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NAMES OF HUMAN BODY PARTS AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON NAMES OF COMMON OBJECTS IN VIETNAMESE VERSUS ENGLISH: A COGNITIVE SEMANTICS PERSPECTIVE

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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

It is common knowledge that one of the most important functions of language is to name the world or express human thoughts through a system of concepts. They exist in association in language and make up a giant network with many interconnection and association among the various subparts. A good example of this interconnection involves metaphor. Metaphor is used in the literary or poetic language. It is also widely used in every day conversational language. It is obvious that metaphor is utilized to express ideas sensibly and vividly as it has great expressive power. It is capable of conveying more of the human feeling, emotion or attitude toward what is said rather than the non metaphorical or direct way of expression.

One interesting idea in language use is that the human being, first of all, got to know their own body and gave name to its parts, then in the process of cognition about the world, they began comparing the surrounding objects with their own body and finding common features. The names of parts of human body are transferred to denote many other things or parts of things in real world.

Undoubtedly, it is necessary for learners of English to master more about the meanings of words denoting surrounding objects derived from parts of human being. We consider that these transfers need to be systematically investigated so that we could gain an insight into their meanings and use them naturally. That is the reason why I have chosen the title: Names of human body parts and their influence on names of common objects in Vietnamese versus English: A Cognitive Semantic Perspective for my research paper.

The way metaphors are utilized is due to people’s life experience, worldviews of people’s cognition of the outside world. In the broader term, it is also due to the language user’s culture. Secondly, the choice of one name of human body part construction over another may differ in English and in Vietnamese. This difference may bring about the negative impact in language transfer and learners often fail to convey the relation between participants in an event. More importantly, this difference reflects the cultural gaps between the two countries. Lastly, this thesis covers a very common construction which was often neglected by the previous researches.

This study is intended to provide a number of necessary strategies in communication, teaching and translation.

1.2. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The result of the study will be another illustration for the beauty of language, especially when it is used under the observation of cognitive semantics and metaphor. The findings of a contrastive analysis of English and Vietnamese will be a great benefit for Vietnamese learners of English. Moreover, the deep investigation will help them improve their understanding of meanings of words denoting the Names of human body parts and get better results in reading comprehension, translation work as well as in everyday language.

1.3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.3.1. Aims

This study aims to investigate the Names of human body parts and names of common objects in Vietnamese versus English under the light of cognitive semantics. It also finds out and explains the
similarities and differences between the two languages so as to have a
new look at the diversity in the meanings of words denoting names of
common objects derived from names of human body parts in both
languages.

1.3.2. Objectives

In order to reach the aims, there are four objectives to guide
the study:
- Examine the metaphoric meanings of words denoting names of
common objects derived from names of human body parts
- Analyze and make a comparison of metaphoric meanings of
Names of human body parts (WDH) and names of common
objects in Vietnamese versus English
- Find out and explain the similarities and differences of (WDH) in English and Vietnamese
- Suggest some ideas for teaching, learning and translating
words denoting Names of human body parts in two languages

1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

To gain the effective results, it is necessary to find out the
proper answers for the following questions:
- What is the metaphoric meanings of words denoting names of
common objects derived from names of human body parts in
English and in Vietnamese?
- What are the similarities and differences in the metaphoric
meanings of words denoting Names of human body parts in Vietnamese versus English?
- What are possible reasons that cause the similarities and
differences?

1.5. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

Owing to the limitation of time, the required length of the
study and references, the investigation will be restricted to words
denoting parts such as “Head, Face, Hand, Foot, Eye, Nose,
Mouth” in English and seven words: “Đầu, Mặt, Tay, Chân, Mắt,
Mũi, Miệng” in Vietnamese. Then I will also state the similarities as
well as differences of words denoting these parts of human body that
are used in English and Vietnamese

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The study is divided into five chapters:
Chapter 1: Introduction
Chapter 2: Literature review and theoretical background
Chapter 3: Methods and Procedures
Chapter 4: The findings and discussions
Chapter 5: Conclusions and Implications

CHAPTER 2
LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. LITERATURE REVIEW

In book "Cognitive Semantics: Meaning and Cognition", Peter Gardenfors [2] gives a programmatic presentation of cognitive semantics in the form of six tenets. According to Peter Gardenfors, cognitive processes are only those which are associated with the ability to solve problems independently of stimuli from the immediate environment. Cognition therefore is associated with mental content and with an intentional relation between mental content and external
world states; it requires an inner, situation-independent environment. ‘Ngôn ngữ học tri nhận- Tư lý thuyết đại cương đến thực tiễn tiếng Việt’ by Lý Toàn Thắng [87] in which he applies the cognitive semantic theory into Vietnamese language and studies very carefully such issues as cognitive models, Figure/Ground relationships, prototypes, anthropocentric principles, spatial orientation, language and spatial cognitive map.


In “A contrastive analysis of English and Vietnamese idioms using the term of human body parts” Nguyễn Thị Hiệp (2001) investigated idioms in relation to their grammatical and semantics features.

There have hardly been any researches on name of human being and their influence on common object in the view of cognitive semantics.

### 2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.2.1. Brief Overview of Cognitive Semantics

Cognitive semantics, said to be rooted in cognitive linguistics (starting in the 1970s). In his research "Conceptual Spaces as a Basis for Cognitive Semantics", Peter Gardenfors [2] contrasts two general traditions in semantics, one realistic and one cognitive. According to the realistic approach to semantics, the meaning of an expression is something out there in the world. Often, meanings are defined in terms of truth conditions. A consequence of this approach is that the meaning of an expression is independent of how individual users understand it.

Emphasizing the importance and relevance of cognitive semantics, Talmy [55] also asserts that semantics is intrinsically cognitive.

#### 2.2.2. Six Tenets of Cognitive Semantics:

2.2.2.1. Meaning is the Conceptualization in Cognitive Model

2.2.2.2. Cognitive Models are Mainly Perceptually Determined (Meaning is not Independent of Perception)

2.2.2.3. Semantics Elements are Based on Spatial or Topological Objects (not Symbols that can be Composed According to Some Systems of Rules)

2.2.2.4. Cognitive Models are Primarily Image-schematic (not propositional). Image-schemas are Transformed by Metaphoric and Metonymy Operations (which are treated as exceptional features in the traditional view)

2.2.2.6. Concepts Show Prototype Effects

2.2.3. Some Points of View about Metaphor

Generally, metaphor is defined as the transference of name based on the association of similarity.

According to Lakoff and Johnson (1980). They found that metaphor is pervasive in everyday life, not just in language but in thought and action…Thus our conceptual system is largely metaphorical, then the way we think, what we experience, and what we do everyday is very much a matter of metaphor. [13, p. 3]

According to Halliday (1985), Metaphor is usually described as variation in the use of words: a word is said to be used with
transferred meaning. [6, p. 320]

According to Nguyễn Hòa (2001), “Metaphor is the transference of meaning (name) from one object to another, based on the similarities between two objects.”

Lý Toàn Thắng (2005) mentions that “According to traditional rhetoric and literature, metaphor, along with metonymy, is considered as one of the two main types of using words figuratively. It is formed based on the concepts of simile and comparison between the literal and figurative meanings of words.” For example, “foot of mountain” compared with “foot of human” [19, p.28]

Đỗ Hữu Châu (1966) defines that: “Metaphor is a way of naming an object in terms of the name of another, based on the similar relationship between them.”

Nguyễn Đức Tôn [36, p.470] explains very carefully the nature of metaphor and then defined it as “Án dụ là phép thay thế tên gọi hoặc chuyển đặc điểm thuộc tính của sự vật hiện tượng này sang sự vật hiện tượng khác dựa trên cơ sở sự liên tưởng đồng nhất hóa chúng theo đặc điểm thuộc tính nào đó cùng có ở chúng.”

In my opinion, Metaphor is a way of naming an object in terms of the name of another, based on the similar relationship between them.

2.2.4. Some Related Terms

2.2.4.1. Relation between Language and Thought

It can be said that language and thought are related and interdependent on each other. Our ability to use language and our ability to think and conceptualize develop at the same time and these abilities depend on each other.

Firstly, language is a tool for expressing human thought. Each language has a characteristic worldview. It reflects the way people think and view the world around them. Thought is tied to culture and language and these vary and co-vary. Through language we can understand people’s thought and language is clearly the representation of human thought.

Secondly, language affect human thought. According to George Yule (1996: 246), we can only think in the categories which our language allows us to think. That is, your language will give you a ready-made system of categorizing what you perceive, and consequently, you will be led to perceive the world around you only in those categories. And he called this language determinism holding that “language determines thought”.

2.2.4.2. Cognition and Human Being

“Language did not descend on earth from outer space like some stray asteroid nor, despite the views of some contemporary scholars such as Chomsky(1980), did arise as some bizarre genetic mutation unrelated to other aspect of human cognition and social life”

Tomasello focuses on the differences between humans and other primates to make his case. Getting back to primates and culture, though, the description of the “ratchet effect”. Simply stated, the ratchet effect is cumulative natural selection acting on culture rather than a genotype. As ideas, tradition, skill, and other such cultural artifacts are passed down from generation to generation “ratchets up” specific items from “prior” culture

Tomasello has “human beings biologically prepared to have the potential capacity to learn something is a very different thing than possessing an innate universal grammar. Through this instinctual identification ability humans are capable of joint attention and
perspective taking—things Tomasello thinks other primates are not capable of. Children with autism are “control group” who are not born with or do not develop such an instinct.

### 2.2.4.3. Basic Characteristics and Functions of Culture

The first characteristic of culture is systematicality. Thanks to this, culture as a subject covering all of the society’s activities carries out the function of society-organizing.

The second, culture only contains beauty and values. Basing on the purposes of usage, cultural values are divided into material ones and spiritual ones. This characteristic helps culture carry out the function of society-adjusting.

The third characteristic of culture is humanness. Culture is a social phenomenon as well as the product from human being’s practical activities.

The final characteristic of culture is historical spreading.

### 2.2.4.4. The Relationship between Culture and Language

Language and culture are closely related and language shapes the worldview of its speakers. Language is a part of culture because culture reflects what a society or a human community does or thinks. All aspects of culture such as literature, art, music, belief, behaviors, customs and so on are reflected in language. Therefore, language is inseparable from culture, embodies the values and meanings of a culture including culture artifacts and signals people’s cultural identity. Besides, Kramsch [34] clarifies the relationship between language and culture by emphasizing three functions of language related to culture. Firstly, language expresses cultural reality because the words that people utter refer to common experience as well as reflect their author’s attitudes and belief, their point of view.

Secondly, language embodies cultural reality because people create experience through language. Thirdly, language symbolizes cultural reality since it is a system of signs that is seen as having itself a cultural value. Speakers identity themselves and others through their use of language; they view their language as a symbol of their social identity. Hence, it is of importance to realize the aspects of culture that are reflected in the use of language as well as the factors of culture that affect the language.

### 2.3. SUMMARY

In this chapter, we have presented a review of related literature and a theoretical background which shall form the basis for our study. Almost all salient features of cognitive semantics and the metaphorical uses of the words denoting parts of human body, which are indispensable and closely relevant to our study has been mentioned. Cognitive semantics, the metaphorical uses of the words denoting parts of human body, and their related concepts viewed by different linguists have been examined carefully in order to shape some theoretical orientations of fundamental value for our study. Though different linguists have different views about cognitive semantics, they all share the same point of view that meanings of expressions are mental. The focal approach of cognitive semantics is that meaning becomes independent of truth. In order to contrast a cognitively oriented semantics with the traditional views, we have presented the main tenets of cognitive semantics. The fundamental difference between the two types of semantics is that while both claim to be a study of meaning, formal semantics is more concerned with how the meaning of an expression can be represented than what it denotes or how it is denoted. Also presented in this chapter is the
notion of part of human body parts and various views on this subject. These theoretical orientations are established to form the foundation for us to discover the similarities and differences of the metaphorical uses of the words denoting parts of human body in English and Vietnamese under the light of cognitive semantics.

CHAPTER 3
METHODS AND PROCEDURES

This chapter aims at describing the research design and research methods that are used in the study.

3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

• Providing a review of literal and figurative meanings of words denoting human body parts by means of some theoretical concepts relating to semantics.

• Describing and analyzing the collected data to find out the semantic features of words denoting human body parts in English and Vietnamese.

• Using the comparative approach to discover the similarities and differences of words denoting human body parts in English and Vietnamese.

3.2. RESEARCH METHODS AND PROCEDURES

• The relevant documents, books, theses and researches are selected and read as much as possible. Then from those, we select the most suitable ones for the basis theoretical background.

• We choose 250 examples of the most typical words denoting human body parts for the corpus in English and Vietnamese

• The data are qualitatively and quantitatively analyzed to find out the similarities and differences of words denoting human body parts in English and Vietnamese.

3.3. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLES

The work was carried out with 250 samples of English and Vietnamese words denoting human body parts the samples were mainly taken from published newspapers, magazines, and from the internet as well.

3.4. DATA COLLECTION AND DATA ANALYSIS

3.4.1. Data Collection

The study is carried out over 250 examples collected from different sources.

3.4.2. Data Analysis

From more than 250 examples, we try to choose the most interesting and concrete ones in order to illustrate the important points under our investigation.

3.5. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

In respect of reliability, the information cited in this study as well as the data employed for the analysis is derived from the published English and Vietnamese newspapers, magazines, dictionaries.

In the case of validity, observation and investigation techniques have been chosen to be the main instruments for data collection.

3.6. SUMMARY
CHAPTER 4
FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION
4.1. THE SEMANTICS OF WORDS DENOTING HUMAN BODY PART
4.1.1. The Semantics of ‘Head’ in English and ‘Đầu’ in Vietnamese

4.1.1.1. The Semantics of “Head” in English

Generally, “head” is understood as the part of human body on top of the neck contain the eye, nose, mouth and brain.

Noun Phrase with Preposition

It can be seen that the word “Head” in English and “Đầu” in Vietnamese are popularly used in metaphor. The metaphors relating to them are mostly based on the similarity of position.

When people take parts of human body into consideration, they always consider the “head” as the top, the first, the highest and foremost part of all in comparison with the other part especially the foot. So, the first referents that they metaphorically refer to are the first and the most important part of a place or a thing. Take the following examples.

English: Place the pillow at the head of the bed
Vietnamese: Đặt những chiếc gối ở đầu giường
(English-Vietnamese Dictionary, 1993:779)

In English, some phrases containing the word “head” there is no equivalent phrases containing the word “đầu” in Vietnamese.

For example: “Head of a cabbage” is used to denote a round vegetable with green or purple leaves

Compound Noun

It grew steadily louder as they looked up and down the street

4.1.1.2. The Semantics of “Đầu” in Vietnamese

In Vietnamese, some phrases containing the word “đầu” but there is no equivalent phrases containing the word “head” in English.

For example Vietnamese people say “đầu xe ô tô” but English people do not often use the word “head” to refer to this, instead they use the word “nose” in the expression: “nose of the car”

4.1.2. The Semantics of ‘Face’ in English and ‘Mặt’ in Vietnamese

4.1.1.1. The Semantics of “Face” in English

Oxford Dictionary [15] defines “face” as the front part of the head between the forehead and the chin. However, it will be less interesting in investigating the figurative meanings of this word. Let us have a thorough look at this word specifically as well as in its collocations.

Noun Phrase with Preposition

Association in position, the face is situated on the front side which is considered the main side of the head so it also has similar position to many things in the world. For example, it is possible to say as in the following examples.

E.g. English: There is a crack on the face of the clock.
Vietnamese: Có một vết nứt trên mặt đồng hồ

The face of the clock here refers to the front part of the
Clock that shows the time. So both English and Vietnamese share this feature.

**Compound Noun**

*Its gargoyles ugly* stone face made Harry think suddenly of the marble bust of Rowena Ravenclaw at Xenophilius’s house, wearing that mad headdress and then of the statue in Ravenclaw Tower, with the stone diadem upon her white curls.

In this cases, “face” is employed to denote the surface of the stone

**4.1.1.2. The Semantics of “Mặt” in Vietnamese**


The word “mặt” in the above example expresses metaphoric meaning. It mentions the tool which is used to chop or cut something

**4.1.3. The Semantics of “Hand”, “Arm” in English and “Tay” in Vietnamese**

4.1.3.1. The Semantics of “Hand” in English

“Hand” and “arm” in English are equivalent to “tay” in Vietnamese. It is used to refer to the part from shoulder to tips of the fingers, including both “arm” and “hand” in English.

**Noun Phrase with Preposition**

In English, on the basis of the function of the hand which is used to point at something, the word “hand” is used to denote the part of the clock to show or point at the time, for example, second hand, minute hand and hour hand.

**Compound noun**

Professor McGonagall pulled out a lace handkerchief and dabbed at her eyes beneath her spectacles.

In this example handkerchief is used to denote a small piece of cloth of paper tissue for blowing the nose into

**4.1.3.2. The Semantics of “Arm” in English**

The word “arm” in English and “tay” or “cánh tay” in Vietnamese refer to the part of the body from the shoulder to the wrist. This part is long and small in shape and beside the body in position so the words denoting it in both languages are used to denote the small and long part of a chair which is on both sides of the chair.

For example: English: arm of chair

Vietnamese: tay ghế

**4.1.3.3. The Semantics of “Tay” in Vietnamese**

The word “tay” in Vietnamese is not used to the function of the arm.

One of the function of the arm is to lift or support something, so the word “tay” is used to refer to one kind of tool that is used to support or lift things called “lever” in English, for instance, “tay đơn”.

**4.1.4. The Semantics of “Leg”, “Foot” in English and “Chân” in Vietnamese**

4.1.4.1 The Semantics of “Leg” in English

Leg is long, small in position and lies below the main part of the body in position and is used for standing and supporting the whole body.

**Noun Phrase with Preposition**

The words “leg” and “chân” are used to refer to the parts of
many things, which are long, small and below the main parts and used for supporting, for example the legs of a chair. Vietnamese shares this feature with English.

The snake lifted its ugly triangular head and hissed slightly as the legs of the chair snagged on its rug.

**Compound Noun**

Legroom is the space available for the leg of somebody sitting.

- There is no legroom in an airplane
- Không có nhiều khoảng để chân trên máy bay

Both English and Vietnamese share common features in the metaphor relating to the legs.

### 4.1.4.2. The Semantics of “Foot” in English

**Noun Phrase with Preposition**

“Foot” is defined as the lowest part of the leg, below the ankle, on which a person or an animal stands.

The word “foot” and “chân” are used to refer to the lowest parts of something, the base or bottom of something such as mountain or hill.

In English the word “foot” is used to refer to the part of something opposite to the head. For example: the foot of the page, the foot of the bed.

*There were clean towels at the foot of the bed*

But there are also some cases in which they are used differently in two languages.

- For example in Vietnamese the lowest part of a tooth is called “chân răng” But there is no equivalent for this in English

### 4.1.5. The Semantic of “Eye” in English and “Mắt” in Vietnamese

#### 4.1.5.1. The Semantic of “Eye” in English

According to Oxford Dictionary [15], “eye” refers to either of two organs on the face that you can see with.

**Noun Phrase with Preposition**

First of all, as our eyes are round and small in shape in both English and Vietnamese, the words “eye” and “mắt” is used to refer a thing like an eye.

For example, “Eye” is employed to mention the round and small spot on a potato from which a new plant can grow.

- English: eye of the potato
- Vietnamese: mắt khoai tây

**Compound Noun**

About a hundred more goblins were sitting on high stools.

*He certainly had those, thought Harry, looking around the room. It was stuffy and cluttered, yet nobody could say it was uncomfortable; there were soft chairs and footstools, drinks and books, boxes of chocolates and plump cushions.*

In this case, footstools is used to refer to a low stool for resting the feet on when sitting in a chair.

### 4.1.4.3. The Semantics of “Chân” in Vietnamese

Môi chữ sang về ra, xanh dön. Và tay, và chân, và dưới cái áo mà tôi đã dập cho là một cái áo khác đã bị xé tả tơi posterior mình thì người ta câu nhẹ ít nhất. Và những chân tóc trên đầu chỉ cung danh tự mầu.

“Chân tóc” in this example is used to refer to the part of a chair that attaches it to the rest of the body.

### 4.1.5. The Semantic of “Eye” in English and “Mắt” in Vietnamese

#### 4.1.5.1. The Semantic of “Eye” in English

According to Oxford Dictionary [15], “eye” refers to either of two organs on the face that you can see with.

**Noun Phrase with Preposition**

First of all, as our eyes are round and small in shape in both English and Vietnamese, the words “eye” and “mắt” is used to refer a thing like an eye.

For example, “Eye” is employed to mention the round and small spot on a potato from which a new plant can grow.

- English: eye of the potato
- Vietnamese: mắt khoai tây

**Compound Noun**

About a hundred more goblins were sitting on high stools.
behind a long counter, scribbling in large ledgers, weighing coins in brass scales, examining precious stones through eyeglasses.

4.1.5.2. The Semantic of “Mát” in Vietnamese

In Vietnamese the word “mát” is used to refer to many small and rounded shape things on the peel of many kinds of fruit and things. But in English the word “eye” is not used in these case.

In Vietnamese the word “mát” in “mát rổ” is used to refer to holes of a woven basket.

4.1.6. The Semantics of “Nose” in English and “Mũi” in Vietnamese

4.1.6.1. The Semantics of “Nose” in English

Nose is defined as the part of the face that stick out above the mouth, used for breathing and smelling

Noun Phrase with Preposition

_Example:

Eg. English: A decorative pattern round the mouth of the bag._

In this case, the bag is one kind of containers. We put something in it through the open and front part of it call the mouth. Its equivalent for it is “Miệng túi” in Vietnamese.

Compound Noun

However, in some cases in Vietnamese, the equivalents do not exist.

She put her hand over the mouthpiece and shout at the children to be quiet

_Mouthpiece is the part of a telephone that one speak into

4.1.6.2. The Semantics of “Mũi” in Vietnamese

_Example:

Chúng tôi dầm mưa, lấy mủi dao đào thành máy lố con con, rồi đáp đạt em giấc lại. Cải cắm giấc mà cha tôi dã tự bờ la yêu thương, che chỗ cho một sinh linh (yêu ố, nhờ bê) nào đó thất ngờ ngao.

“The nose” in this example is figuratively used to refer to a small and pointed part of something.

4.1.7. The Semantics of “Mouth” in English and “Miệng” in Vietnamese

4.1.7.1. The Semantics of “Mouth” in English

The “mouth” is the opening in the face used for speaking, eating. It can be seen that when we open the mouth. It can function as the entrance for the food or drink to go in.

Noun Phrase with Preposition

_Eg. English: A decorative pattern round the mouth of the bag._

In this case, the bag is one kind of containers. We put something in it through the open and front part of it call the mouth.

Compound Noun

However, in some cases in Vietnamese, the equivalents do not exist.

She put her hand over the mouthpiece and shout at the children to be quiet

_Mouthpiece is the part of a telephone that one speak into

4.1.7.2. The Semantics of “Miệng” in Vietnamese

_Example:

Tôi nói lại với cha và Điển trong bữa cơm. Tôi nghe hai người lạng đì, tiếng đưa tre khua vào miệng chén ngung bất. Điển ngó tôi và tôi thò đọc được sự ghê sợ, kinh ténom còn lên trong mặt cha. Điển chan nước vào chén, lua với vàng rồi men theo con đường đác mé kính, nó đi vào trong xóm. Tôi đến với theo, ghé tiệm mua giấm ngắn ruồi đường cát.

“Miệng” in this case is used to denote the open end of a gun, out of which the bullets are fired
4.2. THE SIMILARITY AND THE DIFFERENCE IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

4.2.1. The Similarity

Firstly it is easily recognized that English and Vietnamese have a certain similarity in the source domain or source space in the WDH.

Take an example

*There is a crack on the face of the clock.*

*Có một vết nứt trên mặt đồng hồ*

The face of the clock here refers to the front part of the clock that shows the time. So both English and Vietnamese share this feature.

Because mankind possesses same body structure, perceptive organs, same perceptive and cognitive abilities, so people have many similarities in their cognition.

As the base of human cognition, thinking, experience, language and behavior, the metaphor is the basic mode to know the world and survive in the world for human beings. In daily life, people always use their familiar, material and concrete concepts to know, think about, experience and treat immaterial concepts which are difficult to be defined for references to form a cognitive form among associated and different concepts.

The transferred meanings of the words for parts of the human body in English and Vietnamese depends on the language user's ability to decide (through his cultural and social background knowledge and experience) to decide what is in the languages what is in the world.

English and Vietnamese are two different languages with different cultural backgrounds but human beings have similar process of thought. Talking about language and WDH in particular, we can recognize a great deal of equivalence between the two languages.

4.2.2. The difference

Despite the universal features, there still be distinct features that differentiate one culture from another. Beside the similarities, there are a lot of expressions that exist in English but not in Vietnamese and vice versa. Let us consider example.

People say “đầu xe ô tô”, English people do not often use the word “head” to refer to this but instead they use the word “nose” in the expression: “nose of the car”

Each word in each country has its own meaning. This way affect the way they use language, the way they behave, the way they call. English and Vietnamese people have some very different concept

4.2.2.1. The Difference in the Cognition

This originates from the fact that each community live in different environment. So what they see, they hear, perceive is different the others.

4.2.2.2. The Difference in Using

We have found out that the number of basis WDH is not the same in both language. Because of the differences in concept and cognition Vietnamese have very different ways to express expression.
CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

5.1 CONCLUSION

On the whole, the findings about the similarities and the differences in the metaphor relating to parts of human body has clearly shown the common and distinguished features in the way in which English and Vietnamese people think and view the world surrounding them. In both nations, people all understand parts of their body well in shape, position, function and then relate these features to the features of things in the world to name them by using the name of parts of the body. However, the specific cases they use a certain word about a part of human body to denote things are not always the same as they think and view the world differently. Additionally, people in each nation have their own and habit of using the language creatively so this leads to the difference in the metaphoric in the two languages. For these reasons, the existence of similarities and the differences in the metaphor relating to parts of human body in English and Vietnamese are reasonable and understandable. Additionally, it can be inferred that metaphor relating to parts of human body are a very productive means of creating new meanings that enrich the vocabulary in both languages. The interesting thing is that so many parts of human body and parts of things in the world can share the same names. Everything in the world is not viewed in isolation but in the association with human beings. It is hoped that with the findings and discoveries about the basic metaphors relating to parts of human body, this study will, to some extent, help students of English not only to acquire this interesting and popular uses of the word, which is helpful to them in their language use but also motivate them in their further language study.

5.2 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Due to the limitations of time and sources of materials, shortcomings are inevitable in this study.

Firstly, the different metaphorical uses of the words denoting part of human body when they function in other parts of speech such as verbs and adjectives have not been described and analyzed in this study.

Secondly, not all parts of human body have not been mentioned in this study.

Thirdly, transitivity of WDH have not been presented and analyzed thoroughly.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The content to be investigated may be more general or specific as follows:
1. Study the different WDH when they function in other part of speech such as verbs and adjectives
2. Study all of part of human being under the headings: upper parts, medial parts and internal parts