

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
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**AN INVESTIGATION INTO IDIOMS AND PROVERBS
RELATING TO CHILDREN
IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE**

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 RATIONALE

Language is the most useful and interesting thing that human-being possesses. Each country has its own language that plays a very essential role in many aspects of people's spiritual life such as religion, culture, and so on. In the spiritual life, proverbs and idioms are the most common components that people use to express their ideas, experience, desire, love affairs, feelings and children-upbringing. Idioms and proverbs are said to be the soul of the nation, which are transmitted from this generation to the next generation. A country that has a long period of existence will have plentiful sources of these interesting components of language.

In addition, every nation in the world would like to become a developed and strong one. Therefore, whether a country that continues to develop and be wealthy, peaceful or not that depends much on the next generation – that's children – the young generation of society as well as family.

To the society, children are so important, so how is their role in the family? We just have a look at the following proverb: “*Children are poor men's riches*” Or “*Children are better than riches*” Or : “Giàu con hơn giàu của” in Vietnamese.

As the same as the Western people, Vietnamese people adore and indulge their children. A happy family must have parents and children. Children are the effective bridge between father and mother. Many family was broken just because of having no child. Children are sweet fruits of their marriage. Sometimes, if a family has no

child, the other people may think that family has no blessing as in the Vietnamese proverb “*Cây khô không lộc, người độc không con.*”

It is not deniable that children play a very important role and have a high position in family and society. Unfortunately, there is no research that examine how the idioms and proverbs relating to children are carried out. Therefore, I think it is necessary to make *an investigation into the English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children*. I hope that my study will meet the demand of the people who are interested in this issue, and hope it will help the foreign language learners easily recognise, and well translate the idioms and proverbs denoting children into another language. Furthermore, this study on semantic and syntactic characteristics and cultural features might help us deal with this part of the English language more carefully to contribute a small part to the learning and teaching foreign languages.

1.2. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Deeply interpreting what is really meant in idioms and proverbs relating to children, syntactically and semantically mastering how to apply this kind of idioms and proverbs in sensible ways, learners will certainly be able to improve their understanding of the field, get better results in subjects such as reading comprehension and translation, and teaching foreign language, and last but not least, achieve their ultimate goal – to communicate more naturally, effectively and successfully in English.

1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What are the syntactic and semantic features of idioms and proverbs relating to children in English and Vietnamese?

2. What are the similarities and the differences between English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children in terms of syntactic and semantic features?

3. How do we apply the works into the translation process of idioms and proverbs relating to children into Vietnamese?

1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

Particularly, in terms of syntax, English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs will be examined in phrase and sentence patterns. Semantically, English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children will be analyzed under 3 categories of meaning such as idioms and proverbs that contain the words relating to children and have the meaning denoting children, idioms and proverbs that contain the word denoting children but not relating to children, and idioms and proverbs that have no words denoting children but have the meaning relating to children.

1.5. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

○ Chapter One is the introduction of the study, which includes the rationale, signification of the study, the scope of the study, the research questions, and organization of the study.

○ Chapter Two is the literature review, the theoretical background of the study.

○ Chapter Three is about the methods and procedures of the study. It will mention the aims, the objectives of the study, then the methodology, the design of the research, data collection, data analysis, and description of the corpus.

○ Chapter Four is the chapter for findings and discussion is devoted to the analysis and comparison of syntactic, semantic

features and cultural characteristics of idioms and proverbs relating children in English and Vietnamese.

○ Chapter Five includes the conclusion and the implications, the limitations, and suggestions for further study.

CHAPTER 2
LITERATURE REVIEW AND
THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1.1. Literature Review of Idioms

Up to now, idioms and proverbs have been increasingly attracted much concern of researchers and linguists. In reality, idioms and proverbs have become a subject of study by several British, American and Australian ...writers and linguists since the 1950s such as W.Mc.Mordie (1954), V.II.Collins (1958), Robert J.Dixson (1971), Adam Makkai (1984), D.A. Cruse (1987), V.Fromkin (1990), Jennifer Seidl & W.Mc. Mordie (1993), A.P. Cowie, R.Mackin, IR. McCaig (1993), Milada Broukai (1998).

Since the end of 1970s, Vietnamese idioms have been recognized, collected and explained systematically. There have been a lot of contrastive studies on the various aspects of English and Vietnamese idioms are carried out at Danang University by MA scholars. "A Study of Some Characteristics of Structures, Meaning and Culture of English Idioms about Animals" by Pham Thi To Nhu, Danang University.

2.1.2. Literature Review of Proverbs

Fifty years after Trench's book, F. Edward Hulme (1841–1909) published his volume on *Proverb Lore: Being a Historical Study of the Similarities, Contrasts, Topics, Meanings, and Other Facets of Proverbs, Truisms, and Pithy Sayings, as Explained by the Peoples of Many Lands and Times* (1902). Hulme's treatise basically replaced Trench's popular volume, and it was appropriate that it was

reprinted in 1968 to honor the work of this folklore scholar. But according to proverbial wisdom, "All good *things* come in threes," and thus there is also Archer Taylor's (1890–1973) magisterial volume on *The Proverb* (1931).

From 1975 up to now, some elaborate works connected with proverbs have done their share to the knowledge of the field and one of the wholehearted authors we must not miss is Chu Xuân Diên who showed his profound understanding, deep opinion and clear analysis of the distinction between the two commonly mixed forms: idioms and proverbs in his *Tiểu luận về tục ngữ Việt Nam* (1997) which I consider a valuable source for my study. His other books include *Tục ngữ Việt Nam* with co-authors Lương Văn Đăng, Phương Tri (1975).

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Definition of Idioms

Cruse (1986) pays much attention to the semantic features of idioms, according to him, "idiom is an expression the meaning of which cannot be inferred from the meaning of its parts."

Michael McCarthy Felicity O'Dell, writers of *English Idioms In use* [25, p6], considers idioms are expressions which have meaning that is not obvious from the individual words. For example, the idioms drive somebody round the bend means make somebody angry or frustrated, but we cannot know this just by looking at the words.

Hoàng Văn Hành et al., [47] affirm that idioms are set expressions which are stable in morphor- structure, complete and figurative in meaning, used widely in communication, especially in speech.

2.2.1.1. The Main Characteristics of Idioms

a. Structural Stability

The stability in idioms in both English and Vietnamese is so high. According to D.A Cruse [9, p.67] “they typically resist interruption and reordering of parts”. That is to say, we cannot modify, omit or replace parts without breaking or distorting their real meaning.

b. Semantic Ambiguity

The cause of their semantic ambiguity is that the meaning of an idiom is not the sum of its constituents. In other words, an idiom is often non-literal. However, sometimes the constituents can also be used non-idiomatically. Such phrases can have either literal or idiomatic meaning.

c. Symbolism

Language originates and reflects life. According to Đỗ Hữu Châu (1981), most of idioms, regardless of their degree of idiomaticity (đi guốc trong bụng, thẳng như kẻ chì...), are the pictures depicting the concrete, particular things in reality and then being transferred to refer to the conventionality, generalization or abstractness.

d. National Traits

Đỗ Hữu Châu (1981) also states that national traits are always found out in any particular language. Nevertheless, this feature is carved much more deeply in the idiom corpus of that language.

2.2.1.2. Idioms and Other Language Unit

When dealing with making idioms differ from other language units, people encounter a lot of difficulties because of many borderline cases between them. In fact, linguists have different outlooks on the periphery of idioms.

2.2.2. Definition of Proverbs

According to the Oxford English Dictionary (2001) a proverb is “a short pithy saying in common and recognized use; a concise sentence, often metaphorical or alternative in form, which is held to express some truth ascertained by experience or observation and familiar to all”.

2.2.2.1. Characteristic of proverbs

a. Many eloquence characteristics

We all know that proverbs are produced by working people orally, so the words of proverbs are very concise and oral.

b. Syntax structure and rhythm

Moreover, when we read proverbs, we will find that the syntax structure of English proverbs is compact and symmetrical; and the rhythm is gentle and united.

c. Bright ethnic and geographical characteristics

English and Vietnamese proverbs are based English and Vietnamese cultural backgrounds. When we read proverbs, we cannot stop to imagine the history, geography, customs, politics, economy, etc of these 2 countries.

2.2.2.2. Idioms and Proverbs

Usually, idioms and proverbs mistakenly regarded and put in the same “cage”. In fact, to English idioms and proverbs, there are

clear differences; whereas, to Vietnamese idioms and proverbs, there is no clear border between them.

2.2.3 Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

In this thesis, I would like to narrow my scope of researching by only investigating idioms and proverbs relating to children. Obviously, I will explore the idioms and proverbs – wise saying - in the term of: (1) children as every human being below the age of 18 years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier and (2) a son or a daughter of any age.

2.2.4. Language and Culture Relationship

2.2.4.1. Concept of culture

Culture, in fact, is different from particular societies. It's the specialized behavioral patterns, understandings, adaptations and social systems that summarize a group of people's learned way of life" [Nguyễn Quang 1997, *Intercultural Communication*, Foreign Language University, p 34].

2.2.4.2. The Relation of Culture and Language

Culture and language are closely related to each other. "Many of the properties of language are also the properties of culture in general" as shown by Hudson.

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURE

3.1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This chapter first deals with aims and objectives. Then the research methods for the study are presented. It consists of descriptive, contrastive analysis, quantitative and qualitative methods. The data collection and the direction for the study are in the research procedure.

3.1.1. Aims of the Research

The study is basically studied the syntactic, semantic and cultural characteristics of English idioms and proverbs relating to children in comparison with Vietnamese ones. More importantly, providing language learners with a basic knowledge of this field will help them master the meaning of idioms and proverbs, and easily translating them to each of these languages. Language learners also benefit a lot in improving their language skill and make their language of communication and writing become richer. To some aspect, they can aware of the beauty of language to love their mother tongue and their culture more.

3.1.2. Objectives of the Research

This paper is designed to aim at the following objectives:

- To present the English and Vietnamese syntactic and semantic features of idioms and proverbs relating to children as well as their cultural characteristics.
- To compare and contrast the features mentioned above to clarify the similarities and differences of the two languages in this field.

- To suggest some implications for the teaching and translating English as a foreign language in Vietnam.

3.2. RESEARCH DESIGN AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is designed to meet the aims and objectives of the study mentioned above. In order to achieve this purpose, a great number of idioms and proverbs relating to children from many sources in two languages – English and Vietnamese have been collected and processed differently, and then analyzed and compared to one another.

3.3. DESCRIPTION OF THE POPULATION AND SAMPLE

3.3.1. Description of the Population

There is a wide range of population who can benefit from the results of this study such as: native English and Vietnamese speakers, learners of English and Vietnamese as foreign languages, translators and linguists and researchers interested in working with idioms and proverbs.

3.3.2. Description of the Sample

In this study, we will work approximately 420 idioms and proverbs relating to children (about half of them in English and the rest in Vietnamese).

3.4. RESEARCH PROCEDURES

3.4.1. Data Collection

The data collection consists of 2 main stages as following. Firstly, a large number of idioms and proverbs relating to children in English and Vietnamese will be collected in order to make the corpus of the thesis.

Secondly, the collection of grammatical books and related literature will be done to hold up the Chapter II. Books on grammar, syntax, semantics, cultures and especially books dealing with idioms and proverbs and children from different point of views are sufficient for the need to set the theoretical basis for the thesis to be carried out.

3.4.2. Data Analysis

The followings are procedures for data analysis.

- Describing and analyzing idioms and proverbs relating to children in English and Vietnamese in terms of syntactic and semantic features.

- Analyzing to find out the semantic purposes of idioms and proverbs relating to children.

- The similarity and differences in idioms and proverbs relating to children in terms of semantics, syntax, and culture.

- Suggested approaches to the teaching and translation of English idiom and proverbs relating to children into Vietnamese.

3.5 INSTRUMENT FOR ANALYSIS

By observing and investigating the occurrence of idioms and proverbs in dictionaries and literature works, I collect, synthesize, analyze and classify them qualitatively. Then the description method is used to explore their linguistic features and find out how they work in terms of syntactic, semantic and cultural aspects. I also use some other supporting instruments such as checklists and statistic tables to show quantitatively the contribution of idioms into each type.

3.6. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

In term of reliability, both data and background for the study are reliable. Moreover, the results and findings in this thesis are

surely withdrawn from the work with the accurate statistics from data analysis without any prejudices or preconceptions.

In term of validity, this study meets all required criteria. In order to make the sample of the study, all English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs are drawn from dictionaries, and other reliable sources.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE IDIOMS AND PROVERBS RELATING TO CHILDREN

4.1.1 Syntactic Glimpse at English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

4.1.1.1. Phrase Structures

a. Noun Phrase

Table 4.1: Noun Phrase Structures of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs relating to Children

	English	Vietnamese
Noun Phrases patterns	[1] (Det) Adj + N	[1] N + N, N + N
	[2] NP (Det + N) + Prep+NP	[2] N + Det, N + Det
	[3] Adj + N (and/), Adj + N	[3] N + Adj, N + Adj
	[4] No+N/(NP), No+N/ (NP)	[4] Nhất + N, Nhì + N
	[5] Such + N , Such + N	[5] N + nào + N này
	[6] N's + N	[6] Adj + N, Adj + N

b. Verb Phrases

Table 4.2: Verb Phrase Structures of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs relating to Children.

	English	Vietnamese
Verb phrases	[7] V/VP + N/(NP)	[7] V + N, V + N
	[8] V + Adj, V + Adverb	[8] V + N + N
	[9] VP + N + To-inf + NP	
	[10] V + Prep + N/NP	
	[11] Past Parti + and + Past Parti	

c. Adjective Phrases

Table 4.3: Adjective Phrase Structures of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs relating to Children

	English	Vietnamese
Adjective Phrases	[12] Adj + Prep + NP	[9] Adj + Nhur + N
	[13] (As) + Adj + As + NP	[10] Adj + VP, Adj + VP
		[11] Adj + N/ NP, Adj + N/NP
		[12] Adj + Prep + N

d. Prepositional Phrases

	English	Vietnamese
Preposition Phrase	[14] Prep + NP	
	[15] Like + N, Like + N	

e. Adverb Phrase

Table 4.5: Adverb Phrase Structures of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

	English	Vietnamese
Adverb Phrase Patterns	[16] Adv + Past Parti/ Adj, Adv + Adj	[13] Adv + Adj, Adv + Adj
	[17] Adv + Prep + NP	
	[18] Adv + NP	

4.1.1.2 Sentence Structures

a. Simple Patterns

Table 4.6: Simple Sentence Structures of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

	English	Vietnamese
Simple Sentence Structures	[1] S + V + O	[1] S + V + O
	[2] S + V + Comp	[2] S + V + Comp
	[3] S + V + O + A	[3] S + V + (O) + A
	[4] S + V	[4] S + V
	[5] S + V + O + Comp	

b. Compound patterns

Table 4.7: Compound Sentence Structures in English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

	English	Vietnamese
Compound Sentence Structures	[6] S + V + O + Coordinator + S + V + O	[5] S + V, S + V
	[7] (S) + V + Oi + Od + A + Coordinator + S + V + C	[6] S + V + C, S + V + (Sub cl. as) C
	[8] (Sub cl. as) S + V + O; (Sub cl. as) S + V + O	[7] S + V + O + A, S + V + O + (Sub cl. as) A
	[9] S + V + C + (Sub cl. as) A, S + V + C + A	[8] (Sub cl. as) S + V, (Sub cl. as) S + V
	[10] S + V + O + A + Coordinator + S + V + O + A	[9] S + V + O, S + V + O
	[11] (S) + V + (Sub cl. as) A + Coordinate + (S) + V + (Sub cl. as) A	[10] (Sub cl. as) S + V + C, (Sub cl. as) S + V + C
		[11] S + V + O + C, S + V + O + C
		[12] (Adv cl. as) S + V +

	C, (Adv cl. as) S + V + C
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c. Complex patterns

Table 4.8: Complex Sentence Structures in English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

Complex Sentence Structures	English	Vietnamese
	[6] S + V + (sub cl. as) O	[5] (Sub cl. as) S + V + (Sub cl. as) C
	[7] (Sub cl. as) S + V + C	[6] S + V + (sub cl. as) C
	[8] (S) + V + O + (sub cl. as) + A	[7] (Sub cl. as) S + V + O
	[9] As + S + V + C, So + V + S + (C)	[8] (S) + V + O + (sub cl. as) A
	[10] S + V + (sub cl. as) A	

4.1.2 The Structures of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

4.1.2.1. Parallel Structures

To sum up, parallelism is a very common literary feature in English and Vietnamese proverbs, in which the words of two or more phrases/clauses of the proverb are directly related in some way.

4.1.2.2. Antithesis

English and Vietnamese proverbs use antithesis to work out the contrast between two ideas. Nonetheless, it is not only the semantic aspect which explains the linguistic nature of antithesis; the structural pattern also plays an important role. Antithesis is generally moulded in parallel construction. The structure of the phrases/

clauses is usually similar in order to draw the reader's/ listener's attention directly to the contrast.

4.1.2.3 Elliptical Structure

It is clear that both English Vietnamese idioms and proverbs have elliptical structure. However, that is the typical characteristic of Vietnamese idioms and proverbs, most of them are in elliptical form. The shorter, the better; the shorter, the more memorable is the feature of Vietnamese idioms and proverbs.

4.2. SEMANTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE IDIOMS AND PROVERBS DENOTING CHILDREN

4.2.1. Symbolic Characteristics of Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

4.2.1.1. Metaphor

Idioms and proverbs that belong to category one (that is idioms and proverbs that contain the word relating to children and have the same meaning denoting children) don't have this semantic symbol; however, this is a quite common phenomenon of those belong to categories two and three.

4.2.1.2. Metonymy

Here are some images that appear in idioms and proverbs relating to children in term of metonymy: to đầu, bé dái in “to đầu mà đại bé dái mà khôn”, lòng in “sinh con há để sinh lòng”, “old head” and “young shoulders” in “you can't put an old head on young shoulders.”

4.2.1.3. Hyperbole

This stylistic device is used as one of the means of transferring idioms and proverbs such as a growing youth has a wolf in his stomach, all somebody's geese are swans, once burnt twice shy, step on a crack break your mother's back in English or năm con năm bát nhà nát cột xiêu, con biết ngồi mẹ rời tay, con biết nói mẹ hói đầu, con lên ba mẹ sa xương sườn, ruộng sâu trâu nái không bằng con gái đầu lòng in Vietnamese.

4.2.1.4. Simile

there are a lot of idioms and proverbs (in my data) match this definition. In English, they are such fruit, such tree; like father like son; an old man is like a child, as is the father, so is the son; children are better than riches, bald as a baby's bottom, soft as a baby bottom, weak as a baby ect. In Vietnamese, the words that let us know this sentence uses this stylistic device are như, giống như, là, như là, hơn, bằng ect.

4.2.1.5. Symmetry

In the proverbs and idioms containing two parts such as youth saint/ old devil, late children/ early orphan, cha cầm khoán/ con bê măng, the relation of opinion between two parts of idioms and proverbs is established due to the corresponding in terms of grammatical and semantic field. They express the same semantic category, the same word class and the same grammatical category. Symmetry axis among the words in two sides is also the symmetry axis between the two sides of an idiom and proverb.

4.2.2. Semantic Fields of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

4.2.3. Similarities and Differences in Semantic Features of English and Vietnamese Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

4.2.3.1. Similarities

English and Vietnamese people have the treasure of idioms and proverbs in general and idioms and proverbs relating to children in particular possessing a function of performing, narrating and placing extra feelings which makes language connotative and allusive. What's more, both English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children use some certain characters, things, concrete events to reveal or illustrate abstract ideas, experience or phenomena, situations, or wise sayings by the means of metaphor, metonymy, simile, symmetry and hyperbole.

In terms of semantic fields, the English and Vietnamese data is similarly divided into 3 categories based on the meaning of these idioms and proverbs. If idioms and proverbs containing the words relating to children and referring to children, they belong to category one, if idioms and proverbs containing words relating to children but not referring to children, they belong to category two, and the third category are idioms and proverbs that have no word denoting children but have meaning referring to children. These categories are subdivided into corresponding subfields. In general, both English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children mention to some main subfield such as pregnant-childbirth-death; suffering;

appearance; personality; situation; heredity-family relationship; age; succession; experience; description of characteristics; warning-judgment-failure; love affair-marriage; gratitude-ungratefulness.

4.2.3.2. Differences

Although has a lot of common points, there are some differences in terms of semantic characteristics between English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs. Because the term “children” is understood in 2 ways in English, they are children who are under 18 years old, and the son or daughter of someone. Accordingly, we have Vietnamese equivalents as “trẻ con” and “con trẻ, con cái”. In fact, a child who is under 18 years old, s/he is called “a son/ daughter – con cái” of his parents if he has blood relationship with them, while he is called a “child – trẻ con” to the society. As we can easily observe, the Vietnamese idioms and proverbs mostly refer to children – in meaning of one’s daughter or son and there are just a few idioms and proverbs refer to the meaning of a young kid who is under 18 years old; whereas, English idioms and proverbs have a balance number in these two kinds of meaning.

As we can see from the table 4.10, there are clear difference between idioms and proverbs relating to children. The frequency of idioms and proverbs relating to children in Vietnam is much larger than those in English. The number of idioms and proverbs in Vietnamese is nearly double the English ones. Moreover, there is no English idiom or proverb that happens in the field of situation, while there are 18 items of Vietnamese ones bearing this field. Conversely, there is no Vietnamese idiom or proverb that occurs in the field of

description of characteristics, while there are 5 items of English referring to this meaning.

4.3. CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE IDIOMS AND PROVERBS RELATING TO CHILDREN

There are some cultural characteristics in English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs and some cultural factors that affect the idioms and proverbs such as religious words, cultural images, symbolic animals, human body parts, social regimes, weather, family custom and education.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSIONS

Chapter 1 presents the rationale of the study and states what the study is aimed at. Also, the research questions, scope of study and method of the study are included. Chapter 2 provides a review of the related previous studies, fundamental and essential theoretical preliminaries concerning the subject under consideration which serves as the basis foundation of data analysis and finding discussion in the following chapters. Chapter 3 is designed to describe the methods and procedures of the paper. Chapter 4 presents the finding and discussion of the research where the semantic and syntactic characteristics of English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children are focused.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

5.2.1. Implications for Language Teaching and Learning

In the process of teaching English to Vietnam's students, teachers should put more emphasis on teaching idioms and proverbs for learners at all levels and raising their awareness in learning as well as using idioms and proverbs.

5.2.2. Implications for Translating Idioms and Proverbs Relating to Children

a. Idioms and proverbs can have either literal or non-literal meanings because most idioms and proverbs are constructed from components that have non-literal meanings quite remote from the senses of the individual words.

b. And it is the context where the idioms and proverbs occur that help reduce the semantic ambiguity, one typical feature of idioms and proverbs.

c. Moreover, when the literal meaning is realized to be unsuitable in the context, the non-literal meaning will take its place.

d. The learners should equip themselves with knowledge of principle of meaning transfer beforehand.

e. In addition, a profound understanding of cultural characteristics of idioms and proverbs relating to children in English and Vietnamese certainly benefits the learners a lot in the translation due to the fact that the relationship between language and culture is bound up with culture in multiple and complex ways.

5.3. LIMITATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The study remains some inevitable limitations and more detailed discussions are still needed. For these reasons, there are some other aspects that need to be further investigated such as:

- Investigation into the pragmatic aspect of English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children.

- Investigation into the stylistic devices used in English and Vietnamese idioms and proverbs relating to children.