

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
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**A DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF SPOKESMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS OF  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
AND VIETNAM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

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

**M.A. THESIS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
(A SUMMARY)**

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- *Library of the College of Foreign Languages, University of Danang*
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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. RATIONALE

I have chosen to study the spokesmen's announcements of U.S. Department of State in a contrastive analysis with those in Vietnamese because of the following reasons:

Firstly, English is a predominant means of international communication, especially of transferring information. In Vietnam, many magazines, newspapers and internet sites are published by Vietnamese and then exchanged in English. The website of Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs is not exception. Writing, translating and interpreting an English announcement into Vietnamese and vice versa becomes very popular nowadays. However, it is difficult to do this because each language has its own discourse features and underlying socio-cultural values.

Secondly, the announcements form a special genre of discourse. They are known as spoken discourse but they are usually prepared in advance in written form. In fact, the announcements of foreign ministry are transmitted on media technologies including the internet, television, newspapers and radio to many different countries and regions so it requires the authors to be qualified and their announcements must always be sophisticated and sharp.

The final reason of my choice is that spokesman's announcements of foreign ministry usually deal with the domestic and international issues and we can hear them many times in a day. Thanks to the announcements, we can catch up with what was and has been happening concerning the political situation in some countries and regions in over the world.

From these reasons, I have decided to choose *A discourse analysis of spokesmen's announcements of U.S. Department of State and Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs* as the topic of my M.A thesis. This thesis is carried out with the hope that the research results will provide Vietnamese learners of English, especially students in the press and diplomatic fields with some useful information about the linguistic features of English and Vietnamese announcements.

## **1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **1.2.1. Aims**

The aim of this study is to examine the syntactic features of spokesmen's announcements of U.S. Department of State and Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the discourse level so as to help Vietnamese learners of English understand and grasp the distinctive characteristics of this kind of discourse.

### **1.2.2. Objectives**

The objectives of the study are to:

- describe the speech acts, the theme and the cohesion used in EAs and VAs;
- contrast the syntactic forms of speech acts, the theme and the cohesion in in EAs and VAs at the discourse level;
- specify the similarities and differences between EAs and VAs in terms of these above aspects.
- suggest some implications for teaching English to Vietnamese learners, especially students of the diplomacy and press fields.

## **1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

The research is to answer the following questions:

- What are the linguistic features of the speech acts used in EAs and VAs at discourse level?
- What are the linguistic features of the theme and the cohesion of the EAs and VAs at discourse level?
- What are the similarities and differences between EAs and VAs in terms of these above aspects?
- What are the implications for teaching of English to Vietnamese learners?

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

In this study, I choose only the announcements of public affairs stated by spokesmen Philip J. Crowley, Hilary Clinton, Victoria Nuland, Le Dung, Nguyen Thi Phuong Nga, Lương Thanh Nghi ...

The central research focuses on the similar and different features between the spokesmen's announcements of U.S. Department of State and Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## **1.5. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY**

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Chapter 3: Methods and Procedures

Chapter 4: Findings and Discussions

Chapter 5: Conclusion and Recommendation

## **CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORITICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Although many studies of discourse analysis have been carried out, there is no evidence that any researche on discourse analysis of spokesman's announcements of foreign ministry has been done. Thus, "*A discourse analysis of spokesmen's announcements of U.S. Department of State and Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs*" would be conducted with the aim of contributing a minor part to the overall picture of this field.

### **2.2. THEORITICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **2.2.1. Text and Discourse**

##### *2.2.1.1 Concepts of Text*

There are many different viewpoints of *Text* such as in [2], [33], [5] or [4].

##### *2.2.1.2 Concepts of Discourse*

Each linguist explains the term *Discourse* of their own way. Some use it in reference to Texts, while others claim it denotes speech which is for instance illustrated by the following definition: [5], [27], [23],[4],[19], [17]

In this my study, the term of discourse is basically understood as human language in use for communication.

### **2.2.2. Concepts of Discourse Analysis**

*Discourse Analysis* is a general term for a number of approaches to analyzing written and spoken language use. The objects of discourse analysis - discourse, writing, talk, conversation, communicative events, etc. – are variously defined in terms of coherent sequences of sentences, propositions, speech acts or turns-at-talk. The term *Discourse Analysis* is defined in different ways:[29], [34], [25].

### **2.2.3. Speech Acts**

#### ***2.2.3.1. Speech Acts Theory: Yule's theory***

In this part, I review some aspects related to speech act theory so that I will have a clearer understanding about: *Locutionary acts*, *Perlocutionary acts*, *Illocutionary acts*

For Yule [35, p.49], among of these dimensions, illocutionary force is the most discussed one. Indeed, the term *speech act* is generally interpreted quite narrowly to mean only the illocutionary force of an utterance. The force of an utterance is what it counts as.

#### ***2.2.3.2. Classification of Illocutionary Act***

According to Yule [35], there are five types of general functions performed by speech acts: representatives, commissives, expressives, directives, and declarations.

*a. Representatives*

*b. Commissives*

*c. Expressives*

*d. Directives*

*e. Declarations*

In this study, the four general functions of speech acts: representative, commissive, directive, expressive and declaration are being examined. The last kind were absent from the collected announcement discourse and I have no instance in my corpus. This it should be left out this report.

## **2.2.4. Performative**

### **2.2.4.1. Definition**

In this thesis, I have used Austin's definition.

### **2.2.4.2. The performative characteristics**

These are some characteristics of a performative:

- The subject must be the first single or plural pronoun: *I / We*
- The adverb *hereby* may stand follow the subject.
- The performative verb ( $V_p$ ) is in the present tense.
- The indirect object is in second person singular (you)
- The utterance (U) is a clause following the indirect object.

## **2.2.5. Constatives**

Constatives are utterances which describe the world and in so doing ascertain or state something. Constatives mostly (though not necessarily) have the form of declarative sentences, they refer to the act of saying something, and, as mentioned above, they are truth-evaluable or at least purport to describe reality (cf. Petrey 1990:4).

## **2.3. AN OVERVIEW OF ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **2.3.1. Definition of Announcement**

### **2.3.2. General characteristics of Announcement**

As the definition above, the announcement is used to carry out the informing and influencing function. To do these functions in transmitting information, propagandizing, the ANN may include these three main characteristics: fighting characteristic, topical characteristic, and attractive characteristic.

## **2.4. SUMMARY**

This chapter presented the key concepts such as discourse analysis, announcement discourse, speech acts, term of thematisation and cohesive devices. The literature review showed the related studies of discourse analysis and helped to make a setting of study with different perspectives on the study of spokesmen's announcements. This chapter also helped me to set up a framework for examining the speech acts, the cohesive devices used in the spokesmen's announcements.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **METHODS AND PROCEDURES**

#### **3.1. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

In brief, to accomplish study, I have to use qualitative and quantitative methods as the strategic methods. However, with the set goals of the thesis, descriptive and comparative methods are chosen as the dominant one which are most frequently used in the research.

#### **3.2. RESEARCH PROCEDURES**

#### **3.3. SAMPLINGS**

The samples of study were selected from a wide variety of samples taken from two websites. 50 samples of EAs and 50 samples of VAs are collected for study and analysis.

#### **3.4. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS**

##### **3.4.1. Data collection**

The data of the study appear in the form of written texts on the Internet. It is very easy for us to find it. 100 samples of EAs and VAs are copied from the website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam and the website of U.S. Department of State. We selected EAs and VAs mainly from two websites:

[www.mofa.gov.vn/](http://www.mofa.gov.vn/)

[www.state.gov/](http://www.state.gov/)

##### **3.4.2. Data Analysis**

#### **3.5. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY**

## CHAPTER 4

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1. SPEECH ACTS USED IN EAs AND VAs AND THEIR SYNTACTIC REALIZATION

##### 4.1.1. Representatives used in English and Vietnamese announcements and their syntactic realization

Representative speech acts were usually used by spokesmen to affirm the relationship between The United State with other countries or role of an organization which The U.S. is one of the members or partners.

In many cases, spokesmen use representatives to make some comments about the issues / address some comments related to the event or reaffirm their rights with partners with the functions as asserting, affirming or predicting.

Apart from referring a reality fact, the representatives in the announcements can applied to present the main information of the announcement so that the readers or hearers are easily to recognize the content which the announcement would like to be mention.

Sometimes, spokesmen used the structure “*we recognize that ...it is important that...*”, “*We believe this is the best approach...*” at low frequency to increase the importance of information. It is clear that these structures are more formal and effective on hearers.

The last function of the representative speech act is used to announce travel schedule of the leader of The Department of State. In these kinds of utterances, the spokesmen usually practise the pattern “Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton”, “The Secretary” and “she” as subject with the modal verb *will* as shown in the examples below.

The above utterances are used as declarative form. As a result, a declarative used to make a statement is a direct speech act because there is a direct

relationship between a structure and a function. We can not find any indirect representative in the selected announcements.

**Table 4.6. The functions of the direct illocutions of the representative in English Announcement discourse**

Force of Illocution	Syntactic realization	E.g.	Function	
Direct Illocution of Representative	Declarative	S + V <sub>link</sub> + Cs	<i>The United States is a partner of Egypt and the Egyptian people in this process, which we believe should unfold in a peaceful atmosphere.</i>	Referring a reality fact
		S + V + Cs	<i>Jordan's decision to welcome international observers is consistent with internationally recognized elections standards and serves as an example for the entire region.</i>	Giving comments on the issue
		S + V <sub>pass</sub> + V <sub>ed</sub> + Cs	<i>The United States is concerned by the Afghan Government's proposed changes to the regulation of women's shelters.</i>	Focusing on the happened event of announcement
		S + V + O	<i>We believe <b>this is the best approach</b> to advance the interests of the Yemeni people.</i>	Introducing the way to solve the problem
		S + auxiliary + Verb Bare Inf. as Object	<i>Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will travel to Brazil on January 1, 2011, to attend the inauguration of President-elect Dilma Rousseff.</i>	Announcing travel schedule

In the VAs, speakers use the representative speech acts with the functions such as assertion, statement or prediction. The representatives are the most used expressions for the purpose of giving comments on the issue.

Moreover, through the function as notifying, affirming or stating, Vietnamese spokesmen applied representatives to refer to a reality fact.

Similarly to EAs, representatives are also used to introducing the way to solve the problem.

Nextly, representative speech act is also utilized to announce travel schedule. It is different from the EAs, the English spokesmen employ the utterances to announce travel schedule of the leader of Department, these utterances are applied to announce travel schedule of both sides.

**Table 4.7. The functions of the direct illocutions of the representative in Vietnamese Announcement discourse**

Force of Illocution	Syntactic realization	E.g.	Function	
Direct Illocution of Representative	Declarative	S + Vlink + Cs	<i>Việt Nam và Ấn Độ có mối quan hệ hữu nghị truyền thống lâu đời và sự hợp tác nhiều mặt rất tốt đẹp luôn được các nhà lãnh đạo và nhân dân hai nước dày công vun đắp.</i>	Referring a reality fact
		S + V + Cs	<i>Việc làm này của Thái Lan là phù hợp với Hiến chương ASEAN và quan hệ hữu nghị hợp tác giữa Việt Nam và Thái Lan.</i>	Giving comments on the issue
		S + V + O	<i>Điều cấp thiết hiện nay là cần nói lại tiến trình hoà bình để tìm ra một giải pháp cơ bản và lâu dài cho cuộc xung đột ở Trung Đông.</i>	Introducing the way to solve the problem
		S + Auxiliary + Verb Bare Inf. as Object	<i>Thủ tướng Chính phủ Phan Văn Khải sẽ dẫn đầu Đoàn Việt Nam tham dự Hội ... từ ngày 7 đến 8/10/2003.</i>	Announcing travel schedule

#### 4.1.2. Expressive used in English and Vietnamese Announcements and their Syntactic Realization

Firstly, with the act of condoling, spokesmen used declarative sentences to issue expressive speech acts. They are considered as effective tools to express

strong feelings, strong emphasis or emotion. Obviously, the hearers might feel that they were shared their pain.

Secondly, through welcoming, congratulating functions of expressives, spokesmen applied expressives to give positive attitude towards the event. Those kinds of utterances can occur in the beginning of the announcement or sometime in the body of the announcement. They help hearer feel proud of their decisions or works and they may be encouraged by these expressions.

The next function that we will deal with is giving negative attitude towards the event. In my corpus, I found the kinds of those utterances which are used as many as those utterances of giving positive attitude in EAs as well as in VAs.

The last function of the expressives that I want to mention here is revealing the speaker's attention to the events. As compared with those instances mentioned above, we can that indirect expressives of this case are usually found in introduction sentences of the announcement where the spokesmen are presenting information about the main content of an announcement. Especially, in these utterances, speaker often use adverbs of degree such as “*gravely*”, “*very*”, “*deeply*”, “*increasingly*” and etc. in English and the same way in Vietnamese such as “*hết sức*”, “*sâu sắc*”, “*rất*”, etc to create a very strong feelings.

**Table 4.20. The functions of the indirect illocutions of the expressive in English Announcement discourse**

Force of Illocution	Syntactic realization	E.g.	Function
Indirect Illocutio of Expressive	S + V + O <sub>d</sub> + O <sub>ind</sub>	<i>We extend our condolences to the families of those who lost their lives.</i>	Presenting spokesmen's condolences to hearer
	S + V + O	<i>We <b>welcome</b> news that officials plan to meet tomorrow in Abyei town in an effort to finalize arrangements for a peaceful migration in line with agreements already reached.</i>	Giving positive attitude to the event

		S + (A)+ V + O	<i>The United States <b>strongly condemns</b> the unjust and harsh verdict against human rights activist and respected lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh in Iran,</i>	Giving negative attitude to the event
		S + V + Cs	<i>The United States <b>is gravely concerned</b> with disturbing reports and images coming out of Libya.</i>	Revealing the speaker's attention to the event

**Table 4.21. The functions of the indirect illocutions of the expressive in Vietnamese Announcement discourse**

Force of Illocution	Syntactic realization	E.g.	Function	
Indirect Illocution of Expressive	Declarative	S + V + O <sub>a</sub> + O <sub>ind</sub>	<i>Chính phủ và nhân dân Việt Nam <b>xin gửi lời chia buồn sâu sắc</b> tới Chính phủ và nhân dân Liên bang Nga, và gia đình những người bị nạn.</i>	Presenting spokesmen's condolences to hearer
		S + V + O	<i>Việt Nam <b>hoan nghênh</b> thỏa thuận hòa giải giữa Phong trào Pha-ta và Hamát,</i>	Giving positive attitude to the event
		S + + (A) + V + O	<i>Việt Nam <b>cực lực lên án</b> các vụ tấn công khủng bố xảy ra liên tiếp trong thời gian vừa qua tại Ấn Độ.</i>	Giving negative attitude to the event
		S + V + O	<i>Việt Nam <b>rất quan tâm</b> theo dõi tình hình bán đảo Triều Tiên.</i>	Revealing the speaker's attention to the event

#### 4.1.3. Commissive used in English and Vietnamese Announcement and their Syntactic Realization

##### In English

Firstly, the spokesmen were most likely to use commissive speech acts to show commitment of observing the issue. They usually put these utterances in the end of an ANN in order to emphasize their special concern with the issue.

Secondly, commissive speech acts are used to show commitment of giving aide. The spokesmen employ lexical verb of commitment as in (57), (58), (59): the modal auxiliary verb *will* to carry out a commissive. Declarative form with the pattern “We” referring to the group of people in the Department of State or also referring to The United State of America and the verb phrase of volition were mostly applied to express near future.

The next function of commissive speech acts used in ANN is showing commitment to the intention of clarifying the issue. Commissive with this function was found with rather low frequency. The spokesmen expressed their intention to know how the event happened to the hearer.

The last function of this kind is showing the intention of cooperating with partner. In the same of express the second function above, the spokesmen used the modal auxiliary verb *will*. Beside, they also provided a lot of utterances which contain the verb *commit*.

**Table 4.27. The functions of the direct illocutions of the commissive in English Announcement discourse**

Force of Illocution	Syntactic realization		E.g.	Function
Direct Illocution of Commissive	Declarative	S + Auxiliary + Bare Inf. Verb as Object	<i>We will continue to follow the situation closely in the days ahead.</i>	Showing commitment of observing the issue
		S + Verb phrase + Object	<i>We are coordinating further action to be announced in the coming days.</i>	
		S + Auxiliary + Bare Inf. Verb as Object	<i>The United States will continue its support for and engagement with the people of Belarus.</i>	Showing commitment of giving support
		S + Verb phrase + Object	<i>We are working to ascertain the facts,</i>	Showing commitment to the intention of clarifying the issue

		S + V <sub>link</sub> + C <sub>s</sub>	<i>The United States is committed to strengthening our partnership with the Yemeni ... and security challenges.</i>	Showing commitment to the intention of cooperating with partner
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### In Vietnamese

Like EAs, commissives speech acts in VAs have some similar functions. The first one is that these commissives were used as the major speech act type so as to show commitment to the intention of cooperating with partner. Similar to the commissive instances making use of the grammatical devices like modal verb *will*, those in Vietnamese were found to occur with auxiliary such as *đã*, *dang*, *sẽ* in the following examples.

The second function of commissive speech act in VAs is showing commitment to giving support. In these commissives, the plural first person was not found. Instead, the spokesmen often used declarative form with the pattern such as “Vietnam” or “The government of Vietnam” to begin the utterances. Let’s consider the examples below.

**Table 4.6. The functions of the direct illocutions of the commissive in Vietnamese Announcement discourse**

Force of Illocution	Syntactic realization		E.g.	Function
Direct Illocution of Commissive	Declarative	S + Verb + Bare Inf. Verb as Object + Adjunct	<i>Để góp phần giúp Chính phủ Xri Lan- ca giải quyết vấn đề dân thường chạy nạn, Chính phủ Việt Nam đã quyết định hỗ trợ khẩn cấp cho Xri Lan- ca 30.000 đô la Mỹ.</i>	Showing commitment of giving support
		S + Auxiliary + Bare Inf. Verb as Object	<i>Việt Nam sẽ hợp tác chặt chẽ với Nhật Bản và các đối tác để có phương án tốt nhất cho việc xây dựng nhà máy điện hạt nhân ở Việt Nam, sử dụng hiệu quả năng lượng hạt nhân để phát triển kinh tế bền vững, đồng thời đảm bảo an toàn hạt nhân và bảo vệ môi trường.</i>	Showing commitment to the intention of cooperating with partner

#### 4.1.4. Directive used in English and Vietnamese Announcements and their Syntactic Realization

##### In English

Many directives were found to be used as to create an illocutionary force for request the hearer to act for peace. Those suggestions were provided with the hearer's will that help the hearer to solve the problem in the right direction. Very often the subjects of EAs are "*The United States*" or the prural first person "*We*" and the verbs are found such as "*call on*", "*call upon*" or "*call for*".

Apart from the verbs that are clearly encoded with the sense of request from the speaker, directives in EAs also use the modal verbs such as *should*, *must* to suggest the hearer to fulfill a command as shown in the following examples.

**Table 4.34. The functions of the indirect illocutions of the directive in English Announcement discourse**

Force of Illocution	Syntactic realization		E.g.	Function
Indirect Illocution of Directive	Declarative	S + Phrasal Verb + Object + To Inf. Verb as Co	<i>The United States <b>calls on</b> local and national authorities to ensure that the UN Mission in Sudan has the access required to protect civilians, increase patrols where fighting is taking place, and engage with local leaders to restore calm.</i>	Requesting the hearer to act for peace
		S + Auxiliary <i>should</i> + Verb Inf. as Object	<i>Those responsible for any criminal acts perpetrated <b>should</b> be brought to justice in accordance with international standards.</i>	Suggesting the hearer to fulfill a command
		S + Auxiliary <i>must</i> + Verb Inf. As Object + Adjunct	<i>Violence <b>must</b> cease immediately.</i>	

##### In Vietnamese

In the VAs, I have found the only one function of directive speech act. The spokesmen used the subject with the patterns as "Vietnam" or "Chúng tôi" and the verbs such as "*kêu gọi*" or "*yêu cầu*" to request the hearer to act for peace.

In short, directives speech act were carried out in the form of declarative sentences. This may make the content points of the spokesmen become more convincing and more powerful. The instances of utterances are used to request the hearer to act for peace in both EAs and VAs. But the function of suggesting the hearer to fulfill a command only exists in the directives of EAs. This may be because of social status. The United State is more powerful than their partner so that they can make a command but Vietnam can not do so.

## **4.2. DISCUSSION OF THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EAs AND VAs**

### **4.2.1. Utilization of Speech Acts used in EAs and VAs**

The distribution of the illocutionary force of Speech act used in EVs and VAs can be seen in table 4.36 and 4.37 as follows.

*Table 4.36. Distribution of Illocutionary force of Speech Act used in EAs*

Illocutionary force	Representative	Commissive	Expressive	Directive	Total
No.	153	20	53	45	217
%	56.5%	7.4%	19.5%	16.6%	100%

*Table 4.37. Distribution of Illocutionary force of Speech Act used in VAs*

Illocutionary force	Representative	Commissive	Expressive	Directive	Total
No.	91	10	59	17	177
%	51.4%	5.7%	33.3%	9.6%	100%

#### **4.2.1.1. Similarities**

As we can see from figure 4.29, both EAs and VAs were found to make use of major kinds of speech acts such as representatives, commissives, expressives and directives in the texts with different communicative purposes. The English and Vietnamese spokesmen exercised the same in utilization of speech act types

with the order from more to less as follows: representatives, expressives, directives and commissives.

In representatives, both the two language were recognized in structural form of declarative which functioned to help realize these speech acts in only direct illocutionary force. They are carried out with the communicative functions such as *Referring a reality fact, Making comments about the issues, Introducing the way to solve the problem, and Announcing travel schedule.*

As regard to expressives, both languages found in the corpus were the second most frequent speech act. The analysis of data reveals that all the expressives are used in the EAs and VAs have the form of declarative sentences so that the corpus yielded a lot of instances of indirect illocutionary force of expressives. By using the expressives in an indirect manner, English and Vietnamese spokesmen may express all the emotion to hearer. Expressives used in both EVs and VAs have the main functions following: *Presenting spokesmen's condolences to hearer, Giving positive attitude to the event, Giving negative attitude to the event, Revealing the speaker's attention to the event.*

The commissives in EVs and VAs were the third most frequent type of speech acts. EAs and VAs were found to employ direct illocution of commissives. The spokesmen were most likely to use commissive speech acts with different commitment action. The spokesmen employ lexical verb of commitment: the modal auxiliary verb *will* to carry out a commissive. In this kind of utterances, the two language used directives which have the same syntactic form with the purpose of *Showing commitment of giving support* and *Showing commitment to the intention of cooperating with partner.*

Regarding the directives in spokesmen's announcements in English and Vietnamese, there isn't any imperative used in these speech acts. Declarative sentences were the single syntactic form. Thus, there is only indirect illocution of directive in both EAs and VAs. Directives were found to be used as to create an illocutionary force for request the hearer to act for peace. In English, the subjects

of EAs are often “*The United States*” or the prural first person “*We*” and the verbs are found such as “*call on*”, “*call upon*” or “*call for*”. Similar to EAs, Vietnamese spokesmen also used the equivalent subject with the patterns as “*Vietnam*” or “*Chúng tôi*” and the verbs such as “*kêu gọi*” or “*yêu cầu*” to request the hearer to act for peace. The similarities of the cases mentioned above in English and Vietnamese can be cited as in table 4.41.

#### **4.2.1.2. Differences**

From the table 4.36 and 4.37, it is not difficult to recognize that expressives in VAs are used with the higher rate than those in EAs.

Besides, the usage of passive voice in EAs is more popular than this in VAs. It is practiced in expressives, representatives and also in directives of English announcements but only in representatives in VAs. This kind of utterance in VAs has the same desire which is likely to directive speech act in EAs. Let’s look at the table 4.14 below for the illustration of the difference of using passive voice in EAs and VAs.

Moreover, in VAs, we could not find the similar structure with the function of introducing the happened event of announcement. This exists only in EAs.

Another difference should be mentioned here is that English spokesmen used an direct illocution of commissive to set up the functions of showing commitment of observing the issue and showing commitment to the intention of clarifying the issue but not for VAs. Likewise, in VAs, Vietnamese spokesmen did not carry out directives with the function of suggesting the hearer to fulfill a command but very often english made use of modal verb such as *must* and *should* in declarative sentence to exercise this function.

Finally, as in commissives, Vietnamese utilized all of three auxiliary *đã*, *đang*, *sẽ* to manifest the speaker’s willingness of showing commitment of giving support while english used only one modal verb *will* to show speaker’s commitment. The difference in Commissive can be illustrated in table 4.15.

### 4.3. FRAGMATIC FEATURES OF PERFORMATIVES USED IN EAS AND VAS

#### 4.3.1. Performatives used in EAs

##### 4.3.1.1. *Representative*

The utterances of this kind present statements of fact and assertions through the acts of *recognizing* and *affirming* as illustrated in the examples (80) and (81).

When S intends to strongly assert their utterances with H, they carry out the act of uttering an *affirmation* with the preparatory condition that H has known the content of P and S wants to persuade H to believe the truth in the P.

In brief, I do not find a large number of performative utterances used in representative speech acts. Depending on the circumstances, S will utter (80), (81) on the assumption that the H will recognize the effect S intended.

##### 4.3.1.2. *Expressive*

When S performs a commendation with the preparatory condition that H did the good things, he/she intends to make hearer feel good with his/her positive assumptions, as illustrated in (83), (83) and (84).

In fact, in the above utterances, S carries the act of congratulating on H's happiness and offers the intention that he/she appreciates for what H did.

Nextly, we come to another way to express positive attitude by uttering the act of welcoming.

For the act of deploring, S does the utterance with the preparatory condition that H has already done something wrong and he/she intends to underestimate what H did.

When performing the act of condoling, S did not use the performative verb. Instead, he/she utilizes the expressions having performative characteristic such as *offer our condolences*, *extend our deepest condolences* or *offer our sympathy*. The choice of a type of expression that is less direct, generally longer is making a

greater effort for politeness. By this way, S carries out these utterances with the perlocutionary effect of sharing misfortune with H.

Finally, we will examine the act of thanking. The force of utterances of this type is often to thanking H for what H has done for S. And of course, S intends to appreciate H's action as shown in the example (88).

#### 4.3.1.3. Directive

Performatives of this type of speech act express the S wants. They are requests and suggestions. The utterances consist of an act of *urging, calling on or encouraging*.

In fact, the illocutionary forces of *an urge, a call-on and an encouragement* are quite similar to a request. When uttering these utterances, S believes that H is able to do the act which is something H would not normally do. Therefore, the perlocutionary force carried out is that H must implement the call of the speaker. In other words, S's intention for this specific speech act is to make the urged actions to have to be performed.

### 4.3.2. Performatives used in VAs

#### 4.3.2.1. Expressive

Vietnamese expressive performatives include the acts of *chúc mừng, chia buồn, đánh giá cao, hoan nghênh, and phản đối*.

When S carries the act of *chúc mừng, nhiệt liệt chúc mừng* on H's happiness, he/she offers the intention that he/she appreciates for what H did.

Vietnamese spokesman did not use the performative verb to perform the act of *chia buồn*. Instead, he/she makes the expressions having performative characteristic such as *bày tỏ lòng cảm ơn chân thành và sâu sắc nhất, xin gửi lời chia buồn sâu sắc nhất* or *xin gửi lời chia buồn và bày tỏ cảm thông sâu sắc nhất*. In the same way of EAs, in VAs, spokesmen also choice a type of expressions which are less direct, generally longer to make a greater effort for politeness. By this way, S carries out these utterances with the perlocutionary effect of sharing misfortune with H.

The example below is the case of the act of *đánh giá cao*. The utterance was given with the preparatory condition that H has done a beneficial action for S. In fact, S has a good feeling for action to be done for him/her. And he/she intends to please H with the positive assessment as shown in (94).

Nextly, we come to another way to express positive attitude by uttering the act of *hoan nghênh* in the example (94). S expresses a preparatory condition that H has done a beneficial action for S and a sincere condition that he/she has an appreciation for the act of H. Then, the perlocutionary effect of this utterance is that S hope that H will continue to do the action.

Finally, we will examine the act of *phản đối, cực lực phản đối*. The force of utterances of this type is often to disapproving H for what H has done. And of course, S intends to get H to stop their action as shown in the example (96).

#### 4.3.2.2. Directive

Performatives of this type of speech act express requests or suggestions. The utterances consist of an act of *yêu cầu* or *kêu gọi*.

Here is the case of illocutionary force of *yêu cầu*. By performing this act, S wants H to fulfil the command given by S's utterance.

The illocutionary forces of *kêu gọi* is a request. When uttering these utterances, S believes that H is able to do the act which is something H would not normally do. Therefore, the perlocutionary force carried out is that H must fulfil the request of the speaker. In other words, S's intention for this specific speech act is to make the urged actions to have to be performed.

### 4.3.3. Discussion on the similarities and differences of performatives in EAs and VAs

#### 4.3.3.1. Similarities

In both languages, we can find many of performative utterances, especially in directives and expressives but they do not exist in commissives. In the expressive performatives, they express the same act of welcoming, condoling and congratulating in EAs and VAs. The similarities can be illustrated in the table 4.49 below.

**Table 4.49. Similarities of pragmatic feature of expressive performatives in EAs and VAs**

Locutionary act		Illocutionary act	Perlocutionary effect
EAs	VAs		
<i>We welcome his pledge to work with and ...</i>	<i>Việt Nam hoan nghênh việc Thái Lan không cho phép ...</i>	Welcoming	S appreciates H's action and get H to continue to do so.
<i>We ... offer our condolences to the families and friend...</i>	<i>Chúng tôi bày tỏ lời chia buồn sâu sắc nhất tới Đảng, Nhà nước và ...</i>	Condoling	S wants to share the misfortune with H
<i>We also congratulate the millions of Brazilians...</i>	<i>Chính phủ và nhân dân Việt Nam nhiệt liệt chúc mừng Ngài Naoto Kan...</i>	Congratulating	S appreciates for H's achievement

Nextly, I will show the similarity in directive performative in EAs and VAs. There are only one act of requesting in directive performative in EAs which is similar to one in directive performative in EAs.

Finally, when uttering performatives, both English and Vietnamese speakers intend to make some effects to Hearers. However, the hearer will or will not recognize the effect S intended or perlocutionary effect, it depends on the circumstances or felicity conditions. In short, if there are certain expected or appropriate circumstances, felicity conditions, the performance of speech act is recognized as intended.

#### 4.3.3.2. Differences

It is not difficult to realize that there is a big difference in using verb in representatives. We can find the utterances of this kind which present statements

of facts and assertions through the acts of *recognizing* and *affirming* in EAs but they do not appear in VAs. In Vietnamese representative, S utilizes a mount of constatives with some verbs such as *cho rằng*, *mong rằng*, *tin rằng/tin tưởng rằng*, and *luôn mong muốn*.

In EAs, the speaker used the verb *call on* to perform the force of request. Meanwhile, Vietnamese spokesmen applied two verbs *yêu cầu* and *kêu gọi*.

#### **4.4. SUMMARY**

In this chapter, we have presented the result of data analysis concerning the realization of the syntactic structure of the illocution of speech acts used in EAs and VAs such as representative, expressive, commissive and directive. We have also given specific functions for each type of speech acts. Beside, the findings about some pragmatic features of performatives in EAs and VAs is exposed. After all, we have discussed the similarities and differences in these aspects above.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS**

#### **5.1. CONCLUSIONS**

The discourse analysis of spokesmen's announcements of U.S. Department of State and Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs has contained the following conclusions.

Firstly, the use of speech acts in both EAs and VAs were found to use the major types of speech act such as representative, expressive, commissive and directive.

Secondly, the use rate of type of speech act is almost similar in the both languages. The most frequent type of speech act collected in the corpus was representative. The second most frequent type was expressive. The third most regular was directive and the least common type was commissive.

Thirdly, there are not many differences in providing the communicative function of the utterances in each type of speech acts. Representatives in both EAs and VAs were used with the aim at *Referring a reality fact*, *Making comments*

*about the issues, Introducing the way to solve the problem, and Announcing travel schedule.* Expressives speech act assume to express the speaker's emotion with the main functions such as *Presenting spokesmen's condolences to hearer, Giving positive attitude to the event, Giving negative attitude to the event, Revealing the speaker's attention to the event.* Commissive is practised with the functions of *Showing commitment of giving support and Showing commitment to the intention of cooperating with partner.* The common function of directive in EAs and VAs is *Requesting the hearer to act for peace.*

Finally, I would like to conclude this section with the differences in EAs and VAs. Expressives in VAs are used with the higher rate than those in EAs. Besides, the usage of passive voice in EAs is more popular than this in VAs. It is practiced in expressives, representatives and also in directives of English announcements but only in representatives in VAs. In VAs, we could not find the similar structure with the function of introducing the happened event of announcement. This exists only in EAs. Another difference should be mentioned here is that English spokesmen used an direct illocution of commissive to set up the functions of showing commitment of observing the issue and showing commitment to the intention of clarifying the issue but not for VAs. Likewise, in VAs, Vietnamese spokesmen did not carry out directives with the function of suggesting the hearer to fulfill a command but very often English made use of modal verb such as *must* and *should* in declarative sentence to exercise this function. In commissives, Vietnamese utilized all of three auxiliary *đã, đang, sẽ* to manifest the speaker's willingness of showing commitment of giving support while English used only one modal verb *will* to show speaker's commitment.

## **5.2. IMPLICATIONS**

This thesis explores the linguistics aspects of spokesmen's announcement discourse, the spokesmen's use of various categories of speech acts and the syntactic realization of these speech acts in EAs and VAs. These implications are made with the hope of contributing to the Vietnamese authors' success when they

advertise their writing on international websites and they are also made for learners of language.

For the teaching and learning English, the thesis makes a point that teaching how to write an announcement of public affair. Additionally, this study help us to have a good opportunity to discover distinctive types of speech acts and their syntactic realization in English and Vietnamese announcement discourse. Of course, the analysis also help us to recognize the similarities and differences in spokesmen's announcements in English and Vietnamese. Therefore, it is necessary for learners to be pay attention to these similarities and differences. This means that learners can feel more easy to make utterances in an announcement that has the similarity of the use of type of speech acts as well as the function of each type. And they have to take notice on the differences in EAs and VAs.

In conclusion, the findings of this study have many important implications for future practice of English and contribute to the improvement in using English by Vietnamese learners.

### **5.3. LIMITATIONS OF THIS STUDY AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH**

This study has only dealt with the speech acts used in english and Vietnamese announcement discourse. There are also so many other sections of discourse analysis that have not been discorvered. Moreover, this thesis has been limited to exploring announcements in public affair discipline within a small corpus of 50 EAs and 50 VAs. Thus, suggestions for further research will be an exploration dealt with the following topics:

- A discourse analysis of spokesmen's announcement in English and Vietnamese in term of thematisation;
- A discourse analysis of of long copy of spokesmen's announcement in English and Vietnamese.