

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
UNIVERSITY OF DANANG

NGUYỄN THẾ CÀN

**A STUDY OF SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC  
FEATURES OF SPORT HEADINGS  
IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE**

**Subject Area : The English Language**  
**Code : 60.22.15**

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

**Supervisor: NGŨ THIÊN HÙNG, Ph. D.**

*Danang, 2012*

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

**Supervisor: Ngŭ Thiên Hùng, Ph. D.**

**Examiner 1: Lê Tấn Thi, Ph. D.**

**Examiner 2: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ngô Đình Phương**

The thesis was defended at the Examining Committee

Time : 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2012

Venue : University of Danang

The origin of the thesis is accessible for the purpose of reference at:

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, sport is one of the most important forms of entertainment and is of great interest in investigating. And the investigation into the semantic features and syntactic structures of ESHs and VSHs is of great importance.

#### 1.1. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the era of global development, the information explosion has been increased rapidly in the recent years; all are concerned to people's interest and enjoyment. Among such the big information explosion, the sport events are the most interesting. The sport events play a very important role in the life.

The sports headings serve two roles. First, attract the readers at the first sight. Second, describe the games exactly using as little word as possible. Third, insure a good sales for the publishing house. For these reasons, I decide to make an investigation into the sports headings with the topic "*A study of syntactic and semantic features of sport headings in English and Vietnamese*".

#### 1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

##### 1.2.1. Aims

This study examines the syntactic and semantic features of sports headings in English and Vietnamese newspapers.

##### 1.2.2. Objectives

- To examine the syntactic structures and semantic features of sports headings in English and Vietnamese in sports headings in newspapers.

- To discover the similarities and differences of sports headings in English and Vietnamese in sports headings in newspapers in term of the syntactic structures and semantic features.

- To suggest some implications for teachers and learners of English, especially journalism students concerning sports headings in sports headings in newspapers.

#### 1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The study tries to answer the following questions:

1. What are the syntactic features of sports headings in English and Vietnamese newspapers?
2. What are the semantic features of sports headings in English and Vietnamese newspapers?
3. What are the similarities of the semantic and syntactic features of sports headings in English and Vietnamese newspapers?
4. What are the differences of the semantic and syntactic features of sports headings in English and Vietnamese newspapers?

#### 1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study is confined to the syntactic and semantic features of sports headings in English and Vietnamese which focus mainly on those used in sports newspapers on football through the analysis of the data collected from newspapers, sport magazines in English and Vietnamese.

The deep investigation into the relationships between the content in the sports headings and the body of the commentaries is not the goal of this study.

#### 1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study is hoped to pave the way for those interested in investigating the meaning of sports headlines in English as well as in

Vietnamese. It can also provide a better understanding of how to use lexical item and sentence structure effectively in making sports headings more interesting and distinctive, attracting more and more readers and viewers.

## 1.6. ORGANISATION OF THE STUDY

The thesis is composed of five chapters as follows:

Chapter 1 – Introduction

Chapter 2 – Literature Review and Theoretical Background

Chapter 3 – Methodology

Chapter 4 – Findings and Discussion

Chapter 5 – Conclusions

## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1. PREVIOUS STUDIES

Headings are obviously one of the striking features of modern newspapers. Therefore it is not surprising that they have been studied quite extensively not only by journalists but also by linguists. Some of the few existing linguistic studies of headings will be reviewed below.

The **heading** is the text at the top of a newspaper article, indicating the nature of the article below it (Wikipedia).

Straumann (1935) [20] study of heading English is undoubtedly pioneer work. His approach was to treat the language of headings as an autonomous language. He classified headings in terms of neutrals, nominals, verbals and particles.

The complexity of headings has been investigated by Brisau (1969) [1]. He measured complexity in terms of clauses, which were thus singled out from other units as a gauge of complexity.

Mårdh (1980) [12] offers an exhaustive study of the characteristic features of the headings of a range of English newspapers. She identifies the following linguistic features as typical of headings in English newspapers: the omission of articles; the omission of verbs and of auxiliaries (the verb "to be" for example); nominalizations; the frequent use of complex noun phrases in subject position (in theme position); adverbial headings, with the omission of both verb and subject; the use of short words ("bid" instead of "attempt"); the widespread use of puns, word play and alliteration; the importance of word order, with the most important items placed first, even, in some cases, a verb; and independent "wh" constructions not linked to a main clause (an example: Why the French don't give a damn), a form not found in standard English.

Van Dijk (1988) [22] analyzed a five-decker from the New York Times. He sees the journalistic process as beginning with a heading and working through lead to body copy.

Kniffka [8] detailed comparison of leads and headings found a high level of structural correspondence between the two. The subeditor tends to reproduce the syntactic patterns of the lead in the heading.

Mouillaud and Tetu [13], analysing Le Monde, suggest the following features as typical of headings: the suppression of spatial and particularly temporal markers; the use of the present tense of verbs (where they are used) as opposed to--or in place of--any other tenses; the replacement of verbs by nominalisations; the suppression

of declarative verbs and the disappearance of signs of speech (quotation marks; personal pronouns).

Scollon (2000) [18], in his study of five days of three editions of the same newspaper in its Chinese and English editions, argues that the English headings, following on general western journalistic practice put the main point right in the heading in what has also been called a deductive rhetorical mode.

Sullet-Nylander (2000) [19] described and analysed the textual "genre" of the French newspaper headings.

In Vietnamese, the researchers have some of the regards to the syntactic and semantic features, as well as the headings or headings in the newspaper and sports. Diệp Quang Ban (2005) in *Ngữ Pháp Tiếng Việt* [23] mentions some different syntactic and semantic features of them in Vietnamese.

In the M.A thesis by Trần Thị Lê Thương (2009) [21], the sport commentaries was investigated and research in detail. She studied her thesis in the scale of discourse.

In her M.A thesis, Nguyễn Thị Kiều Ngân (2011) [14] has also chosen sports as her field of investigation. She fully paid her attention to the synonymy between English and Vietnamese sports commentaries used in the newspaper and magazines.

## 2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.2.1. Definition of headings

Heading is an important element in a print newspaper and electric newspaper, according to Oxford Advanced Dictionary – 8<sup>th</sup> edition (2010) [110], "*Heading is a title printed at the top of a page or at the beginning of a section of a book.*"

According to Peters (1995), the headings are short sentences located at the top of an article aimed at attracting the attention of the reader.

In the website: "<http://www.thefreedictionary.com>", head-line (*n*) means:

1. The title or caption of a newspaper article, usually set in large type.
2. An important or sensational piece of news. Often used in the plural.
3. A line at the head of a page or passage giving information such as the title, author, and page number.

In Oxford Dictionary online, the headings is defined as: "*a heading at the top of an article or page in a newspaper or magazine*".

### 2.2.2. Phrase Structure Rules

Phrase-structure rules are a way to describe a given language's syntax and are closely associated with the early stages of Transformational Grammar.

Phrase structure rules are usually of the following form:  $A \rightarrow B C$ , meaning that the constituent *A* is separated into the two subconstituents *B* and *C*. Some further examples for English are as follows:

$$S \rightarrow NP VP$$

$$NP \rightarrow Det NI$$

$$NI \rightarrow (AP) NI (PP)$$

The first rule reads: An *S* (sentence) consists of an *NP* (noun phrase) followed by a *VP* (verb phrase). The second rule reads: A noun phrase consists of a *Det* (determiner) followed by an *N* (noun).

Some further categories are listed here: AP (adjective phrase), AdvP (adverb phrase), PP (prepositional phrase), etc. Applying the phrase structure rules in a neutral manner, it is possible to generate many proper sentences of English. But it is also quite possible that the rules generate syntactically correct but semantically nonsensical sentences.

### **2.2.3. Tree Diagram**

Tree diagram is widely used in linguistics to show the internal hierarchical structure of a sentence. The root of the tree located at the top of the diagram and is represented by the symbol S (sentence). The branches of the tree down corresponding to the class grade list were announced by the rules.

### **2.2.4. Linguistic Realizations of Sport Headings**

The structures of the sport headings are very diverse in form, so finding a general criterion for classifying them are not simple. However, from an overall perspective on the significant aspects, we can divide them into several basic types below:

#### **2.2.4.1. Simple words**

When it comes to writing a sport heading, brevity is a virtue.

#### **2.2.4.2. Phrase**

Many sports headings just consist of a phrase. It means that it consists of a group of words.

#### **2.2.4.3. Clause**

The clause has also appeared in the newspaper headings.

#### **2.2.4.4. Sentence**

This kind of structure appears in the first position in the total list. The sentence may be a statement, a question, an exclamative or an imperative.

## **2.3. TYPES OF MEANINGS**

### **2.3.1. Denotation meaning**

Denotation refers to the literal meaning of a word, the "dictionary definition."

### **2.3.2. Connotation meaning**

Connotation, on the other hand, refers to the associations that are connected to a certain word or the emotional suggestions related to that word.

## **2.4. STYLISTIC DEVICES**

### **2.4.1. Metaphor**

A metaphor is a comparison used to add descriptive meaning to a phrase (without using the words "like" or "as").

### **2.4.2. Simile**

The easiest stylistic device to find is a simile, because you only have to look for the words "as" or "like". A simile is a comparison used to attract the

### **2.4.3. Synecdoche**

Synecdoche occurs when a part of something is used to refer to the whole. Many examples of synecdoche are idioms, common to the language.

### **2.4.4. Metonymy**

Metonymy is similar to synecdoche, but instead of a part representing the whole, a related object or part of a related object is used to represent the whole. Often it is used to represent the whole of an abstract idea.

#### **2.4.5. Repetition**

Repetition is the deliberate use of a word or phrase more than once in a sentence or a text to create a sense of pattern or form or to emphasize certain elements in the mind of the reader.

#### **2.4.6. Parallelism**

The similarity of syntactical structure in neighboring phrases, clauses, sentences or paragraphs.

#### **2.4.7. Triple**

A kind of parallelism where words, phrases or sentences are arranged in groups of three (“rule of three”).

#### **2.4.8. Euphemism**

Hiding the real nature of something unpleasant by using a mild or indirect term for it.

#### **2.4.9. Hyperbole (also overstatement)**

Deliberate exaggeration. Its purpose is to emphasize something or to produce a humorous effect.

#### **2.4.10. Rhetorical question**

A question to which the answer is obvious and therefore not expected. In reality rhetorical questions are a kind of statement.

### **2.5. SUMMARY**

In short, Chapter 2 has reviewed prior studies of the semantic and syntactic features on Sport Headings, provides the theoretical background for the research questions which are raised in the study. This chapter also consists of the working definitions of the key terms in the study such as Sports Headings, Phrase Structure Rules, Tree Diagram, Linguistic Realizations of Sport Headings, Types of meaning, Stylistic Devices used in Sports Headings.

## **CHAPTER 3 METHODS AND PROCEDURES**

### **3.1. RESEARCH METHODS**

With the aim of achieving the set goal “to find out semantic and syntactic features of Sport Headings in English and Vietnamese online newspapers” and “make a comparison between that of ESHs and VSHs”, it is necessary to use a combination of several research methods for analysis that are: the descriptive method, the analytic method and the comparative method.

### **3.2. RESEARCH DESIGN**

First, we selected the subject and narrowed it to the topic we are interested in.

Next, we worked with our supervisor in order to organize the topic into the outline. After that, a study schedule was planned and procedures were estimated to finish our research paper.

Based on the outline, the qualitative and quantitative approaches are combined to analyze the data. On one hand, the qualitative approach is used in describing and analyzing data to find out the distinctive features of Sport Headings as well as the similarities and differences between English Sport headings (ESHs) and Vietnamese Sport Headings (VSHs) in terms of their layout, lexical choice, syntactic structure and cohesion. On the other hand, the quantitative approach is useful for determining the occurrence, the percentage of some linguistic devices as well as comparing their frequency in ESHs and VSHs.

### **3.3. DATA ANALYSIS**

Data collected were mainly analyzed on the basis of the following points:

- *Syntactic features*: We examine which sentence features are frequently used in sport headings, compare them between English and Vietnamese.

- *Semantic features*: We examine which lexical features are frequently used in sports headings; compare them between English and Vietnamese.

In order to prepare data for the research, we proceeded to collect data as follows

First, we determine some criteria to select the samples, i.e. the number of samples, sources, types, dates, etc. and then, classify them in terms of discourse features.

Second, with such set criteria we collected 500 English Sport Headings and 500 Vietnamese Sport Headings from the Internet.

Third, for the sake of unity, ESHs and VSHs chosen were within two successive years (2009-2010).

From all data above, we proceed to analyze the distinctive features of discourse.

### 3.4. DATA COLLECTION

Most of the data used in this study were downloaded from famous websites and cited in the stable Newspapers in Vietnam as well as in the world. For the English data source, we select ESHs on well-known websites. The sources below are used to collect samples:

#### English

<http://www.fifa.com>

<http://keysoccer.com>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport2>

<http://www.football.co.uk>

<http://uk.eurosport.yahoo.com>

<http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2011/05/09/sports>

<http://www.uefa.com>

<http://www.mirrorfootball.co.uk>

<http://www.skysports.com/>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football>

<http://espn.go.com/sports>

<http://goal.blogs.nytimes.com>

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/sport>

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/sport>

<http://jeanhenry.wordpress.com>

#### Vietnamese

Báo Bóng đá

Báo Thể thao hàng ngày

Báo Thể thao 24h

<http://thethao24h.vn>

<http://www.bongda.com.vn>

<http://tin180.com>

<http://www.tinthethao.com.vn>

<http://bongdaplus.vn>

<http://www.tipbongda.com.vn>

<http://thethao.thanhnien.com.vn>

### 3.5. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

The sampling was made with the selection of the Sport Headings from the famous websites and all of them are authentic sources. These data are reliable and not out-of-date. In addition, the data used in studying and the result in this thesis are proceeded objectively.

**CHAPTER 4**

**FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

**4.1. THE SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF THE SPORT HEADINGS IN ENGLISH**

In the corpus of 500 English newspaper headings, all the structures ranging from word to sentence appear in the list. Each structure was examined and displayed one in one in the research.

**4.1.1. Word**

In the corpus, the headings with words appear very limitedly. Over all, this kind of heading appears 25 times and accounts for 5% of the total.

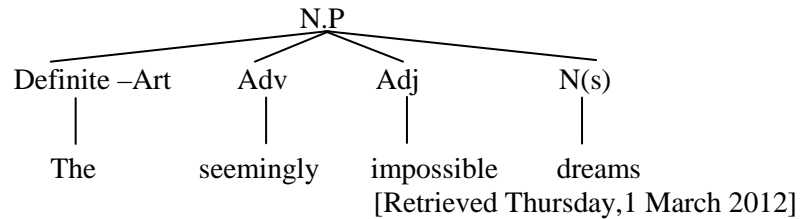
(1) *“Important”* is an adjective which is used to appeal the readers to read the decisive moment of a great football match. This simple word really show the significance of the game [Retrieved Saturday,3<sup>rd</sup> March 2012]

*Important* → Adjective → Word → Sentence.

**4.1.2. Phrase**

Phrase appears 200 times and accounts for 40% of the total structures. Phrase appears in the form of a N.P, V.P, Adj.P or a Prep.P.

(2) *“The seemingly impossible dreams”* is a N.P which consists of a definite article: ‘the’, an Adverb,an Adjective and the main Noun.



We can see that the Phrase in ESHs appears in all range. It can be a N.P, V.P, Adv.P, Adj.P or Prep.P.

**4.1.3. Clause**

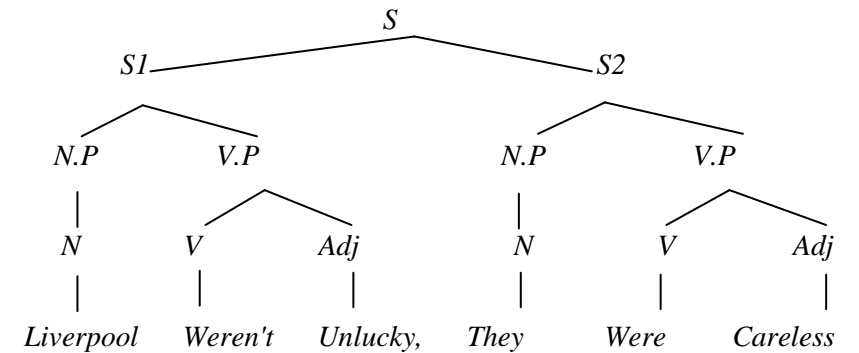
In the ESHs, Clauses seem not to appears and account for 0% of the total.

**4.1.4. Sentence**

Sentence is the most favorite used in the ESHs. With 450 times of appearance, the sentence accounts for 90% of the total. Sentence appears in all rank form simple sentence, compound and complex sentence.

(3) In *‘Mata thanks Villas-Boas’*, the heading consists of a simple sentence with a N.P and a V.P.

In (4) the heading appears in the form of a compound sentence.



**Table 4.1. Percentage of syntactic features of ESHs**

Structure	Percentage
Word	5%
Phrase	40%
Clause	0%
Sentence	55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>



As can be seen from Table 4.1, sentence is the highest ranked structure which was used more than a half of the total by 55% of appearance. The next structure is phrase with 40% of appearance. The headlines which appear with word account for 5% of the total. And the last is clause which does not appear in any headlines and accounts for 0% of the total.

**4.2. THE SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF THE SPORT HEADINGS IN VIETNAMESE**

All the tokens studied in this sector were taken from the paper: ‘Thể Thao Văn Hóa Hằng Ngày’, published by Thông Tấn Xã Việt Nam Publishing House, Volume 240-304.

**4.2.1. Word**

The simple words seem to appear the least in the total structures. It appears 7 times and accounts for 0,007% of the total.

(5) Take a look at this simple adjective: “*Mỹ mãn*”. In this case, this simple word play the role of a complete sentence.

*Mỹ mãn* → Adjective → Word → S [p4, vol 245]

**4.2.2. PHRASE**

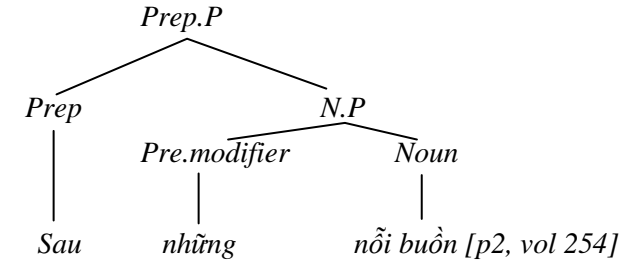
This kind of structure seems to appear more than the simple word. In the total, this kind of structure appears 215 times accounts for 20% of the total.

**4.2.2.1. Noun Phrase**

(6) The following example: ‘*Công thức cho tham vọng*’ [p9, vol 248] is also a N.P which consists of a Noun and a Prep. P. The Prep.P itself comprised of a Prep and a Noun.

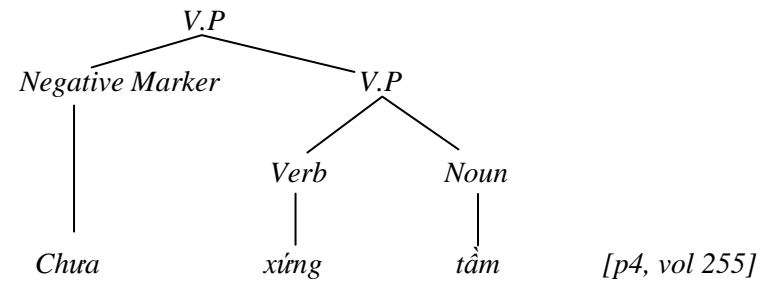
**4.2.2.2. Preposition Phrase**

(7) “*Sau những nỗi buồn*” is the example of a Prep.P.



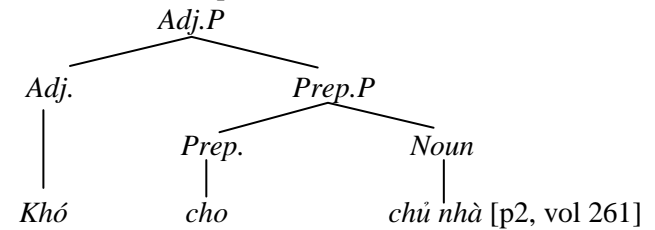
**4.2.2.3. Verb Phrase**

(8) The example below is a V.P which consists of a negative marker and a Verb.



**4.2.2.4. Adjective phrase**

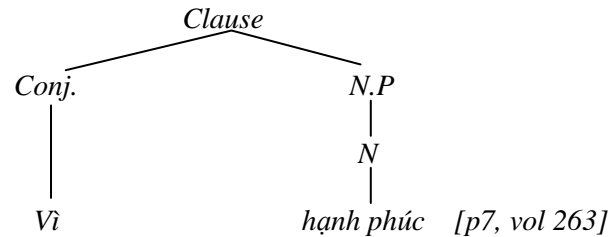
(9) “*Khó cho chủ nhà*” is an Adj.P. This Adj.p consists of an Adjective: ‘*Khó*’ and a Prep.P “*cho chủ nhà*”.



**4.2.3. Clause**

In the total corpus, clause appears 155 times accounts for 14,4% of all the structures.

(10) “*Vì hạnh phúc*” is a clause which expresses the reason/cause begins with a conjunction: “because”.



#### 4.2.4. Sentence

With 698 times of occurrence, this structures accounts for 56% of the total.

##### 4.2.4.1. Simple sentence

(11) Hà Lan đại thắng 11-0. [p7, vol 247] is a simple headings sentence.

##### 4.2.4.2. Compound sentence

The compound sentences in the Vietnamse sports headings consist of a multiple independent clause with no dependent clauses.

(12) “*Tốc độ là tốt nhưng chưa đủ*” [p10, vol 249] is a compound sentence which is composed by a main clause: “*Tốc độ là tốt*” and an independent clause: “*nhưng chưa đủ*”.

##### 4.2.4.3. Complex sentence

The headings below are in the form of complex sentences which has an independent clause joined by one or more dependent clauses.

(13) “*Nếu ghi bàn, tôi sẽ không ăn mừng*” [p9, vol 294] is a complex sentence used in the VSHs which contains two clauses: If-clause and Main clause.

**Table 4.2. Percentage of syntactic features of VSHs**

Structure	Percentage
Word	0,07%
Phrase	20%
Clause	14,4%
Sentence	64,9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

According to result shown in Table 4.2, the highest structures in VSHs is also sentence with 64,9%, the second highest is phrase with 20%, the next is clause with 14,4% and word is the lowest with 0,07%.

### 4.3. THE LEXICAL FEATURES OF THE SPORT HEADINGS IN ENGLISH

#### 4.3.1. Metaphor

According to the results of this study, the metaphor is a rhetorical means to be used with high frequency among media practitioners from the title appears in the ESHs.

(14) “Arsenal face *mountainous* Champions League task.” [Retrieved Monday 5 Mar 2012, bbc.com]

In this heading, we can see the metaphor: “mountainous task” which does not mean one must climb many mountains to achieve the final goal, it means this is a difficult task.

#### 4.3.2. Metonymy

Metonymy appears with the second position of frequency only after metaphor in the ESHs.

(15) “*The reds thrashed the blues*” [Retrieved Saturday 19 Mar 2012, bbc.com] is the first example of this kind. We can see the two

colors appear in this example. Maybe “*the reds*” symbolize Manchester United FC and “*the blues*” for Manchester City.

#### 4.3.3. Repetition

Repetition appears in the ESHs in the level of lexical items.

(16) “*Buriram upset Guangzhou, Kashiwa rout Jeonbuk*” [Retrieved Wednesday 21 Mar 2012, www.fifa.com] is the example of repetition in the grammatical level.

#### 4.3.4. Hyperbole

The hyperbole is used to in ESHs in order to create a strong feeling, impression or impact factors emphasize to the reader.

(17) “Our enemies will *burn in hell* with us, says Karzai.” [Retrieved Thursday 13 Dec 2006, football.co.uk] is a way of hyperbolize the battle between football club.

#### 4.3.5. Rhetorical question

The rhetorical question is used to make a strong impression on the readers.

(18) “*The Special One to return?*” [Retrieved Friday 3 Feb 2012, www.skysports.com].

In (18), the questions being asked need not to be answer. The writes as well as the readers find their own way of answering it.

**Table 4.3. Percentage of semantic features of ESHs**

Semantic features	Times of appearance	Percentage
<i>Metaphor</i>	275	55%
<i>Metonymy</i>	147	29,4%
<i>Repetition</i>	10	2%
<i>Hyperbole</i>	59	11,8%
<i>Rhetorical questions</i>	9	1,8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100%</b>

According to the result shown in Table 4.3, metaphor is the highest used stylistic device in ESHs with more than a half of the total. The next position is of metonymy with 29,4% of appearance. The third highest is of hyperbole with 11,8%. The fourth and fifth is repetition and rhetorical questions with 2% and 1,8% of appearance accordingly.

### 4.4. THE LEXICAL FEATURES OF THE SPORT HEADINGS IN VIETNAMESE

#### 4.4.1. Metaphor

Metaphor is used in VSHs in order to appeal the readers to the content of the news.

(19) In the example: “3 “*con ốc*” *phải thay*” [p 14, vol 248], we can see that: “*con ốc*” represent to the three players that are Reveillere, Kaboul and Diarra. “

#### 4.4.2. Simile

(20) In “*Cuộc chiến của những bộ óc*” [p 20, vol 261], ‘*bộ óc*’ represents for the whole body mentally and physically.

#### 4.4.3. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is also a preferred stylistic device in VSHs. Whenever this appears, it creates a strong emotion on the readers.

(21) “*Những phát biểu “bom tấn” ở hội nghị*” [p 2, vol 252] is there any saying that can be weighted as in (21)?

#### 4.4.4. Repetition

In VSHs, repetition is used in lots of headings. This stylistics device plays an important part in making the readers care about the news.

(22) “*Cầu thủ số 1, đội bóng số 1*” [p 13, vol 277], we can see the repetition in: ‘số 1’

#### 4.4.5. Rhetorical questions

Rhetorical questions are often used in VSHs in order to make an impression on the reader.

(23) “*Chẳng lẽ Euro vắng bóng Ronaldo?*” [p 10, vol 319].

The question given is just the prey to get the reader pay attention into the article where the reader will find the answer.

**Table 4.4. Percentage of semantic features of VSHs**

Semantic features	Times of appearance	Percentage
<i>Metaphor</i>	517	48,1%
<i>Metonymy</i>	129	12%
<i>Repetition</i>	221	20,6%
<i>Hyperbole</i>	58	5,3%
<i>Rhetorical questions</i>	150	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1075</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### 4.5. REMARKS ON THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF SPORT HEADINGS IN ENGLISH VS. VIETNAMESE

##### 4.5.1. Similarities

###### 4.5.1.1. Syntactic features

English and Vietnamese share some similarities in syntactic features of sports headings. They are presented as follows:

Firstly, the structures from word to sentence all appear both in ESHs and VSHs.

Secondly, according to the study, the headings in both ESHs and VSHs appear the most in the total.

Thirdly, the word also appears in the headings although its occurrence seems to be limited.

Fourthly, the clause appears in both ESHs and VSHs is in all range. We can see the diversity from a N.P to a V.P, an Adj.P to an Adv.P.

###### 4.5.1.2. Lexical features

In term of semantics, the ESHs and VSHs both have the following common characters:

Firstly, there are widespread sets of collocations that are used to make expressions in football events easier and more interesting in sports headings.

Secondly, both ESHs and VSHs prefer to use the connotation meaning of the lexical item than the denotation meaning.

Thirdly, both in ESHs and VSHs, the writer try to use strong adjective to catch the attentions of the readers.

Lastly, the exaggeration is used very often to attract the readers. That phenomenon happens in every piece of news.

##### 4.5.2. Differences

###### 4.5.2.1. Syntactic features

Apart from the similarities, there are some differences in syntactic features of ESHs and VSHs:

With regard to phrasal structures, there is a considerable difference between the English NPs and the Vietnamese ones. Although NPs in English and Vietnamese have the same order pre-modifier – head – post- modifier, the difference lies in the elements of pre-modifier and post –modifier.

###### 4.5.2.2. Lexical features

Semantically, there are also some differences between English and Vietnamese:

Firstly, in VSHs, the lexical appears in collocation with a fixed meaning; in VSHs the lexical appears on itself.

Secondly, repetition appears in VSHs than in ESHs. In VSHs, the repetition appears in all range from lexical to grammar structure whereas in ESHs the repetition mostly appears in lexical item.

#### **4.6. SUMMARY**

### **CHAPTER 5**

#### **CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS**

##### **5.1. CONCLUSIONS**

Generally, sport headings in English and Vietnamese are varied in language structures. This variety not only reflects the complex characteristics of language effectively. Sport headings on the newspapers and e-news must be presented in the most effective way because this is the first contact with the readers and also the part on which the readers will give the initial evaluation. Sport headings in English and Vietnamese therefore can be considered a distinctive language phenomenon due to their particular expression methods combined with common language rules.

##### **5.2. IMPLICATIONS**

Although there are the similarities and differences in both languages, the thesis makes the great efforts to discover the characteristics of syntax and semantics in English and Vietnamese Sport Headings.

For teaching the language skills, the study supplies the essential linguistic devices that help the teachers apply for their syllabus and their language skills in Sports or in writing the journal.

For learning the language skills, this thesis is a good tool for them to master the linguistic problems in writing the sport headings.

##### **5.3. LIMITATIONS**

Although we try our best to complete the thesis, we find that the thesis is still limited in length of the quantity of the samples. Moreover, the syntactic structures and semantic features are restricted in the emphasizing kinds. Furthermore, there remain a lot of the headings in other aspects in need of further study. However, these suggestions will be investigated further in the thesis.

##### **5.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH**

As regards further investigations into Sport Headings, we would like to offer some suggestions for further research:

- An investigation into News Headings
- A study of Sports Vocabulary
- A study of the syntactic and semantic relationship between Sports Headings and their articles.