feels the weather better, the natural scenery more beautiful with “*trời xanh ngắt*”, “*nắng êm êm*”, “*gió phoi phới ...*”

and the life more hopeful. The readers can understand all these things thanks to TDNS united in the story.

Theoretically, the previous linguistic studies have presented many things related to stylistic devices, none of them has mentioned to detailed analysis of common SDs used in TDNS in English and Vietnamese. The aim of this study is to discover and describe the features of some “**Stylistic Devices Used in English and Vietnamese Texts Describing Natural Scenery**”.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.2.1. Aims

This study is aimed at finding out the various stylistic devices often used in text describing natural scenery in English and Vietnamese literary works. Moreover, this study may help Vietnamese learners of English more aware of improving their writing skill as well as using SDs to write text describing natural scenery.

1.2.2. Objectives

The study is expected to:

- identify, describe common stylistic devices used in English and Vietnamese TDNS.
- discover similarities and differences between common stylistic devices used in the two languages.
- suggest some implications on teaching, learning, writing and translating of English TDNS into Vietnamese.

1.3. JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

Upon completion of this research, we hope to provide Vietnamese learners of English with a better insight into the nature and the use of some common SDs in TDNS in the two languages.

1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study focuses on the findings of stylistic features of some common SDs used in TDNS in English and Vietnamese, analyzing phonetic SDs, lexical SDs as well as syntactical SDs; pointing out

some pragmatic features of using SDs in English and Vietnamese TDNS. The thesis is only based on English and Vietnamese novels and short stories written from the early of the 19th century.

1.5. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The research seeks to answer the following questions:

1. What are the common SDs used in TDNS in English and Vietnamese?
2. What are the similarities and differences between SDs used in TDNS in the two languages?
3. What are some suggestions for teaching and learning SDs used in English TDNS to Vietnamese learners?

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

This Thesis consists of 5 chapters:

Chapter 1 - INTRODUCTION

Chapter 2 - LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Chapter 3 - METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Chapter 4 - FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Chapter 5 - CONCLUSIONS - IMPLICATIONS

- LIMITATIONS - RECOMMENDATIONS

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. A REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDIES

Many linguists such as C. Bazerman (*The Genre and Activity of the Experimental Article in Science, 1988*), C. Kramsch (*Language and Culture, 2003*), I.R Galperin (*Stylistics, 1977*), P. Verdonk (*Stylistics, 2003*) have done many researches on linguistics including stylistic devices to find out their semantic, syntactic as well as pragmatic features, especially their positive effect. As defined in “*Stylistics*” written by I.R Galperin (1977), “A Stylistic Device is a

conscious and intentional intensification of some typical structural and/ or semantic property of a language unit (neutral or expressive) promoted to a generalized status and thus becoming a generative model” [8, p.29].

In Vietnamese, stylistic device is also a matter of concern to several linguists such as Dinh Trong Lac and Nguyen Thai Hoa (*Phong cách học tiếng Việt, 1995*), (*Thực hành phong cách học tiếng Việt, 1993*); Huu Đạt (*Phong cách học tiếng Việt hiện đại, 2001*). In the books entitled “*Phong cách học tiếng Việt*” (1995) and “*Thực hành phong cách học tiếng Việt*” (1993), they give a clear definition of stylistic device in Vietnamese and list a range of various stylistic devices.

There are many studies which have presented many things related to SDs, yet none gives fully detailed analysis of common SDs used in TDSN in English and Vietnamese.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Stylistic Devices

2.2.1.1. Definition

As mentioned in the book “*The Linguistics Encyclopedia*”: “*Stylistic analysis can be used as supporting evidence in law courts (this cannot be a verbatim report of what the accused said, it conflicts with the person’s normal patterns of language use) and as an aid to deciding authorship of unascrbed manuscripts. It is an important component of sociolinguistic surveys and it can be an important teaching aid*” [16, p.510]. Rhetoric in language can be defined as distinctive linguistic expression to serve its own purposes and effect with its own inventory of tool, make language colourful and mysterious.

2.2.1.2. Functions of Stylistic Devices

The notion of basic function given by C. Bazerman (*The Genre and Activity of the Experimental Article in Science, 1988*): “*the basic function of rhetoric is the use of words by human agents*” and “*... for*

rhetoric as such is not rooted in any past condition of human society. It is rooted in the essential function of language itself, a function which is wholly realistic, and is continually born anew” [2]. Rhetoric device is understood as an instrumental use of languages.

2.2.1.3. Classification

a. Phonetic Stylistic Devices

b. Lexical Stylistic Devices

c. Syntactical Rhetorical Devices

2.2.2. Text Describing Scenery

2.2.2.1. Notion

Description is used in all forms of writing to create a vivid impression of a person, place, object or event... Descriptive writing is usually used to help writers develop an aspect of their work, create a particular circumstance or atmosphere in which their characters live, or describe objects, characters’ mood, etc.

Texts describing aims at showing rather than telling readers what something/someone like. It relies on precisely used vocabulary with carefully chosen adjectives, nouns, verbs, adverbs, etc. It concentrates only on the aspects that add something to the main purpose of the description, create sensory description - what is heard, seen, smelt, felt, tasted.

2.2.2.2. Functions of Texts Describing Scenery in Context

Nguyen Du used to say that “*Tả cảnh ngụ tình*”, which means that people description and natural scenery description always make a close relation and mutual interaction depending on writers’ intention and implication. Writers certainly know how to write TDNS and make use of them to express inside feeling or change in mood of characters, contribute to recovering their implication as well as spirit of their works.

2.3. SUMMARY

Stylistic devices, their characteristics and functions attract attention of many linguists as well as researchers. The matter of

discovery of their marvel as well as application them in literature is always new and endless. SD is certainly an important instrument which can help language users transfer their message fully and meaningfully, reach their aims in communication.

In the whole system, the whole literary work, TDNS are not special parts which can attract readers at first. However, it does not mean that TDNS have no function in such literary works. Thanks to these TDNS, interaction between writers and readers become closer because they help writers completely expose outside factors, circumstances which directly and strongly affect to their characters, the development of story.

SDs used in TDNS are not always the same in all literary works or in the two languages. But their influence on works' success and readers' feeling can not be refused. This thesis hopes to partly contribute to analyzing and understanding more about SDs used in TDNS, their importance and their impact on readers.

CHAPTER 3

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

This thesis aims at making an investigation into frequency of phonetic, lexical and syntactical SDs used in texts describing natural scenery in the two languages as well as their pragmatic features. Qualitative approach and quantitative approach are combined to carry out this study.

Firstly, some fundamental theoretical knowledge related to stylistic devices such as definition, classification and functional styles of the terms in English and Vietnamese are collected and presented to make a basic foundation for the investigation.

Secondly, necessary information, materials and examples in the two languages are described, analyzed, compared and contrasted

to clarify and expose the similarities and differences between SDs used in English and Vietnamese TDNS.

Finally, the quantitative approach is employed to figure out the frequency of the occurrence of each SD in English and Vietnamese TDNS.

3.2. RESEARCH METHODS

Descriptive method and contrastive method are considered as the main methods used for the contrastive analysis of SDs in English and Vietnamese TDNS:

- Descriptive method is used in the first step. English and Vietnamese examples of TDNS are chosen, described and presented to identify, classify them into different categories of SDs.
- Contrastive method is used to analyze and set up similarities and differences between SDs used in English and Vietnamese TDNS.

3.3. RESEARCH PROCEDURES

3.3.1. Data Collection and Corpus Building

Data are carefully chosen from English and Vietnamese literary works to make a comparison and contrast between the two languages.

First and foremost, a collection of data in the two languages will be done. 300 examples of SDs (150 in each language) are mainly taken from different sources of literary works which are hoped to cover most of the cases employing SDs in the two languages.

These documents are collected from English novels and books of such writers as Earnest Hemingway, William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, Margaret Mitchell, George Bernard Shaw, Jane Austen, John Galsworthy, Oscar Wilde, Emily Bronte, etc.

In Vietnamese, the famous and popular novels are exploited such as *Chí Phèo*, *Dì Hào*, *Đời Thừa*, *Tư cách mõ*, *Giăng sáng*, *Mua danh*, *Sống Mòn* by Nam Cao; *Đứa Con Đầu Lòng*, *Gió Lạnh Đầu Mùa*, *Hai Đứa Trẻ*, *Nhà Mẹ Lê* by Thạch Lam, etc.

3.3.2. Data Analysis

The data analysis is carried out with these six following steps:

- a. Observing the collected data
- b. Sorting out the data into categories
- c. Producing a full investigation into the terms of phonetic, lexical and syntactical stylistic devices
- d. Analyzing examples to illustrate for each case of SDs.
- e. Making a comparison of linguistic features of SDs in terms of syntax and pragmatics in the two languages
- f. Implications on the use of language in literary works.

3.4. INSTRUMENT FOR DATA COLLECTION

The analysis of SDs under investigation is mainly based on the theory of I.R. Gaperin, P. Verdonk, Dinh Trong Lac and Cu Dinh Tu. The similarities and differences between common SDs used in English and Vietnamese TDNS will be discovered through choosing and analyzing the data collected from famous novels and stories written from the early of the 19th century in the two languages.

Supporting instruments such as statistics, tables and charts are also used in the research.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1. PHONETIC STYLISTIC DEVICES IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE TEXTS DESCRIBING NATURAL SCENERY Onomatopoeia

Let us have a look at the following example:

- [20] “*The air was full of all the night noise that taken together to make one big silence – **the click** of one bamboo stem against the other, **the rustle** of something alive in the undergrowth, **the scratch and squawk** of a half-waned bird and the fall of water ever so far away*” [39]

The author introduces the night atmosphere of the Jungle to the

readers lively with a range of noise. The author uses the definite article “*the*” and “*direct onomatopoeia*” such as *click, scratch, squawk, rustle* to make the description be more effective and realer.

4.2. LEXICAL STYLISTIC DEVICES IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE TEXTS DESCRIBING NATURAL SCENERY

4.2.1. Reduplicative

Reduplication is used both in inflection to convey grammatical function such as plurality, intensification and in lexical derivation to create new words.

Reduplicative words sometimes are onomatopoeia or pictographic words, and also are words used to describe colour, feelings, sentiment.

4.2.1.1. Partial Reduplication

Partial reduplication involves a reduplication of only part of the word. When analyzing the data for partial reduplication, we can classify it into three kinds: alliteration, assonance and consonance.

Let us have a look at these examples:

- [29] “*Nếp nhà tranh **lũn cùn** nấp dưới rặng tre **lả ngà**, lặng lẽ úp lấy khu đất dề thành và kín đáo nấu trong một xóm cuối làng Đông Xá, đứng ngó lại, có thể làm với nơi **nhốt lợn***” [71]

4.2.1.2. Full Reduplication

- [33] “*Mùa thu nước sông Đà **lừ lừ** chín đỏ như da mặt người bầm đi vì rượu bữa, **lừ lừ** cái màu đỏ giận dữ ở một người bất mãn bực bội gì mỗi độ thu về*”. [68, p.234]

The word “*lừ lừ*” vividly clarifies, describes “*the color of the water in Da River*”, “*the redness like a drunken face, or an angry state*”. When reading the sentence, the readers can imagine and make a comparison between the real colour, the real image with described object.

4.2.2. Simile

Simile is a specific semantic trope in stylistics, especially in SDs. Simile is a figure of speech in which an explicit comparison is

made between two things essentially unlike. The comparison is based on choosing similar features, shapes or colours, etc and using words or phrases as “*like, as, similar to, resemble or seem, etc*” to show a relation between the two objects.

4.2.2.1. *described object* → *describing object: Cl (S + V+ O)*

[37] “... a garden afternoon of August: every breath from the hills so full of life, that it **seemed** whoever respired it, though dying, might revive...” [26, p.326]

The author, E. Bronte uses simile in her text describing, by using the word “*seem*” to combine what she is seeing and what people have experienced. Clause “*whoever respired it, though dying, might revive*” is used to clarify her implication and create a clear comparison.

4.2.2.2. *described object* → *describing object: V/ V.P*

[45] “*In the slanting beams that streamed through the open doorway the dust danced and was golden. The heavy scent of the roses seemed to brood over everything*” [36, p.32]

Different writers with different described objects and different implications, they can use verb or verb phrase to clarify for what they want to depict.

4.2.2.3. *described object* → *describing object: N/ N.P*

In “*The Picture of Dorian Gray*” (1891), O. Wilde uses different images to describe the cloud in the summer sky. Noun phrase “*raveled skeins of glossy white silk*” is used to compare and describe “*the little clouds*” because they have same shape and same colour. The author’s choice in using simile device and simile image to depict natural scenery can bring about successful effect and certainly polish the texts describing.

[50] “...*the little clouds like raveled skeins of glossy white silk, were drifting across the hollowed turquoise of the summer sky*” [36, p.15]

4.2.3. Metaphor

The interaction between dictionary and contextual meanings gradually leads to the breaking up of the primary meaning. The metaphoric use of the word begins to affect the dictionary meaning, adding to its fresh connotations or shades of meaning.

[56] “*Morning drew on a pace. The air became more sharp and piercing, as its first dull hue: **the death of night**, rather than **the birth of day**: glimmered faintly in the sky*” [26, p.173]

Words such as “*dead*”, “*death*” and “*birth*” are often used for living things. Here they are applied in metaphor, “*the death of night*” shows the sadness, coolness, dullness, and hopelessness whereas “*the birth of day*” shows happiness, warmth and hopefulness. Two phrases which have contrary meaning but replenish and vividfy the author’s description about a boring day, a dull atmosphere through the character’s mood.

4.2.4. Personification

Personification is the act of presenting objects or qualities as human beings. In speaking and in writing, it means giving animals, inanimate objects, abstract concepts, natural phenomena human characteristics (behavior, feelings, character, etc...).

[61] “*It had got dusk and the moon looked over the high wall of the court, causing undefined shadows to lurk in the corners of the numerous projecting portions of the building*” [36, p.94]

4.3. SYNTACTICAL STYLISTIC DEVICES IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE TEXTS DESCRIBING NATURAL SCENERY

4.3.1. Climax

4.3.1.1. Word

a. Word repetition

[74] “**Giăng** là cái liềm vàng giữa đồng sao. **Giăng** là cái đĩa bạc trên tấm thảm nhung da trời. **Giăng** tỏa mộng xuống trần gian. **Giăng** tuôn suối mát để những hồn khát khao ngụp lặn. **Trăng**,

oi trăng!" [60, p.157]

"Giăng" is repeated many times in different sentences. In each sentence, the author describes the moon in different aspects, with different levels and tints.

b. Word enumeration

[78] "Ở trên ấy đẹp lắm. Ngày tháng thì dài, mà không thấy sốt ruột. Hoa quả lành ngọt và thom như hết thấy những cái gì không phải là trần hủ sống gửi ở mặt đất cõi trần. Những cái **êm, dịu, trong, sáng, thom, lành** như trên non tiên" [72, p.198]

Nguyen Tuan describes the beautiful sight in Tan Vien mountain as a fairy doom. He mentions to all special features and attraction of this land by listing a range of impressive adjectives: "êm, dịu, trong, sáng, thom, lành".

c. Word parallelism

[81] "We were pretty much all alone out there, and **it was dark and cold and late**" [63, p.38]

The climax in those examples is created by using the parallel structure of the three descriptive adjectives: "dark", "cold", "late" which have different shades of meaning and are linked together with conjunction "and". This writing way creates a special emphasis in each descriptive word.

4.3.1.2. Phrase

a. Phrase repetition

[83] "Còn xa lắm mới đến cái thác dưới. Nhưng đã thấy tiếng nước réo gần mãi lại réo to mãi lên. Tiếng nước thác nghe **như là oán trách gì, rồi lại như là van xin, rồi lại như là khiêu khích, giọng gần mà chế nhạo. Thế rồi nó rống lên như tiếng một ngàn con trâu mộng đang lồng lộn giữa vầu rừng tre nửa nổ lửa, đang phá tuông rừng lửa, rừng lửa cũng gầm thét với đàn trâu da cháy bùng bùng. Tới cái thác rồi**" [68, p.172]

It is easy to notice that these verbs are arranged in an ascending order of changing attitude: sad → gentle → angry, furious. Nguyen

Tuan uses personification and climax to describe the river so successfully that the readers could image as if they were reading information about a special person, with typical human characteristics.

b. Phrase enumeration

[87] "There was **such peace and beauty in the scene; so much of brightness and mirth in sunny landscape; such blithesome music in the songs of the summer birds; such freedom in the rapid flight of the rook, careering overhead; so much of life and joyousness in all...**" [27, p. 208]

The scene through the boy's eyes seems to be so beautiful, wonderful and hopeful. To clarify and emphasize the boy's feeling, in the famous novel "Oliver Twist", Charles Dickens uses enumerative structures to depict the natural scenery surroundings. Noun phrase are listed to diversify the beauty of the nature: "peace and beauty", "much of brightness and mirth in sunny landscape", "blithesome music in the songs of the summer birds", "freedom in the rapid flight of the rook", "much of life and joyousness"....

c. Phrase parallelism

Phrase parallelism is a balance of two or more similar phrases. They have the same function in the sentence enriching the meaning of the whole sentence.

Below is an example in "To build a fire" written by J. London:

[89] "But **all this, the mysterious, far-reaching hairline trail, the absence of the sun from the sky, the tremendous cold, the strangeness and weirdness of it all-made no impression on the man**" [37]

4.3.1.3. Clause

a. Clause repetition

[91] "Đêm sau, sáng trăng như thường. Ngõng lại đi ra sân chơi. Trong khi anh nó ở nhà lo đứng lo ngồi. Ngõng đã đi khuất bóng. Ngoài sân, **ánh trăng giải lạnh lòng**. Bỗng nghe

“*quéc*” một tiếng kinh rợn. Rồi liền mấy tiếng nữa như tiếng
 “*quéc*” kêu cứu ở đằng phía bờ ao. Tiếp liền mấy tiếng lạt sạt.
 Thế rồi im lặng. **Ánh trắng giải lạnh lòng**” [65, p.158]

The clause repetition creates a feeling of coolness, loneliness and hopelessness, which make the readers feel sad and move to tears.

b. Clause parallelism

[93] “...dài hàng ngàn cây số **nước xô đá, đá xô sóng, sóng xô gió,**
 cuộn cuộn luồng gió gùn ghè suốt năm như lúc nào cũng đòi
 nợ xuýt bất cứ người lái đò Sông Đà nào tóm được qua đây..”
 [68, p.171]

Clauses “*nước xô đá*”, “*đá xô sóng*”, “*sóng xô gió*” are continuously arranged together and the repetition of the verb “*xô*” makes Da River become so great, grandiose and long.

4.3.2. Comparative Structures

Using the comparative structures instead of using normal sentences in the following contexts is a way of emphasizing or highlighting the character of a certain thing or a person.

[97] “*The dew seemed to sparkle **more brightly** on the green leaves;
 the air to rustle among them with **a sweeter music**; and the sky
 itself to look **more blue and bright...**” [27, p. 215]*

4.3.3. Stylistic Inversion

Using stylistic inversion, a change in word-order can help writers highlight what they want readers to pay more attention to as well as increase evocative value in their description.

[101] “**A sorrowful sight I saw:** dark night coming down
 prematurely and sky and hills mingled in one bitter whirl of
 wind and suffocating snow” [26, p. 99]

In the traditional word-order, the predicate “*a sorrowful sight*” is followed by “*I saw*” to clarify what the writer wants to describe. However, the inversed word-order in this example emphasizes the cold, the sorrow sight in the winter in Wuthering Heights – a perfect misanthropist’s heaven, as well as the mood, the

sadness of Lochut, a poor hirer.

4.3.4. Mononuclear Sentence

In texts describing scenery, mononuclear sentence is also used, but not common. The writers use mononuclear sentence to represent the event through a noun or N.P, a verb or V.P, or an adverbial phrase...

[109] “*Mùa mưa lại đến. **Gió và mưa! Mưa và gió!** Gió đập âm âm
 vào cây sung tôi tả. Mưa xối ào ào như có ai cầm chĩnh trút
 nước.*” [69, p.345]

4.3.5. Enumeration

Enumeration is one of common SDs that is frequently employed in texts describing, especially in TDNS. Used as a stylistic device, enumeration can separate things, objects, phenomena, properties, actions named one by one so that they produce a chain, the links of which, being syntactical in the same position and are forced to display some kinds of semantic homogeneity.

[120] “*It was **a large garden**, only half cultivated, with bushes, as
 big as summer-houses, of Marshal Niel **roses, lime and orange
 trees, clumps of bamboos, and thickets of high grass**” [39]*

4.4. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STYLISTIC DEVICES USED IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE TEXTS DESCRIBING NATURAL SCENERY

4.4.1 Similarities

The investigation shows that using SDs in English and Vietnamese TDNS shares many things in common.

Firstly, despite living in different cultures and using different languages, writers have the same wishes to beautify their languages and use languages – stylistic devices as wonderful means to transfer their implications and their messages about life, human and society. Therefore, we can easily find out SDs employed in literary works in both languages.

Secondly, all writers recognize the importance of language, especially SDs which can help them to reach their aims successfully, quickly and effectively. Among three kinds of SDs, lexical SDs are the most dominant ones to both English and Vietnamese writers, accounting for over 50%. Also, English and Vietnamese writers have some similar choices in employing SDs in TDNS. Onomatopoeia, simile, personification, climax, inversion are more frequently used and occur with a high rate among the investigated data.

Lastly, choosing and using SDs in TDNS are not only for describing natural scenery, but also for other reasons. Certainly, SDs used in English or Vietnamese TDNS make the writers' description become more vivid, concrete, lively and romantic. Thanks to SDs, written texts which have just been analyzed in the previous part are not simple, repetitive and boring. Writers' changeable and abundant writing styles get more attention and interest from readers as well as make an interaction, a relationship between texts, characters, messages and readers. Through vivid TDNS, readers can understand more about characters' destinies or draw philosophies about life.

4.4.2. Differences

Apart from simile, personification, climax and enumeration, the percentage of using comparative structures and reduplicative words is very different in the two languages. In English, the comparative sentence is commonly used in TDNS whereas in Vietnamese, it is considered as a way of comparison. Another SD – reduplicative, one of the most employed SDs in Vietnamese seems to occur in every works and in most of TDNS. In English, reduplicative just creates something new in phonetic, not in semantic. On the contrary, reduplication through repetition of rhythm, sound, morpheme and word can create new words which have new semantic meanings and convey emotional shades of meaning.

Secondly, in English literary works, the distribution of TDNS as well as the SDs in TDNS are not dense, popular and easy to

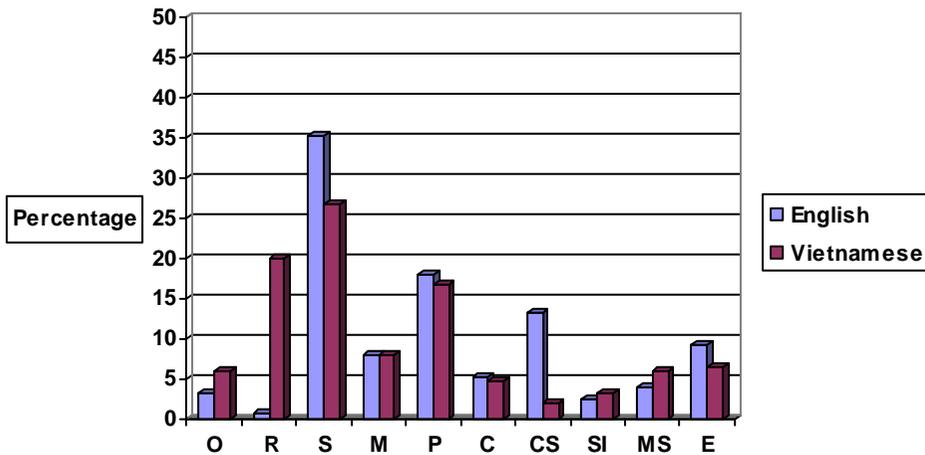
recognize and collect as in Vietnamese ones. Vietnamese writers seem to make use of scenery to describe people more commonly. Whereas, English writers often pay much attention to describe changes in characters' relationship, behaviour and mood.

4.5. FREQUENCY OF STYLISTIC DEVICES IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE TEXTS DESCRIBING NATURAL SCENERY

4.5.1. Frequency of Stylistic Devices in English and Vietnamese Texts Describing Natural Scenery

Table 4.2: Frequency of Stylistic Devices Used in English and Vietnamese Texts Describing Natural Scenery

Type	English		Vietnamese	
	Occurrence	Percentage	Occurrence	Percentage
Onomatopoeia	5	3.3%	9	6%
Reduplicative	1	0.7%	30	20%
Simile	53	35.3%	40	26.7%
Metaphor	12	8%	12	8%
Personification	27	18%	25	16.7%
Climax	8	5.3%	7	4.7%
Comparative Structures	20	13.3%	3	2%
Stylistic Inversion	4	2.7%	5	3.3%
Mononuclear Sentence	6	4%	9	6%
Enumeration	14	9.3%	10	6.6%



- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| O : Onomatopoeia | C : Climax |
| R : Reduplicative | CS : Comparative Structures |
| S : Simile | SI : Stylistic Inversion |
| M : Metaphor | MS : Mononuclear Sentence |
| P : Personification | E : Enumeration |

Figure 4.2: Frequency of Stylistic Devices Used in English and Vietnamese Texts Describing Natural Scenery

The comparison of the distribution of using phonetic, lexical and syntactical stylistic devices in texts describing natural scenery is clearly presented through the concrete number and the concrete percentage. It is obvious that writers almost use onomatopoeia skilfully, especially choosing imitating and typical sounds of animals and other things: moving of wind, falling of water, leaves... English writers employ onomatopoeia as frequently as Vietnamese ones (3.3% versus 6%). As can be seen from the table, there is big unevenness in using reduplicative in TDNS between English and Vietnamese writers (accounting for 0.7% and 20% respectively).

Reduplicative occurs so frequently and commonly in most Vietnamese works. It not only makes effective change in rhythm of the sentence but also creates new words with different shades of meaning. According to statistic data, simile device is the most highly used one in both English and Vietnamese texts describing. Among the examples found and analyzed, there are totally 53 occurrences of simile in English (accounting for 35.3%) in comparison with 40 occurrences of those examples in Vietnamese (accounting for 26.7%). Personification ranks second with the equivalent occurrences, 27 in English (18%) and 25 in Vietnamese (16.7%). The last kind of lexical SDs represented in the table is metaphor, a very, very common and interesting SD in literature which can help writers transfer their messages indirectly and deeply. However, in TDNS, it is rarely used both in English and Vietnamese, at the same frequency (8%). The table also shows the predominant use of lexical SDs in English and Vietnamese TDNS, at 62% and 71.3% respectively.

In terms of syntactical SDs, English and Vietnamese writers use enumeration quite often (9.3% versus 6.6%). Among 150 examples for each language, there are 6 occurrences of mononuclear sentence in English (accounting for 4%) and 9 occurrences in Vietnamese (accounting for 6%). Climax is employed in TDNS with the equivalent occurrences, accounting for 5.3% in English and 4.7% in Vietnamese. Furthermore, what can be drawn from the table that employing comparative sentence in English is more frequently than that in Vietnamese (13.3% versus 2%). Comparative structures are employed abundantly: equal comparison, comparative comparison and superlative comparison. Stylistic inversion device which can create a new change in writing style and arranging words is also found in TDNS, but with only 4 cases in English (2.7%) and 5 ones in Vietnamese (3.3%).

4.5.2. Frequency of Stylistic Devices in English Texts

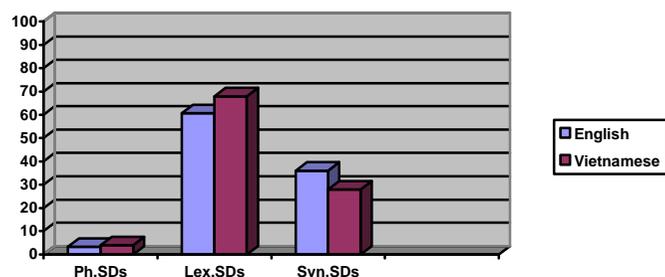
Describing Natural Scenery

4.5.3. Frequency of Stylistic Devices in Vietnamese Texts

Describing Natural Scenery

4.6. SUMMARY

Percentage



Ph.SDs : Phonetic Stylistic Devices

Lex.SDs : Lexical Stylistic Devices

Syn.SDs : Syntactical Stylistic Devices

Figure 4.5: Comparison of Using Phonetic, Lexical and Syntactical Stylistic Devices in English and Vietnamese Texts Describing Natural Scenery basing on the data

Among these three categories of SDs, lexical SDs always make up the highest percentage in the two languages, over 50%. This is followed by syntactical SDs which make up a big difference in choosing kinds of SDs in the two languages. Although the rate of using syntactical SDs in English and Vietnamese TDNS is nearly the same, English writers have a tendency to use comparative structures, enumeration and climax more than other SDs whereas stylistic inversion, mononuclear sentence and enumeration are more dominant to Vietnamese ones. Phonetic SDs make up the smallest amount of the investigated data.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS – IMPLICATIONS

LIMITATIONS – RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSIONS

Through the whole research, the data are collected, classified and analyzed following three categories: phonetic SDs, lexical SDs and syntactical SDs. The paper shows that common SDs used in English and Vietnamese TDNS are onomatopoeia, reduplicative, simile, metaphor, personification, enumeration, inversion, climax, mononuclear sentence and comparative structures.

Certainly, each stylistic device has its distinctive features and creates different effects on performance and certain impact on readers. Using SDs, especially common SDs such as simile, personification, reduplicative, climax, enumeration in TDNS can make them become lovely, vivid and attractive. Among these three categories, lexical SDs are the most predominant ones, accounting for over 50% in both languages. It can be seen that simile is the most popular SD employed in both languages, and personification ranks second among the SDs investigated. Besides, syntactical SDs such as comparative structures, inversion, mononuclear sentence, climax are also used to emphasize writers' implications, depict natural scenery surroundings, but their occurrence is not always the same in the two languages.

Employing SDs in literary works contributes to the improvement of their value, helps writers transfer their messages and readers have a deeper feeling about what they are reading. English writers or Vietnamese ones have common aims when they choose SDs and employ them in their works.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

5.2.1. Common problems in Language Teaching and Learning

There is no argument about meaning and usage of SDs. However, misuse or overuse of SDs can also lead to negative effects:

uninspiring repetition, mechanical style, no creation. Therefore, SDs should be carefully chosen and probably used. Formally, language learners tend to translate or express their feeling through simple words, normal structures which can easily be understood and used. Whereas, they are not frequently taught about SDs and their meanings. They also have little chance to read, contact, or have a good knowledge of foreign works to analyze and compare them with Vietnamese ones. Moreover, people always thinks that SDs only popularly occur in literary works. In fact, SDs exists in almost every aspect in daily life, not only in literature. Certainly, learners get a lot of difficulties and confusion in understanding, translating, feeling and using SDs.

5.2.2. Suggestions for Language Teaching and Learning

I hope that these suggestions can help Vietnamese learners of English to overcome prpbles in understanding and using SDs.

It is clearly seen in statistic data analyzed that any writer has their own intention and purpose in using SDs. Basing on what to be collected and revealed, the thesis hope to be an encouraging tool to writers in their invention, creation and work.

Firstly, understanding SDs is very necessary and useful to language learners. In teaching and learning, both teachers and learners should have more chance to get acquainted with theory of SDs, using SDs through literary works, translating texts using SDs into Vietnamese, and writing TDNS using SDs instead of using normal writing style.

Secondly, employing SDs is not a simple action, impromptu or accidental. Writers use these TDNS to aim at not only describing story background but also making story more coherent, predicting circumstance or using scenery to reveal character's mood. Language learners must also have a general and essential knowledge of using SDs: how to use, when to use and why to use.

5.3. LIMITATIONS

The thesis should be studied on a large numbers of examples from a lot of literary works in both languages. Due to the shortage of sources of materials related to the topic, limited ability of the researcher as well as other outside factors, the thesis just collects, investigates, analyzes and contrasts 300 examples in the two languages and certainly contains some weaknesses.

I would be very grateful to receive any comments, advice or adjustment from teachers, friends and those who take interest in the topic because they are certainly useful to make the thesis more fulfilled and perfect.

5.4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The thesis is just a part in the research on Styistics, so its limitations should be pointed out, discussed and recommended for further study. There are some other aspects that have not been dealt with in this paper. I hope that my recommendations would be useful to some language learners who are concerned with SDs:

1. Pragmatic features of using SDs in TDNS.
2. Common SDs in texts describing people life.