This study has been completed at the College of Foreign Languages, University of Danang

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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

Communication, which is considered a “bridge” to bring people closer and closer, always plays an important role in human life. People use language as a vital means to communicate with each other. Thanks to language, the most important means of communication in human society, people can exchange information, ideas and feelings. In order to communicate successfully and effectively, people have to make use of language properly. That is not merely by putting one sentence after another to mean something, but that people should use cohesive devices seems to be one of the suitable ways. The substitution via synonyms that can be also called synonym substitution is one of those cohesive means. [28, p. 318]

During the process of writing or speaking, over repetition of a lexical item may cause the boredom to the reader/hearer and may not convey the writer’s/speaker’s message effectively. In contrast, the use of synonyms to replace a certain lexical items can do this better. That means the employment of synonyms not only helps to avoid over repetition, but also contribute to the effective expression of different shades of meaning.

That is to say, the awareness of using synonyms for substitution as a cohesive device is very essential for most learners of English including Vietnamese learners of English. With a good knowledge of this cohesive device, learners know how to employ synonyms properly to create cohesion among strings of sentences to make their language output less boring instead of overusing unnecessary repetition, and especially to convey different nuances of meaning via synonyms.

In addition, nowadays, the traditional way of learning and teaching English that concentrates on learning and teaching vocabulary, grammar, etc… is not the only focus of Vietnamese learners and teachers of English. Besides, they also pay more attention to important aspects of language in use like how a text is cohesive and coherent. Therefore, the problem of using cohesive devices including synonym substitution should be concentrated on by Vietnamese learners and teachers of English.

For these reasons, I have decided to choose the topic “Synonym Substitution in English and Vietnamese” for my M.A thesis.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.2.1. Aims

This study focuses on finding out different types of English and Vietnamese synonym substitution as well as describing their linguistic features in terms of syntax and semantics. The study aims at helping Vietnamese learners of English to be more aware of the role of synonym substitution as a linguistic means. Besides, the thesis is done to help Vietnamese learners of English to use synonyms suitably and persuasively in communicating and to give some implications for teaching English.

1.2.2. Objectives

The objectives of the study are:
- to identify different types of SS in English and Vietnamese;
- to describe some linguistic features of SS in terms of syntax and semantics;
to find out some similarities and differences of SS in English and Vietnamese in the fields of syntax and semantics;
- to offer some suggestions to the teaching and learning of English to Vietnamese teachers and learners.

**1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

This study concentrate on classification of some kinds of synonym substitution, and on investigation of some linguistic features of synonym substitution in terms of syntactic and semantics.

**1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

1. How many kinds of SS are there in English and Vietnamese?
2. What are the syntactic and semantic features of SS in English and Vietnamese?
3. What are the similarities and differences of SS in English and Vietnamese in terms of syntax and semantics?
4. What are some suggestions to the teaching learning of English to Vietnamese teachers and learners?

**1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

Synonym substitution is one of the cohesive devices used to create cohesive and coherent language products. In fact, synonyms can be popularly employed in both informal language (in everyday conversations) and formal language (in speeches, reports, etc). Thus, when conducting this thesis, I am always aware that this will be necessary work. This thesis is of great significance in terms of linguistic theory and language practice. That is to say the study is intended to be applied in:
- providing Vietnamese learners of English with a useful knowledge of the features of SS in English and Vietnamese;
- helping to promote the importance of SS in teaching and learning English as a cohesive device in discourse.

**1.6. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**1.7. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY**

The research includes five chapters: Chapter 1 (Introduction), Chapter 2 (The Review of Previous Study and Theoretical Background), Chapter 3 (Methods and Procedure), Chapter 4 (Discussion and Findings) and Chapter 5 (Conclusions and Implications).

**CHAPTER 2**

**LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND**

**2.1. PREVIOUS STUDIES**

Up to now, a lot of English and Vietnamese researchers have investigated various cohesive devices which help to create cohesion and coherence in discourse.

In English, valuable contribution to the study of discourse are made by Cooks (1989), Widdowson (1984), Halliday and Hasan (1976), Brown and Yule (1983), etc.

As regard to cohesion, there have been some works by famous linguists. However, Halliday and Hasan (1976) have made a significant impact on this area and their viewpoint is chosen as guideline in the research.

In Vietnam, there are also many linguists who have great contribution to the study of discourse analysis. Tran Ngoc Them (1998), Diep Quang Ban (2003), Nguyen Hoa (2008). Besides, there are some master theses and doctoral dissertations relating to
discourse analysis such as Phan Van Hoa (1998), Bui Thi Ngoc Anh (2001).

With respect to substitution, Tran Thi Thuy Huong (2002), Nguyen Phi Dinh (2007) have made some contribution to this field.

Briefly, the works above analyze the nature of cohesion in discourse of the two language – English and Vietnamese, in which some kinds of cohesive devices are categorized and clarified such as: reference, pronoun substitution, synonym substitution, ellipsis, conjunction, etc. However, to the best of my knowledge, there is no evidence that any research on investigating linguistic features of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese has been done. Consequently, Synonym Substitution in English and Vietnamese is choosen as the subject area of our master thesis.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Discourse and Text

2.2.1.1. Discourse

Discourse in this study is viewed as (1) language in use, for communication, (2) a language unit which has meaning, unity and purpose, (3) can be constituted by the combination of many sentences.

2.2.1.2. Text

Text in this thesis is understood as (1) a written record of a communicative event which conveys a complete message, (2) a stretch of language which can be interpreted in its form, outside the context, (3) a system in which sentences are constituents, and this system has some structures that identify the position of sentences and their relationship in the whole text.

2.2.2. Cohesion and Coherence

2.2.2.1. Cohesion

Cohesion is how words and expressions are connected using cohesive devices. Halliday and Hasan [28] two types namely grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion and they are categorized into five groups: reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction and lexical cohesion.

2.2.2.2. Coherence

Coherence has been defined as (1) the relationships which link the meaning of utterances/sequences in discourse, (2) a logical connection in meaning and function;

2.2.3. Reference

Halliday and Hasan [28] divided references into two types anaphora (to preceding text) and cataphora (to following text).

2.2.3.1. Anaphora

Anaphoric reference is a process of continuing to identify exactly the same identity as denoted by the antecedent [21, p. 192].

2.2.3.2. Cataphora

Cataphoric reference is the reference of one expression with another expression which follows it. In other words, it is a reversal of the antecedent anaphor pattern. It is a cohesive device which points the reader or listener forwards – it draw us further into the text in order to identify the elements to which the reference items refer [21, p. 192].

2.2.4. Synonym Substitution

2.2.4.1. Synonyms

In this research, synonyms are defined as follows:
- Synonyms are words or expressions that have at least one identical meaning and do not contain opposite meaning;
- Depending on a certain context, words or expressions can be synonyms if they indicate the same referent in that context;
- Both members of pairs of synonyms can be in the same or different parts of speech;

2.2.4.2. Synonym Substitution

In this thesis, synonym substitution is understood as a lexical cohesion. This is the choice of a lexical substitute item that is in some sense synonymous with the preceding one or has the identical referent with the preceding one in main speech and cohesive speech.

2.2.4.3. Forms of Substitute Items in Synonym Substitution

Based on the views of SS explained by Halliday and Hasan [38] and Trần Ngọc Thêm [20], substitute items in SS which are considered as cohesive items can be in different kinds of word classes such as noun, verb, adjective and adverb and phrases such as noun phrase, verb phrase.

2.2.4.4. Classification of Substitute Items as Synonyms in Synonym Substitution

a. Synonyms in Narrow Sense

Synonyms in narrow sense are those which has identical relation in terms of lexical meaning which are defined in dictionaries. However, they can differ in denotation or connotation, which create different kinds of synonyms. Semantic synonyms and stylistic synonyms are the two kinds of synonyms in narrow sense discussed in this thesis.

b. Synonyms in Broad Sense

Synonyms in broad sense are those which are context-bound due to the reference in its structure. They are always context-dependent, so they are temporary synonyms. Superordinates, general words or descriptive synonyms are the three kinds of synonyms in broad sense in the study.

2.2.5. Types of Meaning

2.2.5.1. Sense and Reference

According to Lyons, J. (quoted by Nguyễn Hòa in [12, p. 56]), sense is sometimes distinguished from meaning. The meaning of a word is seen as part of the language system; whereas, sense is the realization of this meaning in speech.

Reference, in John Lyons’ traditional view, is the relationship that holds between a word or expression (words refer to things). Yet, according to his modern view [1977, p. 177], reference is the speaker who refers (by using some appropriate expression), he invests the expression with reference by the act of referring. Thus, reference is treated as an action on the part of the speaker/writer.

2.2.5.2. Denotation and Connotation

Based on John Lyons’ view, denotation is “the relationship that holds between that lexeme and persons, things, places, properties, processes and activities external to the language-system”. Connotation means a word may convey certain affective, evaluative, stylistic or intensifying associations. Connotation arise as words become associated with certain characteristics of the items to which they refer.

2.3. SUMMARY

CHAPTER 3
METHODS AND PROCEDURES

3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

The thesis design is based on the combination of both qualitative and quantitative approaches.
3.2. RESEARCH METHODS

My research is done by the following main methods: the statistic and descriptive method, analytic and synthetic method, the comparative and contrastive method.

3.3. SAMPLING

Most of corpora used for the study are picked from novels and short stories in English and Vietnamese. Two hundred and forty samples will be chosen (120 samples in English and 120 samples in Vietnamese).

3.4. DATA COLLECTION

For the purpose of selecting suitable data for the study, two hundred and forty samples containing synonym substitution are chosen from different novels and short stories in English and Vietnamese. It is likely to provide a detailed description of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese.

3.5. DATA ANALYSIS

Based on the samples collected, I observe and find out synonym substitution appearing in the samples. Then, we synthesize, analyze and classify them. Using checklists, statistics, tables and charts to show the frequency of occurrence of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese is the next step. Finally, a more detailed analysis is performed in order to find out the similarities and the differences of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese.

3.6. PROCEDURES

The steps involved in the study are as follows: (1) Collecting samples on synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese from novels, literary works and short stories in English and Vietnamese; (2) Picking out samples of synonym substitution and classifying them so that they satisfy the criteria mentioned in the study; (3) Presenting, describing and analyzing various kinds of synonym substitution used in English and Vietnamese; (4) Finding out the syntactic and linguistic features of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese and then find out their similarities and differences; (5) Discussing the findings and suggesting some implications for learning and teaching English.

3.7. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. TYPES OF SYNONYM SUBSTITUTION

4.1.1. Dictionary Synonym Substitution

This is a kind of SS in which both cohesive items (main item and substitute item) are synonyms which share at least one identical meaning as defined in dictionaries or dictionaries of synonyms.

(4.1) I pointed to the smaller room. Fortunato lifted his candle and stepped into the tiny room. I immediately followed him.

[64, p. 134]

(4.2) Thôi thì con hộc cho biết viết đề mà biên tiến chỗ.

[47, p. 76]

4.1.2. Temporary Synonym Substitution

Temporary SS is a device in which main items and substitute ones are not natural synonyms, but they are synonyms of some higher level or generality. More clearly, they have a kind - of semantic relation (sometimes in terms of breed-species, sometimes in terms of higher generality) [20, p. 119]. For example:
(4.3) Fortunato lifted his candle and stepped into the tiny room. I immediately followed him. He stood stupidly staring at two iron handcuffs chained to a wall of the tiny room. I grabbed his arms and locked them into the metal handcuffs.

(4.4) Con chó vàng sửa lên vài tiếng khàn khàn cấp lại. Bốn chân nó nhỏ mài, nhỏ mài để đến kịp với ông già quâng tiền lại phàm nó. Bàn tay ông lão mài đã chạm vào lòng con vật.

4.1.3. Descriptive Synonym Substitution

Descriptive SS is a kind of SS in which synonyms are understood in a broader way, not just fixed in dictionaries or dictionaries of synonyms as those in Dictionary SS. That means two cohesive elements, although are not synonyms in fact, become synonyms in a certain context since they denote the same referent in their context. One of the two elements is usually a phrase that describe a typical attribute to represent the referent. The following are some examples:

(4.5) While she spoke, Giovani noticed a perfume in the air around her. He wasn’t sure if this wonderful smell came from the flowers or from her breath.


The classification of SS can be summarized in Table 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kinds of SS</th>
<th>Occurrence</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Vietnamese</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dictionary SS</td>
<td>Turns</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per.</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary SS</td>
<td>Turns</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per.</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>36.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive SS</td>
<td>Turns</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per.</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total of Turns</td>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2. SOME LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF SS IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

4.2.1. Syntactic Features

4.2.1.1. Substitute Item as a Noun

As mentioned in Chapter Two, words with general lexical meaning indicating persons, things, event, substances, quality or other abstract notion are called nouns. Nouns in English and Vietnamese can be devided into two main kinds such as proper nouns and common nouns.

(4.7) “But you had me fooled. You’re like a lot of others, a loosespender, that’s what you are, a spendthrift”

(4.8) Cứ mỗi hai ngày nó chèo thuyền ra dấy một lần. Có khi bản việc thì bốn năm bôm.
Different subtypes of SIs as nouns will be expressed in Table 4.3

4.2.1.2. Substitute Item as a Noun Phrase

In both ESS and VSS, noun phrases are often used as synonymous substitutes to refer back to the previous things or persons. Noun phrases can consist of at least two elements: Pre-modifier(s) and Head, Head and Post-modifier(s), or three elements: Pre-modifier(s), Head and Post-modifier(s).

4.2.1.3. Substitute Item as a Verb

Verbs are words that have general meaning of lexicon and indicate an action or certain state of things.

(4.9) Our Great Spirit grew angry against the people for not obeying His Commands. Our Medicine man searched for help, but said the Great Spirit would not promise a peaceful winter, because too many people were evil. People did not follow the Great Spirit’s orders. [64, p. 50]

(4.10) Bác Nấu biết rất nhiều nghề: làm phó, kem, bánh cuộn, bánh bao, lực tầu xã, cháo gà, kẹo kẹo. Có ai thue, bác còn làm cả thơm, kẹo xe, làm vườn. Săn có sức khỏe và chẳng bao giờ đằng ngã nhưng giấc ngủ, bác làm cho ai muron bác cũng phải vừa lòng, cũng tin cây. [49, p. 137]

4.2.1.4. Substitute Item as a Verb Phrase

Sometimes, SI as a verb phrase is also used in SS. Like noun phrase, a verb phrase also includes three elements: operator, head and object/ complement; among of those, the head is the compulsory element and the others are the optional ones.

(4.11) “No, Oliver,” she said, “really hold me. Next to me”; I was very, very carefully – of the tubes and things – as I got onto the bed with her and put my arms around her. [65, p. 302]

(4.12) Đành rằng tôi biết trước là tôi giờ lại thể nào chưa nó cũng sê khóc. Nhưng tôi nghĩ, sau khi nó rót nước mắt, últ nó nghĩ tôi bố mẹ của nó. [48, p. 46]

4.2.1.5. Substitute Item as an Adjective

Adjectives are words that indicating quality, characteristic of things, people; they describe for a noun, a pronoun.

(4.13) Three shadowy workmen went by and touched their caps to Horrocks. Their faces were vague in the darkness. [67]


4.2.1.6. Substitute Item as an Adverb

Adverbs are words that indicating the manner, the frequency of an actions or giving more information of quality, characteristic of things, people via their actions, states.

(4.15) Slowly I got to my feet with my arm around the cat. The dogs cheerfully raised to my side, then joyfully the cat, the dogs, and I gathered up our sheep, and goats, and horses. [64, p. 56]

(4.16) Every now and then he laughed, sometimes with amusement and sometimes with indignation. [69]

In Vietnamese, adverbs only have the grammatical meaning (time, imperative, numerals, degree, etc) and modify the words they combine with. [15, p.144]. They do not contain lexical meaning in
order to indicate the state, quality, etc of things. Consequently, there is no SI as an adverb found in VSS.

4.2.1.7. The Distribution of SS in Syntactic Features

Table 4.5. Relative frequency of substitute items in ESS and VSS in syntactic feature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexical Categories of SI in SS</th>
<th>ESS</th>
<th>VSS</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Turns</td>
<td>Per.</td>
<td>Turns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI as a Noun</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI as a Noun Phrase</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI as a Verb</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI as a Verb Phrase</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI as an Adjective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI as an Adverb</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.1.8. The Similarities of ESS and VSS in Syntactic Features

a. Similarities
- All of the lexical categories of substitute items in ESS and VSS are in the open-class items such as: noun (and noun phrase), verb (and verb phrase), adjective and adverb; they are not in the closed-types such as: determiner, article, preposition, etc.
- Noun is the dominant lexical item of substitute items in both ESS and VSS.
- Substitute items as Adjectives and Verb phrase in SS are rarely used in both languages.

b. Differences
- The lexical categories of substitute items in ESS fall into six forms including Noun, Noun phrase, Verb, Verb phrase, Adjective and Adverb. But those in VSS appear in five types which do not include Adverb.

- Substitute items as the form of Noun appears more frequently in English than in Vietnamese; whereas, substitute items as the form of Verb appears more frequently in Vietnamese than in English.

4.2.2. Semantic Features

4.2.2.1. SS via Semantic Synonyms

When two/or more synonymous units denote a same concept, they can exact, detail and even emphasize on one certain criterion of the concept. That means each of synonymous units has its own denotative meaning.

(4.17) You’ll kill us before your parents can murder us.

[65, p. 102]

(4.18) Mọt hội nói đi xuống, trên lung mang cái gì sò huyệt, hay tai bể tầm văn, ...

[48, p. 14]

Because semantic synonyms are at the same level, the cohesion of the two cohesive elements as well as sequences containing them is lexically created without the identity of reference.

4.2.2.2. SS via Stylistic Synonyms

Usually, people do not ignore the things, phenomena showed as well as the units of vocabularies which are used to name those things, phenomena. Consequently, synonymous words can distinguish from each other in connotation. That means they are different in writers’/speakers’ attitude towards real things, phenomena. The following examples will be analyzed to clarify how stylistic synonyms are used in SS.
At the last minute, just as she was going to close the door on him and lean against it with her mouth tight shut and her hand on her breast, … [58, p. 96]

Con người ấy không bao giờ bỏ tôi, chẳng phải hạn ân xơi ở thì, đã … đã tự tran trên giướng tôi nằm, trong cảnh tay tôi ôm áp, thực đến lúc chết mà vẫn yếu tôi, rồi thôi!... [51, p. 94]

4.2.2.3. SS via Superordinates

According to the Thesaurus, superordinate is a word that is more generic than a given word. In another word, it is a word which contains other word. Superordinate terms play an important role in promoting cohesion by providing writers with a more explicit means than would be possible using only pronouns (it, they, this, these, those) for linking their ideas either back to earlier pieces of text, or forward to upcoming information.

Then he noticed a spider crawling near his window. He bent over the insect and blew a breath of air at it. [64, p. 114]

Ong chư cầm đen đỏ ẩn của con chó, mang ra sân dằng trước. Khách và con vật đi theo sau. [53, p.12]

Superordinates in SS can be words (usually noun) that refer to a proper noun. Instead of using pronouns such as he, she, it, they, etc to substitutes for main items as in nominal substitution, writers can use other words (usually nouns and noun phrases) for replacement. This is illustrated in (4.33), (4.34)

Raut stepped towards him. "Better say good-bye to Mrs. Horrocks," said the ironmaster, even more grimly quiet in his tone than before. [67]

Chú Ba ngồi trên bờ vật sau, khom lưng, năn nỗi viết từng chữ.…. Mọt bước thưa trong đời mình, người nông dân ấy chưa từng viết. [51, p.82]

As mentioned above, superordinates are also used for linking their ideas forward to upcoming information. This create cataphoric cohesion.

I kicked at the door and the lock broke. As I ran into the room, I saw Quayle and a woman struggling on the floor. The woman was Audrey Gatewood. [64, p. 144]

Trong cái cảnh bước vào trata tự ấy, cái thân thiện, cái bình tĩnh của bà mẹ với hai cô thì thật là những kỳ công của tạo hóa! Trong ocertificate người này đều chửa những tu tương gì khác, chứ không trách qua một tu tương nào về việc thể gia nội trợ bao giờ. Cho nên Tuyệt Nuong thì ẩn vấn theo gái Sài Gòn, còn Bạch Vân gái Huế. Còn bà mẹ, nầm chao mình trong vũng, sống một cách dễ oái với bố chuyển Phong thần mồ màng đến cái sắc đẹp thường xua. [51, p. 60]

In a word, from the analysis of all examples above, it can be seen that SS via superordinates can create both anaphoric and cataphoric cohesion.

4.2.2.4. SS via General Terms

General terms are used to refer back/forward to particular things, event/state of affairs in the sequences or text. However, they are not as specific as superordinates. So, abstract words, such as "chaos", "interesting" are among the words that have only vague general terms, like "state"; "money", "food" are among “things”, which can be seen as general terms.
The sky was so blue, the sun was so bright, the water was so sparkling, the leaves were so green, the flowers were so lovely, and they heard such singing-birds and saw so many butterflies, those things were beautiful.

Những bàn, ghế, giường phản, chổng hàng đa op ep, những bức vách nứt nẻ, loang lổ, những kẹo cổt xộc xách chẳng chút mảng nhăn, dưới ảnh đều treo vàng cắn, tất cả những vật ấy úp xắp tối tận thêm.

Có hai cái chỉ gì như cái thân nhất. Đó là những bí mật của Đặng và đứa con.

4.2.2.5. SS via Descriptive Synonyms

As explained in 2.2.4.1 and 2.2.4.2, verb phrases and noun phrases are also used as substitute items pointing back actions or people in some certain contexts. Semantically, they are seen as descriptive synonyms. Beside the anaphoric and cataphoric cohesion, some extra information of appreciation are also given via this kind of synonym in SS.

Firstly, we consider the examples which contain anaphoric cohesion and the attitude of writers via extra information of appreciation.

For the first time in his marriage life, Mr Mendon felt as important as his wife Millicent. Lawtence Macey sat on the edge of the bed and lit a cigarette. “Mrs. Mendon sent for me”, he said. Mr. mendon could not help feeling proud of Millicent. She had done the right thing. Macey continued, “She showed me your letter. She asked for your mercy”.

Macey paused and then said, “the poor woman is very unhappy and we have come here o ask you what you plan to do”.

Đàn chó curs vây kín chung quanh chị Đậu như quán đèn củ. Hính như chúng nó muốn có làm hết phần sự với chủ: con nào con ấy nhẹ trong lẻ òi, chỉ chức với vào hai chân chị chẳng đáng thương.

Secondly, the examples from (4.53) to (4.54) below will be analyzed to see how the cataphoric cohesion is created and writers’ attitude via extra information.

"Ah, go and dance!” she said. "I’ve heard all that before. It never means anything. Go and dance with the little lady over there in the pink domino! I give you my word that she is pretty. Her name is Una, but she is minus the lion on this occasion. I shall tell you no more than that.”

In terms of writers’ appreciation via extra information, these

4.2.2.6. The Distribution of Synonym Substitution in Semantic Features
Table 4.6. Relative frequency of substitute items in ESS and VSS in semantic feature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI</th>
<th>Pure Lexical Tie</th>
<th>Anaphoric Cohesion</th>
<th>Cataphoric Cohesion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ESS Per.  VSS Per.</td>
<td>ESS Per.  VSS Per.</td>
<td>ESS Per.  VSS Per.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semantic Synonyms</td>
<td>27 67.5% 16 32.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stylistic Synonyms</td>
<td>13 32.5% 33 67.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superordinates</td>
<td>40 56.3% 18 28.6% 4 44.4% 1 12.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Terms</td>
<td>4 5.6% 13 20.6% 2 22.2% 1 12.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive Synonyms</td>
<td>27 38% 32 50.8% 3 33.3% 6 75%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>40 33.3% 49 48.8% 71 59.2% 63 52.5% 9 7.5% 8 6.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.2.7. The Similarities and Differences of ESS and VSS in Semantic Features

a. Similarities
- English and Vietnamese employ the same semantic categories (kinds of synonyms) to encode SS for cohesive effect. They can be divided into the following kinds: semantic synonyms, stylistic synonyms, superordinates, general words, and descriptive synonyms.
- Both English and Vietnamese writers prefer using the substitute items creating pure lexical tie and anaphoric cohesion to those creating cataphoric cohesion in their writing.
- General words regarded as synonym in broad sense takes the lowest rate of frequency in SS in both English and Vietnamese.

b. Differences
- English discourse is more accommodating to anaphoric cohesion than Vietnamese one. In contrast, the occurrence of pure lexical tie in Vietnamese discourse is more often.
- SS by superordinates appears more regularly in English than in Vietnamese; whereas, SS by descriptive synonyms appears more frequently in Vietnamese than in English.
- English writer rarely use general words in SS while Vietnamese occasionally do.

CHAPTER 5
CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSIONS

In this thesis, 240 examples have been collected from novels and stories in English and Vietnamese. Based on those samples, I have identified and analyzed different kinds of SS, then have found out some linguistic features of SS in terms of morphology and semantics. Hence, learners can distinguish SS from other cohesive devices and make use of it in writing and speaking with the aim at achieving a truly communicative result.

Within the sphere of the study, I have discovered and classified SS into three kinds depending on the features of cohesive elements as main items and substitute items; they are dictionary synonym substitution, temporary synonym substitution, and descriptive synonym substitution.

Then, some linguistic features of SS in terms of syntax and semantics have been dealt with. In syntactic feature, I learn about some lexical categories of substitute items; they are noun, noun
phrases, verb, verb phrase, adjective and adverb. In semantic feature, some cohesive forms as well as some aspects of meaning are analyzed through substitute items as different kinds of synonyms. In this thesis, five types of synonyms are investigated including semantic synonyms, stylistic synonyms (synonyms in narrow sense), superordinates, general words and descriptive synonyms (synonyms in broad sense). In SS, substitute items are used as words or phrases that are synonymous with the preceding / forward lexical items or specific referent. ESS and VSS can create pure lexical tie, anaphoric cohesion or cataphoric cohesion.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

To teachers
- point out the importance of cohesion and coherence in written and spoken language.
- encourage learners to be familiar with textual patterns in which synonym substitution is used; help them to find reference, antecedents by their realization in order to use synonymous substitutes suitably.
- provide learners with the basic knowledge of English language such as phonology, syntax, lexis.
- prepare some types of exercises for learners to practice;
- help learners to identify different kinds of synonyms so that they can choose and use them suitably in each situation.

To learners
- raise the awareness of discourse cohesion as well as the role and the use of cohesive devices (e.g. synonym substitution) in writing and speaking in a foreign language.

- widen knowledge of grammatical structure at sentence level and accumulate vocabulary, especially vocabulary of synonyms.
- build up the habit of using cohesive devices (including synonym substitution) via practice and drills in both spoken discourse and written discourse.

5.3. LIMITATIONS

Due to the limitation of time and materials, examples are not collected adequately from all genres and in both written discourse and spoken discourse to illustrate the use of synonym substitution.

Although I do learn that the using of synonyms owns a variety of nuances of feelings and attitudes (pragmatical field), I have not paid much and deeply attention to this aspect.

In addition, the similarities and differences of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese may not be fully found.

5.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

Due to the insufficiency of this study, further research can be suggested as follows:
- Pragmatical features of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese.
- A contrast analysis of synonym substitution in English and Vietnamese everyday conversations.
- The similarities and differences between synonym substitution in written discourse and spoken discourse.