

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
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**AN APPRAISAL ANALYSIS
OF MOOD ADJUNCTS EXPRESSING
ASSURANCE AND CONCESSION IN DISCOURSES
OF AMERICAN IDOL AND VIETNAM IDOL**

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

American Idol is an American singing competition series created by Simon Fuller and produced by 19 Entertainment. It began airing on Fox on June 11, 2002, as an addition to the Idols format based on the British series Pop Idol and became one of the most impactful shows in the history of television. Rapidly, it is franchised all over the world. In Vietnam, Vietnam Idol was first broadcasted on May 23rd, 2007. The shows employed a panel of judges who critique the contestants' performances. The concept of the series was to find new solo recording artists, with the winner being determined by the viewers. The way how the contestant showed himself, the conversations between the judges and the contestants, and the “faces” of the judges had created a very particular color for the shows. This helped American Idol and Vietnam Idol attracted a larger number of audiences each season in both countries since the preliminary day they were on air. The shows have become the recognized springboards for launching the career of many artists as bona fide stars. In linguistic viewpoints, American Idol and Vietnam Idol provide a huge of issues to examine.

There are many different approaches to language studying. One of the most noticeable branches of modern linguistics is functional grammar, which provides insight into the meaning and the effectiveness of a text or a discourse. In functional grammar approach, any use of language can be seen as encompassing two main functions: making sense of experience (construal/ experiential, ideational meaning) and “acting out social relationships”

(interpersonal meaning), according to Halliday and Matthiessen (2004). It is important to note that any piece of discourse can be seen as one type of exchange within a particular social context and between particular participants. Halliday and Matthiessen further explain that “In the act of speaking, the speaker adopts for himself a particular speech role, and in so doing assigns to the listener a complementary role which he wishes him to adopt in his turn”.

In every day speech or in written texts, the speakers may choose to modify their claim with a particular linguistic device so as to signal the assurance and concession to the content of proposition and the hearers. By doing this, he/she also wishes to invite the agreement from the hearers or readers. In doing so, they are performing a proclaim/disclaim. Let us examine the following examples:

- (1) Randy Jackson: It is *admittedly* a great voice but you have to work out a little bit more on your emotion. Welcome to the Hollywood, girl.
- (2) Simon Cowell: I hate to say that but this is the weakest I’ve ever heard you sing. It’s absolutely terrible. I’m sorry... but.... *I honestly think* it’s... terrible.

In (1) and (2) above, the claims can be received and interpreted as with more force and certainty. These additional meanings apart from the core meaning encoded in the proposition are signalled by *admittedly* and *honestly* which are called Proclaim Markers.

In (1) the speaker based on the assumption that the performance could lack of emotion but the candidate has a great voice . Therefore, by using “*admittedly*” he wanted to draw the

hearer's support to his proposition - to vote for the candidate. As in (2) the speaker would like the hearers to agree with his proposition. "*Honestly*" in this current location confirms his belief in his statement.

An influential theory of evaluative language is Martin and White's appraisal theory. Appraisal is a semantic tool in the Systemic Functional framework. It is used for analysis of evaluation by the speakers/ writers. It helps with "exploring, describing and explaining the way language is used to evaluate, to adopt stances, to construct textual personas and to manage interpersonal positioning and relationships" (White, 2005).

So far much has been written on the related semantic areas such as modality, evidentiality, and hedges in English and Vietnamese. Although Proclaim can be considered as one of the basic purposes of modulating the speaker's or writer's claim, little has been done on Proclaim concerning the linguistic realizations and its semantic functions.

This is the reason why the research "*An Appraisal analysis of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol*" is conducted with the hope of contributing a small part on enriching the source of materials.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1.2.1. Aims

The study aims to

- Examine mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol in term of the syntactic and semantic features in English and Vietnamese.

- Find out the similarities and differences of these functional units in terms of syntactic and semantic features.

- Help the Vietnamese learners of English to be more aware of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession English and Vietnamese and how to use them effectively and naturally in communication.

1.2.2. Objectives

To achieve the aims of the study, the following objectives are intended to:

- Examine mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol in term of syntactic and semantic features of English and Vietnamese;

- Point out the similarities and differences of English and Vietnamese mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol in term of syntactic, semantic features;

- Make some solutions for successfully teaching and learning English and Vietnamese mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession.

1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Based on research objectives, this research is formulated in the following questions:

- (1). What are the syntactic features of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol?

- (2). What are the semantic features of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol?

(3). What are the similarities and the differences of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol in terms of syntactic and semantic features?

1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This thesis studied the syntactic and semantic features of English and Vietnamese mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in spoken discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol. The thesis just focused on the grammatical and meaning characteristics of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in English vs. Vietnamese with hope of discovering the similarities and differences between them.

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

With this thesis completed, the results of analysis using Appraisal is expected to be able to offer insights into the nature and the uses of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in English and Vietnamese. Moreover, the study's findings are supposed to provide Vietnamese learners and teachers of English with a useful source of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession language for teaching and learning of EFL in general and Appraisal framework and translation in particular.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The research paper was divided into five chapters as follows:

- Chapter 1: Introduction.
- Chapter 2: Literature review and theoretical background.
- Chapter 3: Research methods.
- Chapter 4: Findings and discussion.
- Chapter 5: Conclusion and implications..

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. PREVIOUS STUDIES AND RESEARCHES

Regarding research in Appraisal in general and research in Judgment and Appreciation in particular, so far an adequate number of studies have been carried out. As a starting point with White (2004), he distinguished between opinion and emotion. By indicating that the term “emotion” refers to descriptions of the emotional reactions or states of human subjects and the term “opinion” is an inherent property of the phenomenon being evaluated, he also proposed that opinion can furthermore be divided into Appreciation (opinion about aesthetics) and Judgment (opinion about ethics).

In addition, Martin and White (2005) clearly presented the Appraisal framework with the construction by texts of communities of shared feelings and values, and with the linguistic mechanisms for the sharing of emotion, tests and normative assessment. Meanwhile, Rothery & Stenglin (2000) discussed the role of Appraisal in interpreting literature. “On possible factors in the aesthetic appreciation of metaphors” by Csatár, Pethó, and Tóth (2006) revealed that aesthetic Judgments concerning metaphors are measurable to some extent.

Gary Linebarger (2010) applied functional grammar and appraisal theory to analyze two editorials written about the situation in Afghanistan and Obama’s policies at that time (2009). The analysis showed the San Francisco Chronicle’s editorial remained

critical except for the very end and gave fewer suggestions to the president than the New York Times article which was more positive.

Jan Renkema (2004) showed the different distributions of different comment adjuncts in English academic texts and primary school textbook texts.

Tara Kurniawati Adinoto (2012) described the mood types of the clause found in interview script between Oprah Winfrey and Ricky Martin and also identified the mood adjuncts.

Tracy Beangstrom and Raph Adendorff (2013) applied appraisal theory to investigate the linguistics choice made by estate agencies in their advertisements of houses. The author investigated the interpersonal relationships set up between each agency and their prospective buyers.

In cross-linguistic studies of English and Vietnamese concerning the evaluative aspects of language, many researchers' studies have shed light on the Appraisal theory. Particularly, Đinh Gia Hưng (2001) studied the modal devices expressing possibility in modern English and Vietnamese. The author analyzed the similarities and differences of the functional behavior of the modal devices in English and Vietnamese may be of paramount significance and importance to native speakers of English and Vietnamese in terms of orientation in language study and practice.

Nguyen Phuoc Hao (2011) studied modal adjuncts in the mental process in English and Vietnamese newspapers. The author analyzed and compared syntax, semantics and pragmatics of modals in the mental process in English and Vietnamese sports newspapers.

Nguyen Van Khoi (2006) discussed proclaim markers in English and Vietnamese based on a theoretical framework of

Appraisal. The author investigated the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of proclaim markers in epistemic modality, speech acts, force dynamics, politeness principles, and dialogistic view.

Tran Huu Thuan (2013) carried out the investigation into the use of Appreciation in football commentaries in English and Vietnamese. His study focuses on Appreciation in the category of Attitude, one of the three subsystems in the Appraisal theory.

Tran Thi Hoang Ngan (2011) focused on cross-cultural similarities and differences in giving comments on contestants' performance by judges in Vietnam Idol and American Idol.

Trần Thị Ly (2015) investigated the category Attitude in English and Vietnamese articles warning against childhood epidemics in view of Appraisal. The study not only described the language usage of all three Attitude's sub-category, namely Affect, Judgment and Appreciation, but also investigated a wide range of linguistic devices to mark the speakers / writers' attitude with different structures of verbs, adverbs, adjectives and nouns in the two languages.

In conclusion, all these above studies have been explored several aspects of Appraisal in English and Vietnamese. However, there has been so far no research into mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in English vs. Vietnamese. This is the reason why I have decided to study on this thesis entitled "*An Appraisal analysis of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol*".

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Appraisal Theory

2.2.2. An overview of Functional Grammar

2.3. SUMMARY

To summarize, this chapter has provided an overview of the previous research relating to this study. The chapter has also introduced the relevant theories in the light of mainly Appraisal Theory and Functional Grammar. Several definitions related to Judgment and Appreciation and their grammatical realization have been presented. All these theories and definitions contribute to establishing a background for the analysis in the following chapters.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODS

3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

This study was qualitative as it explored linguistic information such as linguistic features in terms of semantic features and syntactic features from the qualitative data. Particularly, a Functional grammar and Appraisal framework was used to analyze language of assurance and concession. On doing this research, the contrastive analysis of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol was conducted to find out the similarities and differences in syntactic and semantic features.

3.2. PROCEDURES

With the research design, the study was conducted according to seven steps:

- Reading carefully the previous studies to choose the topic.
- Discussing with the supervisor to orientate the problems relating to the thesis.
- Collecting relevant material and data of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in American Idol and Vietnam Idol from their official websites.
- Analyzing the data and classifying them into suitable group in terms of semantic and syntactic features.
- Making comparison and contrast to discover the differences and similarities of syntactic and semantic characteristics between

mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in English and those in Vietnamese.

- Evaluating and commenting the comparison results to draw conclusions of syntactic features as well as semantic features of English and Vietnamese mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession.

- Suggesting some implications for teachers and learners of English and Vietnamese.

3.3. DATA COLLECTION

In order to conduct this research, the mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession will be collected mainly from American Idol website, Vietnam Idol website, American Idol official Youtube, Vietnam Idol official Youtube.

3.3.1. Population of the Study

Each sample chosen for the study had to be identified through some criteria that were presented in chapter 2. Syntactically, the samples must be mood adjuncts including single adverbs, Finite clauses, Non-finite clauses, Minor clauses and so on. Semantically, all the samples must express assurance and concession meaning. The total samples were collected randomly, including 150 samples in English and in Vietnamese, from the reliable website on the internet for the corpus which are suitable for the study.

3.3.2. Sampling of the Study

Here are some samples of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnamese Idol.

(3.1). **Seriously**... I **honestly** think that... in the context of the wedding, it was probably ...lovely.

(3.2). I **truly** think everything I hope you would be you were on that.

(3.4). **To be honest**, you know what... it is actually... and this is the hardest thing to try to explain but you have to ... you need to ... look at yourself in the mirror.

(3.5). I **really really** like your voice. I like you play and sing... It's really really good.

(3.6). Em dễ thương lắm nhưng em **thực sự** chưa hình dung được là mình có thể mạnh như thế nào. Em vẫn không hình dung được là em giống người ta thế nào.

(3.7). Ở đây **phải thừa nhận rằng** em rất là máu lửa, em rất là máu lửa nhưng em chưa có người hướng dẫn của em để em đạt được một cái chất mà nó đang sôi sục trong người em.

(3.8). Em không phải là không có khả năng làm ca sĩ, **tin tôi đi**. Chỉ là em không phù hợp với cuộc thi này thôi.

(3.9). Em làm anh thấy yêu cái công việc mà anh đang làm... Anh có thể nói ngay từ vòng này thôi... **Anh chắc chắn là** em sẽ là một ứng cử viên sáng giá cho Vietnam Idol.

(3.10). Từ vòng thử giọng, anh nhận ra chất giọng quý của em nhưng anh **phải nói thật rằng** anh hơi bị thất vọng.

3.3.3. Instrument

In the process of collecting data, many kinds of tool were used such as the official website and Google search to collect the relevant studies. Besides the instruments above, tables will also be helpful for stating the results of analysis and the percentage.

3.4. DATA ANALYSIS

The followings are procedure for the data analysis.

- Describing and analyzing mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in English in terms of syntactic and

semantic features.

- Describing and analyzing mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in Vietnamese in terms of syntactic and semantic features.

- Comparing to find out the similarities and differences in mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in terms of these features.

3.5. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

In order for the accuracy of the research to be guaranteed, it is obligatory that its reliability be ensured. As mentioned above, the data for this study were collected from American Idol website, Vietnam Idol website, American Idol official youtube, Vietnam Idol official youtube. Hence the originality of the data is reliable.

As regards validity, this research satisfies all required criteria. The criteria of selecting and collecting samples of the study were observed to ensure that this process can elicit the expected information about a representative sample of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession. In addition, the conclusions of the study are mainly based on the analysis of evidence and statistics; therefore, the researcher is not driven by the set results or prescriptive presumption. Clearly, the objectivity of the research is guaranteed.

3.6. SUMMARY

Chapter 3 describes research methodology of the thesis and the steps the samples were collected. In addition, the procedures for data analysis and reliability and validity of the thesis are also presented in this chapter in order to lay the foundation for detailed findings and discussion in Chapter 4.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this chapter, the findings of the data analysis about mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession were deeply presented and discussed in terms of syntactic features in the perspective of Functional Grammar and semantic features in the view of Appraisal Theory as mentioned in the theoretical background, research design and methodology in the previous chapters.

4.1. THE SYNTASTIC FEATURES OF MOOD ADJUNCTS EXPRESSING ASSURANCE AND CONCESSION IN DISCOURSES OF AMERICAN IDOL AND VIETNAM IDOL

In this section, mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol were analyzed in form of Clause as Message and Exchange. Firstly, as regards clause as message, the mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession were organized in Theme and Rheme. Theme is the part that starts from the beginning of the clause. The remainder of the message, the part in which the Theme is developed is called Rheme. Together Theme and Rheme combine to construe a message. Secondly, in the interpersonal metafunction, a clause is analyzed into Mood and Residue, with the Mood element further analyzed into Subject and Finite. The Subject and Complement are typically realized by nominal groups. The Finite is realized by the tensed element of the verb. The Predicator is realized by the non-tensed element or elements of the verbal group. The Adjunct is realized by an adverbial group or prepositional phrase. The Residue is the remainder of the clause. It includes three parts, namely the

Predicator, the Complement, and the Adjunct.

Let's consider the following instances and we obtained an analytic figure below.

4.1.1. Single Adverbs as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol

Single adverbs analyzed in the research are as follow: *seriously*, *absolutely*, *definitely*, *surely*, *really*, *completely*, *truly*, *honestly*, *certainly*, *hoàn toàn*, *thực sự* and *chắc chắn*.

In general, single adverbs as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol are preferred to be neutral position and thematic position. Their neutral position in the clause is next to the Finite verbal operator, either just before it or just after it.

4.1.2. Non-finite Clauses as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol

To be honest, *to tell you the truth*, *just be honest*, *nói một cách rất thẳng thắn*, *nói thật là*, *phải nói thật là như thế*, *thành thật mà nói* and *phải thừa nhận rằng* are considered in this case. Let us analyzed the following examples to find out their position in the sentences or utterances:

Non-finite Clauses as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol are thematic and final position. In the corpus of this research, the researcher found no sign of the neutral position of Non-finite Clauses as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession.

4.1.3. Finite Clauses as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol

The following finite clauses are examined in this case: *I grant you, I concede that, I assure that, I assure you that, I admit, It's admitted, It is admittedly, It's certain that, Chúng tôi không nghi ngờ, Tôi cho rằng, Chị thấy là, Tôi tin rằng, Anh chắc chắn là, Anh phải thừa nhận rằng, Tôi có thể khẳng định là, Anh khẳng định là, Tôi nói thật, Tôi phải nói thật rằng, Tôi đảm bảo.* Finite Clauses as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession can be thematic or final position. The researcher found no sign of Finite Clauses as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession with neutral position.

4.1.4. Minor Clauses as mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol

Although minor clause expressing assurance and concession is rarely used in the discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol, sometimes the judgement used *Believe me* at final position as an afterthought in both languages to express their assurance.

Syntactically, both English and Vietnamese appreciation has the same functional elements in the clausal and nominal structure. The point of syntactic similarities that a wide range of English MAs and Vietnamese MAs can occur at initial position, medial position and final position in the clausal structure of utterance.

4.2. THE SEMANTIC FEATURES OF MOOD ADJUNCTS EXPRESSING ASSURANCE AND CONCESSION IN DISCOURSES OF AMERICAN IDOL AND VIETNAM IDOL DATA COLLECTION

Halliday approaches the grammar of interaction from a semantic perspective. He point out that whenever we use language to interact, one of the things we are doing with it is establishing a relationship between us. The semantic features of mood adjuncts expressing assurance in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol were analyzed based on modality and appraisal theory.

4.2.1. The semantic features of mood adjuncts expressing assurance in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol

Assure has both a commissive and an assertive use. In the commissive, I can assure you that I will do something. In the assertive, I assure the hearer that a proposition is true. In this use, it is to sustain with the perlocutionary intention of convincing the hearer (to the point that he feels "sure") of the truth of proposition. This perlocutionary intention is part of the mode of achievement, and goes hand in hand with a preparatory condition to the effect that the hearer has doubts about the truth of proposition. To aver is to assure positively, with either proof or an offer of proof, such that the "assurance" is strengthened to certitude. To vouch or avouch is to assure with the added strength of "aver", but the added strength comes from the mode of achievement not of one's offering "proofs" but of one's being personally convinced and of the assurance on personal authority. To assure is defined as to make a statement for the purpose of inspiring morale or belief in someone. The definition

of assure is to make someone confident in their beliefs and ideas. When someone emphasizes a statement by saying *honestly, really, believe me, seriously, truly* that mean he assures that what he says is true.

4.2.2. The semantic features of mood adjuncts expressing concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol

Concession is the act or an instance of conceding (as by granting something as a right, accepting something as true, or acknowledging defeat). It is the admitting of appoint claimed in argument. Something conceded or granted means something done or agreed to usually grudgingly in order to reach an agreement or improve a situation. In the case of the less reluctant formulations there is an indication of a relatively high degree of commitment by the speaker to the conceded proposition.

It is important to note that there are two uses of the concessional meaning just discussed and an alternative meaning where agreement with some dialogic partner is not implied. In this second instance, the locution simply construes high commitment to the proposition on the part of the speaker via an assessment of high probability, and hence is classified as an instance of entertain.

By the concessional first step, the speaker validates the hearer's contrary viewpoint by acknowledging that it is understandable and has a rational basis. A point of solidarity is thus established. It is only in then holding that the usual or expected implications do not arise from the conceded proposition(s) that the authorial voice sets itself against the putative hearer. Thus such pairings can be seen as gestures towards solidarity in contexts where the speaker anticipates, at least initially, disagreement on the part of the hearer.

4.3. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES IN SYNTACTICS AND SEMANTICS OF MOOD ADJUNCTS EXPRESSING ASSURANCE AND CONCESSION IN DISCOURSES OF AMERICAN IDOL AND VIETNAM IDOL

4.3.1. Syntactic and Semantic Similarities

Syntactically, both English and Vietnamese appreciation has the same functional elements in the clausal and nominal structure. The point of syntactic similarities that a wide range of English MAs and Vietnamese MAs can occur at initial position, medial position and final position in the clausal structure of utterance.

Table 4.9. Number of MAs expressing assurance and concession

Position	No of MAs in Eng	Percentage	No of MAs in Vse	Percentage
Thematic	29	19%	29	19%
Neutral	41	55%	37	49%
Final	5	6%	9	12%

As can see from the table, the mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in the discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol prefer the neutral position (55% in English and 40% in Vietnamese). The thematic position has an average range (29% in both languages) and the final position is sometimes found (6% in English and 12% in Vietnamese).

Semantically, MDs expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol are speech functional and share the same lexical items that contribute to the specific meaning of the structure. MDs expressing assurance are used when the speaker wants to make a statement for the purpose of inspiring

morale or belief in someone. The definition of assure is to make someone confident in their beliefs and ideas. When someone emphasizes a statement by saying *honestly, really, believe me, seriously, truly* that mean he assures that what he says is true. MDs expressing concession are used to say something that one would normally be reluctant to say, and to say it out of respect for truth. Admitting is typically motivated by moral imperative: one admits because one doesn't want to lie, in a situation where it would otherwise be difficult to avoid lying.

4.3.2. Syntactic and Semantic Differences

There are some differences between English and Vietnamese MDs expressing assurance and concession. While in English, MDs expressing assurance and concession are higher flexibility in syntactic positions while Vietnamese appreciations are invariable in their fix positions. The differences of syntax between the two languages can make a difference in semantics when speakers express their messages. English speakers may feel more flexible to use 'It' as impersonal subject and performative verb structure whereas Vietnamese speakers are supposed to encounter the constrained structure to express their intention, opinion, emotion or attitude about the context.

Syntactically, there are far more MAs in English than in Vietnamese. In term of the relationship between MAs and finite, MAs are more likely to occur after the finites in English than the MAs in Vietnamese. In English, there are more MAs expressing assurance and concession than in Vietnamese. In Vietnamese, there are less MAs expressing expressing assurance and concession than in English.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

Based on the results which were presented in the previous chapter about the semantic and syntactic features of mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession of the discourses in American Idol and Vietnam Idol, the main findings are summarized, some conclusions and implications are put forward and some suggestions for further researches are made in this chapter.

5.1. CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

In general, the research questions have been basically answered through the analysis and interpretation of the data in the view of Appraisal Framework. A set of findings of the study is summarized as follow.

Syntactically, mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol can be recognized with their mobility in various positions in the clausal structure or utterance. Their neutral position in the clause is next to the Finite verbal operator, either just before it or just after it. But there are two other possible locations: before the Subject to function as Theme and at the end of the clause as Afterthought.

Semantically, MDs expressing assurance and concession in discourses of American Idol and Vietnam Idol are speech functional. MDs expressing assurance are used when the speaker wants to make a statement for the purpose of inspiring morale or belief in someone. The definition of assure is to make someone confident in their beliefs and ideas. When someone emphasizes a statement by saying honestly, really, believe me, seriously, truly that mean he assures that

what he says is true. MDs expressing concession are used to say something that one would normally be reluctant to say, and to say it out of respect for truth. Admitting is typically motivated by moral imperative: one admits because one doesn't want to lie, in a situation where it would otherwise be difficult to avoid lying.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

The study results can be applied to many practical situations, both in daily communication and academic environment.

To language learners, the findings of this thesis provide them with the knowledge about semantic features and syntactic features of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession so that the learners can have better comprehension and utilize it more efficiently. In details, on the basis of the findings of the study, language learners are able to understand the function and typical features of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession and then can apply their knowledge in learning and practising translation of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession-related books. The study results contribute to equipping learners with a clearer picture of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession; therefore; they can comprehend the language of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession more effectively.

To language teachers, the study will help them to acquire more knowledge about semantic features and syntactic features of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession, which in turn facilitates their teaching. The data of the thesis creates a great source of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession instances for teachers to make use of when teaching translation of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession language in the perspective of

Appraisal theory.

5.3. LIMITATIONS

Beside the positive contributions, the study has some limitations that are unavoidable. Due to the shortage of time, reference materials as well as the limited knowledge of the researcher, the thesis incurs certain restrictions. The number of samples collected is only 150 samples which are not enough to reflect the reality of using Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in English and Vietnamese. The corpus of data is collected randomly; therefore; this thesis cannot cover all types of mood adjuncts with different speaking styles. Consequently, the findings of the study cannot comprehensively reflect how the language of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession are used in Vietnamese and English. The data collection is just 150 samples so that the results may be less generalized. Additionally, the study can only explore linguistic features of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession in terms of syntactic and semantic features. Furthermore, the similarities and differences between English and Vietnamese Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession have not been mentioned so much. The study is expected to contribute useful knowledge to teachers and learners, but it has not reached the expectation of the researcher as it should.

In conclusion, we hope that the efforts we put in this study are well-spent and that its results are of some significance for theorists and practitioners. Minor mistakes are inevitable; therefore, we expect tolerance and constructive recommendations from colleagues and experts.

5.4. SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

This thesis only addresses semantic features and syntactic features of the language of Mood adjuncts expressing assurance and concession. Thus on the basis of what the study has done, the followings need to be researched further:

- An Investigation into Linguistic Features of Mood adjuncts used in English and Vietnamese reality shows.

- An Appraisal Analysis of Mood adjuncts used in English and Vietnamese reality shows.

ĐẠI HỌC ĐÀ NẴNG
BAN ĐÀO TẠO
LUẬN VĂN ĐÃ ĐƯỢC KIỂM TRA