

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
THE UNIVERSITY OF DANANG**

NGUYỄN THỊ NGỌC ÁNH

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO LINGUISTIC FEATURES
OF ANNOTATIONS
IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE**

Field: THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Code: 60.22.02.01

**M.A THESIS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
(A SUMMARY)**

Da Nang - 2015

The thesis has been completed at the College of Foreign Languages,
The University of Danang.

Supervisor: **Lê Tấn Thi, Ph.D.**

Examiner 1: Assoc.Prof. Trương Viên, Ph.D

Examiner 2: Trần Quang Hải, Ph.D

The thesis was be orally defended at the Examining Board at the
University of Da Nang

Field: The English Language

Time: July 19th, 2015

Venue: The University of Danang

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

- The College of Foreign Languages Library, The University of Danang
- The Information Resources Centre, The University of Danang

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

In the process of teaching and learning English, I normally see annotations occur in English texts. In terms of form, they can be numerical expressions, phrases, clauses or sentences. The meanings of annotations must be interesting because they are varied and diverse. It is the reason why we are easily confused in regard to meaning. It goes without saying that syntactic functions of an annotation can be problematic. Normally, it carries the syntactic features of the annotations it goes with but occasionally it doesn't. It is difficult for us to identify syntactic features of annotations in English.

Besides, it cannot be denied that annotations play a very important role in communication. They comment on the truth value of a sentence or a group of sentences. Besides, they express the speaker's certainty, emotional attitude, personal feelings and value judgments towards content of the matrix. Moreover, annotations claim the hearer's attention to the emotional significance, the logical relevance, and the reliability of our statements. Additionally, they can connect to the speaker or provide information about the attitude of the communicator, introduce assumptions, or provide information about the context of interpretation.

The annotations can be seen in online newspapers, websites or whatever texts as well. However, "knowing" annotations well is not an easy task. It is difficult and ambiguous for language learners to identify, analyze and describe annotations. Furthermore, annotations

have received no considerable attention from researchers. Up to now, the number of the intensive studies on annotations is inconsiderable.

For these reasons, annotations are chosen as the subject area of my study. The research is intended to cover the structural, syntactic and semantic features of annotations in English and Vietnamese as well as to find out the similarities and differences of the two languages. Then it may pay a substantial contribution to language teaching and learning.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.2.1 Aim of the study

This study investigates the structural, syntactic and semantic features of annotations in English and Vietnamese.

1.2.2 Objectives of the study

The study is intended:

- To examine the structural features of annotations in English and Vietnamese.

- To examine the syntactic features of annotations in English and Vietnamese.

- To analyze the semantic features of annotations in English and Vietnamese.

- To find out the similarities and differences between English and Vietnamese annotations in terms of structure, syntax and semantics.

- To present suggestions for English teaching and learning.

1.3. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

When investigating this study, we are always aware that this will be deep and extensive work. It is of great significance to linguistic theory and practice. In fact, our study is intended to

describe the structures of phrases, clauses and sentences which are employed to make English and Vietnamese annotations. Furthermore, the syntactic and semantic features of annotations can be found out in this paper. All these matters help English learners to know well about the structural, syntactic and semantic features of annotations in English and Vietnamese. As a result, it makes a useful and important contribution to English teaching and learning.

1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This research mainly focuses on the findings of the structural, syntactic and semantic features of annotations in English and Vietnamese. The authentic data in which annotations can be used are mainly collected from the language website <http://www.natcorp.ox.ac.uk/> and textbooks, stories and novels by well-known writers in both languages. The study only examines embedded explanation in the sentence. The annotation which is a separate sentence or a separate paragraph isn't in the scope of the study.

1.5. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The study is to answer the following questions:

1. What are the structural, syntactic and semantic features of annotations in English?
2. What are the structural, syntactic and semantic features of annotations in Vietnamese?
3. What are the similarities and differences between English and Vietnamese annotations in terms of structure, syntax and semantics?

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

This study is organized into five chapters as follows.

Chapter 1, Introduction

Chapter 2, Literature Review and Theoretical Background

Chapter 3, Research Design and Methodology

Chapter 4, Findings and Discussion

Chapter 5, Conclusion and Implications

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDIES

It cannot be denied that researching annotations plays an important role in linguistic activities. Therefore, it is no wonder that the last few years have seen a number of articles and books about annotations in both English and Vietnamese. Some of them will be reviewed below.

Đào Thị Vân (2002) in her PhD thesis *‘Phần phụ chú trong câu tiếng Việt’* describes and classifies types of annotations in Vietnamese. Đào Thị Vân (2007) in her journal article *‘Phần phụ chú trong câu tiếng Việt xét từ phương diện quan hệ nghĩa với phần văn bản hữu quan’* finds out 11 types of semantic relation between the annotation and the annotated in Vietnamese texts.

Đỗ Minh Hùng (2013) with the journal article *‘Phần phụ chú trong văn bản tiếng Anh’* investigates types of semantic relation between the annotation and the annotated in English texts of various genres and finds out 17 types of semantic relation.

No research on the structural and syntactic features of annotations in English and Vietnamese has been found. In terms of semantics, my paper will be different from the previous studies in some points: firstly, it will focus on the meanings that annotations denote; secondly, it will compare the English annotations versus the Vietnamese ones. All of these areas of my study will pay a significant contribution to the existing literature.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Definition of Annotation

In reference to WordNet 3.0, Farlex clipart collection. © 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc, the related terms to annotation are:

poste restante: a notation written on mail that is to be held at the post office.

commentary or comment: a written explanation or criticism or illustration that is added to a book or other textual material.

cite, quotation, reference, mention, acknowledgment, citation, credit: a short note recognizing a source of information or of a quoted passage.

footnote, footer: a printed note placed below the text on a printed page.

N.B., nota bene, NB: a Latin phrase (or its abbreviation) used to indicate that special attention should be paid to something.

postscript, PS: a note appended to a letter after the signature.

expansion: adding information or detail.

According to Đào Thị Vân in the book '*Phần phụ chú trong câu tiếng Việt*' (2009), annotation is an additional item inserted in a

sentence in order to explain, illustrate, express, define, qualify, etc. something.

2.2.2. Structural Features

a. Phrases

- a.1. Noun phrase*
- a.2. Verb Phrase*
- a.3. Prepositional Phrases*
- a.4. Adjective Phrases*

b. Clauses

- b.1. Independent Clauses*
- b.2. Dependent Clauses*
- b.3. Finite Clauses*
- b.4. Non-finite Clauses*

c. Sentences

- c.1. Simple sentences*
- c.2. Compound sentences*
- c.3. Complex Sentences*

2.2.3. Syntactic Features

a. Syntactic Characterization of Clause Elements

- a.1. The Verb*
- a.2. The Subject*
- a.3. The Object*
- a.4. The Complement*
- a.5. The Adverbial*
- a.6. Note*

b. Syntactic Functions of Subordinate Clauses

c. Adverbial Clauses

- c.1. Clauses of Time*

- c.2. Clauses of Place*
- c.3. Clauses of Condition*
- c.4. Clauses of Concession*
- c.5. Clauses of Contrast*
- c.6. Clauses of Exception*
- c.7. Clauses of Reason*
- c.8. Clauses of Purpose*
- c.9. Clauses of Result*

2.2.4. Semantic Features

- a. Conception of Semantic Features*
- b. Semantic Field Theory*
- c. Grammatical and Lexical Meaning*
- d. Denotative and Connotative meaning*
- e. Direct and Indirect Meaning*

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.1. RESEARCH METHODS

- Deductive method
- Inductive method
- Qualitative method
- Quantitative method
- Comparative method

3.2. DATA COLLECTION AND DATA ANALYSIS

3.2.1. Data Collection

Firstly, a large number of annotations in English and

Vietnamese were collected as many as possible from the Internet and other reliable sources to make the corpus of the study. Secondly, the annotations which made confusion in distinguishing the structural types and meanings were excluded from the list. Finally, the corpus with 150 English annotations and the same number of Vietnamese annotations collected were put together in English and Vietnamese in alphabetical order for easier searching.

There are three criteria used to realize the annotations. Firstly, annotation is separated from the remainder of the sentence by brackets, dashes or commas. Secondly, it's used to explain, illustrate, define, express... something. Lastly and most importantly, without annotation, the sentence is grammatically complete, so we can omit annotation without changing the structure and content of the sentence.

3.2.2. Data Analysis

After being collected, annotations in the two languages were selected and grouped to be independently observed. Data analysis was done in terms of structure, syntax and semantics.

Structurally, the analysis and classification were mainly based on the different structural categories such as, phrases, dependent clauses and sentences. The results of this step were summarized in statistical tables. By examining the distribution rates of each type in English and Vietnamese, the researcher would look for the special characteristics of each of them, generalize the results so as to have a complete overview about the structure of annotations in English and Vietnamese. Next, the obtained data in the two languages were synthesized and compared in detail to sort out the similar and different features between them.

The steps of the analysis and classification of the syntactic features are the same as those of the structural features. The samples of annotations are described and analyzed, basing on the different categories such as, subjects, verbs, objects, complements, adverbials.

Semantically, the classification was carried out on the basis typical features of annotations in conveying the particular meaning. By understanding the meaning undergoing annotations, I identified the semantic features found in the two languages and ones only found in one language.

3.3. STUDY PROCEDURES

- Choosing the topic to investigate by reviewing the previous studies carefully.

- Collecting 150 English annotations and 150 Vietnamese ones for investigation.

- Analyzing data: identifying and describing structural, syntactic and semantic features of English and Vietnamese annotations.

- Making a comparison to find out the similarities and differences between annotations in the two languages in terms of structure, syntax and semantics.

- Discussing the findings and suggesting some implications to support English teaching and learning.

3.4. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

Reliability and validity are the most important criteria to guarantee the quality of the data collection. The data used in the thesis was mainly collected from the reliable sources. Though they contained broad information, according to the aim and procedures of the research, I chose some significant ones to develop my thesis and

to make the thesis from the chapter 2 to chapter 4 relevant.

I used our knowledge with the help of my supervisor to analyse the structural, syntactic and semantic features logically and clearly.

When doing research, I chose 150 English annotations and 150 Vietnamese annotations from many reliable sources, mainly from The British National Corpus, and textbooks, stories and novels by well-known writers in both languages, and then I observed and described them. Furthermore, the chosen annotations were always compared with the results from the theoretical background to ensure the quality of the study.

With the data collected and analyzed as just mentioned, the study is expected to be quite reliable and valid.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1. THE STRUCTURAL AND SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS

4.1.1. The Structural and Syntactic Features of English Annotations

In terms of structural area, the results of the study show structures of English annotations are categorized into three types: Phrases, Clauses and Sentences. Among them, independent clauses are listed in the type of simple sentences to avoid repeated occurrence when we determine the frequency of data. From the corpus of 150 English annotations, we find out the percentage of occurrence of each type mentioned. The lowest proportion belongs to Dependent clauses

and Sentences with 16%. Phrases make up the highest rate (84%). The occurrence frequency of the three types is shown in table 4.1.

Table 4.1. Frequency of Structural Types of English Annotations

Structural Types of English Annotations	Number (N=150)	Percentage (%)
Phrases	126	84 %
Dependent Clauses	12	8 %
Sentences	12	8%

a. Phrases

An analysis of the data collected shows that English annotations are structured by four kinds of phrases: noun phrases, verb phrases, adjective phrases and prepositional phrases. The following table summarizes the rate of occurrence of each phrase.

Table 4.2. Frequency of English Annotations in the Form of Phrases

Phrases	Number (N=126)	Percentage (%)
Noun Phrases	80	63.5%
Verb Phrases	19	15.1%
Adjective Phrases	8	6.3%
Prepositional Phrases	19	15.1%

From the table, it is clear that Noun phrases occupy the most percentage with 63.5%. Both Verb phrases and Prepositional phrases account for 15.1%, and Adjective phrases make up the least percentage of 6.3%. Each sort of phrases is characterized by its particular features. The formation of phrases varies from the simplest structures to the more complex ones. We can sort out the patterns which make the meaningful phrases undergoing English annotations.

a.1. Noun Phrases

a.2. Verb Phrases

Table 4.3. Structures of Verbs Phrases in English Annotations

Structures of Verbs Phrases	Number (N=19)	Percentage (%)
Bare infinitive phrases	6	31.6%
To-infinitive phrases	3	15.8%
Present Participle phrases	6	31.6%
Past Participle phrases	4	21%

The table above marks a difference in the percentage of English annotations structured by different verb phrase forms. Bare Infinitive phrases and Present Participle phrases hold the percentage of 63.2% and the rest of 36.8% belongs to Past Participle phrases (21%) and To-infinitive phrases (15.8%).

a.3. Adjective Phrases

a.4. Prepositional Phrases

b. Dependent Clauses

c. Sentences

c.1. Simple Sentences

c.2. Complex sentences

4.1.2. The Structural and Syntactic Features of Vietnamese Annotations

In terms of structural features, the results of the study show that we can categorize Vietnamese annotations' structures into three types: Phrases, Clauses and Sentences.

Table 4.4. Frequency of Structural Types of Vietnamese Annotations

Structural Types of Vietnamese Annotations	Number (N=150)	Percentage (%)
Phrases	125	83.3%
Clauses	3	2%
Sentences	22	14.7%

Among 150 Vietnamese annotations collected, phrase structures account for 83.3%, ranking the first and followed by sentence structures with 14.7%. And clause structures occupy the very low rate with 2%.

a. Phrases

Through analyzing the data, we can see that Vietnamese annotations are formed by phrase structures of four kinds: noun phrases, verb phrases, adjective phrases, and prepositional phrases. The frequency of Vietnamese annotations in the form of phrase is summarized in the table 4.5.

Table 4.5. Frequency of Vietnamese Annotations in the Form of Phrases

Phrases	Number (N=125)	Percentage (%)
Noun Phrases	89	71.2%
Verb Phrases	21	16.8%
Adjective Phrases	6	4.8%
Prepositional Phrases	9	7.2%

It can be said that noun phrases are most preferably used in making a Vietnamese annotations with the rate of 71.2%. Verb phrases makes up 16.8% followed by the percentage of 7.2% of Prepositional phrases. And obviously Adjective Phrases see the lowest proportion with 4.8%.

a.1. Noun Phrases

a.2. Verb Phrases

a.3. Adjective Phrases

a.4. Prepositional Phrases

b. Dependent Clauses

c. Sentences

c.1. Simple Sentences

c.2. Compound Sentences

c.3. Complex Sentences

4.1.3. The Structural and Syntactic Similarities and Differences in English and Vietnamese Annotations

a. Structural Features

The table 4.6 below shows the statistical summary of structural types of English annotations and Vietnamese annotations and the distribution of these structures in the scope of 150 English annotations and 150 Vietnamese ones.

Table 4.6. Statistical Summary of Structural Types of English and Vietnamese Annotations

Structural Types	English		Vietnamese	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Phrases	126	84 %	125	83.3%
Dependent clauses	12	8 %	3	2%
Sentences	12	8%	22	14.7%
Total	150	100	150	100

As a whole, English phrases which reach to 84% in the collected data are employed more than dependent clauses and sentences. Similarly, Vietnamese noun phrases occupy 83.3%, ranking the first. There are 12 sentences in English, accounting for 8% and 22 Vietnamese sentences making up 14.7%. Dependent clauses occupy 8% in English annotations and only 2% in Vietnamese.

From the investigation, we can view of features of each structural type: phrases, dependent clauses, and sentences in English

and Vietnamese annotations.

Table 4.7. Structural Features of Annotations in English and Vietnamese

Structural Types		ENGLISH	VIETNAMESE
Noun Phrases	Head Noun	+	+
	Pre-modifiers + Head Noun	+	+
	Head Noun + Post-modifiers	+	+
	Pre-modifiers + Head Noun + Post-modifiers	+	+
Verb Phrases	Bare infinitive phrases	+	+
	To-infinitive phrases	+	-
	Present Participle phrases	+	-
	Past Participle phrases	+	-
Adjective Phrases	Adjectives	+	+
	Operater + Head Adjective	-	+
	Head Adjective+Postmodifiers	+	+
Prepositional Phrases	Preposition + complement	+	+
Dependent Clauses	Dependent Clauses	+	+
Sentences	Simple Sentences	+	+
	Compound Sentences	-	+
	Complex Sentences	+	+

a.1. Similarities

In general, both English and Vietnamese annotations have the patterns in form of phrases, dependent clauses and sentences. Phrases are used the most frequently to make annotations, more than 80% for each. Sentences are in next positions. Dependent clauses are the least favorable in making annotations, occupying below 8% in both English and Vietnamese.

In terms of phrases, both English and Vietnamese annotations are structured in the forms of noun phrases, verb phrases, adjective phrases and prepositional phrases. Firstly, the structure of noun phrases can be analyzed in four patterns: Head Noun; Premodifiers + Head Noun; Head Noun + Postmodifiers; and Premodifiers + Head Noun + Postmodifiers, which appear in both languages. Secondly, in group of verb phrases, the pattern bare infinitive phrase is used in English and Vietnamese annotations. Thirdly, adjective phrases and prepositional phrases forming annotations share some same features in the two languages. Moreover, English annotations have the same forms of dependent clauses, simple sentences and complex sentences with Vietnamese annotations.

a.2. Differences

From the above discussion and summary of the structural features of annotations, we can see that not every annotation in English and Vietnamese has the same structural features. Some patterns are same in two languages but the others are different from each other.

Among the total sample investigated, the differences in structural features in English and Vietnamese annotations have been found in group of verb phrases, adjective phrases and sentences. In English annotations formed by a verb phrase, the main verb is classified into four forms: bare infinitive, to-infinitive, present participle and past participle; whereas, Vietnamese annotations own the main verb in bare infinitive. Another difference is found in adjective phrases with Operator + Head, which are used in

Vietnamese adjective phrases but not employed in English ones. In group of sentences, Compound sentences only occur in Vietnamese.

b. Syntactic Features

From the investigation, we can view of syntactic features: subjects, verbs, objects, complements and adverbials in English and Vietnamese annotations.

Table 4.8. Syntactic Features of Annotations in English and Vietnamese

Syntactic Features		English	Vietnamese
Subject (S)		+	+
Direct Object (O _d)		+	+
Complement (C)	C _S	+	+
	C _{Adj}	+	-
	C _{Prep}	+	+
Adverbial	Predication	+	+
	Adjunct	+	+
	Sentence Adjunct	+	+

b.1. Similarities

In general, both English and Vietnamese annotations have the patterns in form of subject, object, complement and adverbial.

b.2. Differences

Among the total sample investigated, the differences in syntactic features in English and Vietnamese annotations have been found in group of complement. The adjective complement is used in English annotations but not employed in Vietnamese ones.

4.2. THE SEMANTIC FEATURES OF ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE ANNOTATIONS

4.2.1. The Semantic Features of Annotations

a. Numerical expressions

a.1. Area

- a.2. Percentage*
- a.3. Weight*
- a.4. Length*
- a.5. Unit of currency*
- a.6. Distance*
- a.7. Number*
- a.8. Fraction*
- b. Time***
 - b.1. Date*
 - b.2. Duration*
 - b.3. Year*
- c. Reason***
- d. Exception***
- e. Alternative***
- f. Location***
- g. Result***
- h. Simile***
- i. Addition***
- j. Contrast***
- k. Instruction***
- l. Career***

4.2.2. The Semantic Similarities and Differences in English and Vietnamese Annotations

This section has provided a general view of semantic features of annotations in English and in Vietnamese.

Table 4.9. Semantic Features of Annotations in English and Vietnamese

Semantic Features of Annotations		English	Vietnamese
Numerical Expressions	Area	+	+
	Percentage	+	+
	Weight	+	+
	Length	+	+
	Unit of currency	+	+
	Distance	+	-
	Number	+	-
	Fraction	-	+
Time	Date	+	+
	Duration	+	+
	Year	+	-
Reason		+	+
Exception		+	+
Option		+	+
Location		+	+
Result		+	+
Simile		+	-
Addition		+	-
Concession		+	-
Instruction		+	-
Career		+	-

a. Similarities

From the table of summary, we can see that both English and Vietnamese annotations convey various topics in common: *Area, Percentage, Weight, Length, Unit of Currency, Date, Duration, Reason, Exception, Option, Location, Result.*

b. Differences

Beside the similarities, English and Vietnamese annotations have the differences in terms of semantic features. There are some

topics which only appear in English, such as *Distance*, *Number*, *Year*, *Simile*, *Addition*, *Concession*, *Instruction*, *Career*. In contrast, *Fraction* only appears in Vietnamese, not in English.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSIONS

The thesis has so far studied the features of English and Vietnamese annotations in terms of structural, syntactic and semantic aspects with the description and analysis of the samples to find out the similarities as well as differences in structural, syntactic and semantic features of the English and Vietnamese annotations. They are briefly presented as follows.

In terms of structure, annotations in the two languages can be formed by different kinds of structures. Numbers, Phrases, Dependent Clauses and Sentences are employed to make annotations in both English and Vietnamese. Phrases are classified into four types: noun phrases, adjective phrases, verb phrases and prepositional phrases.

In each type of phrases, three components - postmodifiers, head and premodifiers - are used in a flexible manner. In groups of noun phrases, four patterns are analyzed. Some noun phrases are structured by only head nouns. In many noun phrases, head nouns are premodified or post-modified or both. In groups of verb phrases, English and Vietnamese annotations consist of only a verb or a verb phrase in which an object or a complement follows and modifies the head. In group of adjective phrases, annotations formed by only an

adjective can be pointed out in two languages. What is more, postmodifiers also help to create more vivid adjective phrases. Prepositional phrases in English and Vietnamese annotations have the features in common. A preposition functions as a head followed by a prepositional complement to indicate a place or a manner.

Dependent clauses and simple sentences are also used in both English and Vietnamese. All dependent clauses begin with subordinators such as *'even if'*, *'although'*, *'because'*, *'which'* and *'if'* in English and *'do'*, *'khi'* in Vietnamese. The main structure of simple sentences, including a subject and a predicate, is chosen to form an English annotation and a Vietnamese annotation, as well. Also, adverbials are used to show additional information of the the content conveyed in the main structure, usually about place or time.

Nevertheless, there are some structural differences between English and Vietnamese annotations. Firstly, with regard to phrases, premodifiers in English noun phrases conclude determiners, adjective phrases, nouns, participles and numbers; whereas, in Vietnamese, only words of quantity function as premodifiers. Moreover, in English annotations formed in a verb phrase, the head verb can vary from bare infinitive form, to-infinitive form, present participle form to past participle form and it has no operators. On the other hand, only bare infinitive verbs from the head verb in a Vietnamese annotations and operators can be picked out such as *'xin'*.

Turning to sentences, English annotations are formed in the patterns of simple and complex sentences meanwhile compound sentences are found in Vietnamese annotations.

In term of syntax, both English and Vietnamese annotations have the patterns in form of subjects, objects, complements and

adverbials. The difference in syntactic features in English and Vietnamese is that the adjective complement is used in English annotations but not employed in Vietnamese ones.

In conformity with semantic features, annotations are written in various aims which are found in both English and Vietnamese such as ‘*area*’, ‘*percentage*’, ‘*weight*’, ‘*length*’, ‘*unit of Currency*’, ‘*date*’, ‘*duration*’, ‘*reason*’, ‘*exception*’, ‘*option*’, ‘*location*’, ‘*result*’. The annotations as Numerical Expressions are written with different purposes. These annotations describe the area (i.e. ‘*60 square miles*’, ‘*một phần tư diện tích miền Bắc*’), percentage (i.e. ‘*by 45 per cent*’, ‘*chỉ bằng khoảng 2÷5% công suất định mức của động cơ*’), weight (i.e. ‘*57.2 kg*’, ‘*có tải trọng 13 tấn*’), length (i.e. ‘*9in*’, ‘*độ dài sóng dưới 100nm*’), currency (i.e. ‘*£16*’, ‘*34 tỉ đồng*’), or fraction (i.e. ‘*1/5 thu hoạch*’).

Furthermore, ‘*time*’ can be seen as the meaning of annotations. ‘*Date*’ like ‘*Thursday, August 20*’, ‘*ngày 19 tháng 5*’, ‘*the day the strike notices expired*’ can be easily realized in English and Vietnamese annotations. ‘*Duration*’ such as ‘*this was during the mid-1960s, before ‘warbirds’ were commonplace*’ is employed in English annotation and ‘*4-5 vạn năm*’, ‘*thời Hán*’ in Vietnamese ones.

We can draw the similarities in other semantic fields. Both English and Vietnamese annotations mention ‘*reason*’, ‘*exception*’, ‘*option*’, ‘*location*’, ‘*result*’. The annotations in English and Vietnamese from our collected data are employed to semantically express ‘*reason*’, such as ‘*because the stuff is so cheap*’, or ‘*do ông Chiến đi công tác phía Nam*’, or ‘*exception*’, such as ‘*not including the UK or the USA*’, ‘*excluding Harrods*’, ‘*trừ Trung Quốc*’.

'Option' can also be seen in both languages. For instance, 'or gelims' is used in English annotations and 'hoặc trà, hoặc rượu' in Vietnamese annotations. English and Vietnamese annotations also show 'location', such as 'page 9', 'nơi Lý "Đôi" góp vốn cùng Năm Cam mở sòng bài', 'chỗ mà ai cũng nhìn thấy'. Some English and Vietnamese annotations denoting 'result' have been seen in the study's corpus. For example, 'therefore previous experience in this area is essential', 'nên ông có thêm tên Sáu Bạc hồi còn hoạt động 40 năm trước'.

In the total of 21 groups of semantic fields categorized in collected corpus in both languages, there are the same 12 topics approached by both English and Vietnamese annotations. However, there are some fields which only appear in English, such as 'distance', 'number', 'year', 'simile', 'addition', 'concession', 'instruction', 'career' and one field which is only seen in Vietnamese – 'fraction'.

From the study, we find out that English and Vietnamese annotations have many similarities in terms of structural, syntactic and semantic features. Differences found in each type of features are also analyzed and they show very vivid and interesting features of languages. By clarifying linguistic features of English and Vietnamese annotations, we hope that the study helps to enrich the knowledge for language studying and language teaching.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

Doing research on annotations stimulates learners to have an insight into structural, syntactic and semantic features of phrases, clauses and sentences in English and Vietnamese and at last to use them effectively. In this meaning, some implications are drawn.

For learners of English, this thesis helps English learners know more about the similarities and differences between English and Vietnamese in terms of structure, syntax and semantics. Therefore, they can self-study to improve how to make a phrase, a clause or a sentence in language activities. For teachers of English, it is helpful to select English annotations to illustrate certain linguistic features which teachers want to explain.

5.3. LIMITATIONS

This study is carried out with an attempt to investigate similarities and differences on linguistic aspects of annotations in both English and Vietnamese. Because of knowledge and time limit, we have not been able to look at fully all aspects but structural, syntactic and semantic features. Moreover, this study is based on a small sample of data, so it is too early to come to any substantial conclusions.

With those difficulties and limitation of personal ability and sources of materials related to the problem under investigation, some weakness is inevitable.

5.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCHERS

Within the limitations of the study, a full description of all aspects of annotations can not be done. Some suggestions for further studies can be drawn as following:

- Stylistic and Cultural Features of annotations in English and Vietnamese.