

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
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**THE STUDY ON METAPHORIC
MEANINGS OF WORDS RELATED
TO FOOD IN ENGLISH AND
VIETNAMESE**

Field Study : THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
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**M.A. THESIS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
(RESEARCH REPORT)**

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 RATIONALE

Although we live in different nations and cultures, we still have the same vital demands of life such as: food, clothing, learning, relaxation, art... Unlike plants, human beings require a particular kind of food for their very survival.

And all we know that human life is extremely abundant and culture of food is also diverse. So the words which we use daily relating to food are so much in spite of whether we used them exactly or not. Sometimes people use the words related to food to express other things or to refer other problems.

English, nowadays, is the official language to communicate in the world. Yet, use and expression of English in different countries are not quite different because of different cultures. In Vietnamese and English, we see that there are a lot of words denoting the same meaning but in real communication, the use of the words depends on different situations because the culture of Vietnam differs from this of England. For example, a person said: "He eats books or He is eating his brain"- here we can't understand he takes the papers of the books or his brain into his mouth, masticates and swallows. Or how can we understand these following sentences in Vietnamese:

(1) *She drinks the cup of pain.* [62]

(2) *He drinks like fish.* [62]

We think that it is very interesting to study the metaphoric meanings of the words related to food in English and Vietnamese. This study not only helps the researchers as well as the teachers to master more about the meanings of the words related to food but also help us to learn more about culture of English and Vietnamese people. Moreover, we realize that the study of this problem is still

open. That is the reason we choose the title "*A study on metaphoric meanings of words related to food in English and Vietnamese*". We believe that the result of this careful study may give us a new look at the metaphoric meanings of the words related food.

1.2 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

1.3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.3.1. Aims

The study aims to help the users of language understand the various meanings of the words related to food and learn the similarities and differences between two English and Vietnamese cultures.

1.3.2. Objectives

- To describe metaphoric meanings
- To analyze metaphoric meanings of words related to foods.
- To find out and to explain the similarities and differences between two language.
- To suggest some ideas for teaching, learning and translating.

1.4. THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What are metaphoric meanings of words related to food in English?
2. What are metaphoric meanings of words related to food in Vietnamese?
3. What are the similarities and differences in terms of metaphoric meanings of words related to food in English and Vietnamese?

1.5. THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The investigation will focus on metaphoric meanings of the words denoting decisive activities related to food: "EAT", "DRINK" in English and "ĂN", "UỐNG" in Vietnamese from 500 samples in dictionaries, short stories, newspapers of English and Vietnamese.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The study is divided into five chapters:

Chapter 1: Introduction, deals with the rationale, aims and objectives, the scope of the study, the research questions and the organization of the paper.

Chapter 2: Literature Review and Theoretical Background

Chapter 3: Methods and Procedures, presents the research design, research method, description of sample, procedures of data collection and data analysis.

Chapter 4: Findings and Discussions, presents the results and explain the similarities and differences.

Chapter 5: Conclusion

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. LITERATURE REVIEW:

According to Halliday(1985), however, metaphor is a verbal transference a variation in the expression of meanings which involves a non-literal use of a word. [8, p.320]

In *Metaphor and Thought*(1993) Andrew Orton examined the rules that specify semantic features as a means of arriving at metaphorical meaning directly from literal meaning. [21]

Hatch and Brown(1995) investigated metaphor in everyday language. [9]

John Benjamin (1999) regarded metaphor theory in the more general field of cognitive linguistics. [2]

In *Từ vựng ngữ nghĩa Tiếng Việt* (1981), Đỗ Hữu Châu states that metaphor is one of two most popular ways of meaning transference in all of languages. [27]

With “An investigation into the metaphoric device in English and Vietnamese animal proverbs” Lê Thị Mỹ Nhật (2002) told us some useful ideas.

And “An investigation into metaphoric meanings of words denoting colour in English and Vietnamese” by Mai Nguyễn Diệu Khoa (2003) is also valuable consideration. Also about colour, Trương Thanh Ngọc (2005) focuses on the whole spectrum with the cognitive linguistics both in English and Vietnamese.

Trương Thị Huệ (2005) with “Verbs denoting the concept of ‘eating’, English versus Vietnamese”.

Or “A study of verbs of consumption in English and Vietnamese” by Mai Ngọc Thu Tâm (2006).

Nguyễn Thị Việt Tài (2010) investigates the syntactic and semantic features of metaphors in the newspaper language.

2.2 THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1 Concepts of Food

2.2.2 Words Denoting Decisive Activities Relating to Food:

Eating and Drinking

* Words that denote “eating” in English are

- eat, have, swallow, consume, finish,... (these words all mean to put food into your stomach through your mouth)

- dine, lunch, feast, snack, breakfast (these words mean to eat food at meal) and in Vietnamese are : ăn, dùng, xoi, nuốt,

* Words that denote “drinking” in English are drink, sip, suck, drain, booze, swig ... and in Vietnamese are uống, nốc, hớp, xoi, nhấp, húp, nhâm

In this study, I just focus on the verbs: “eat”, “drink” in English and “ăn”, “uống” in Vietnamese.

2.2.3 Semantic Features

2.2.3.1 Semantic Components

2.2.3.2 Components of Word Meaning

2.2.3.3 Transference of meaning

2.2.3.4 Semantic Fields - Collocation

2.2.4 Language and Culture

CHAPTER 3

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

- Describing the collected data
- Using the contrastive method to find out the similarities and differences of words related to food in English and Vietnamese.

- Generalizing the conclusion

3.2 RESEARCH METHODS

3.2.1 Data collection

- We read and collect 250 samples in English and 250 samples in Vietnamese from different collocations randomly to be samples of the thesis with dictionaries, stories, novels and several educational, political, economic and health newspapers and magazines and on the internet.

3.2.2 Data analysis

- We describe the collected samples
- Analyzing the metaphoric meanings of the words related to food
- We classify the metaphoric meanings to find out the similarities and differences in English and Vietnamese.
- Drawing conclusions
- Suggesting some implications for teaching, learning and further researches.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 MEANINGS OF THE WORDS “EAT”, “DRINK” IN ENGLISH AND THE WORDS “ĂN”, “UỐNG” IN VIETNAMESE

4.1.1 Meanings of the Words “Eat” in English and “Ăn” in Vietnamese

Table 4.1 Meanings of the word EAT

Meaning of “eat”	In English	In Vietnamese
1- take food into the mouth, masticate and swallow	+	+
2- take a meal	+	+
3- attend a feast on the occasion of	+	+
4- include as part of one’s diet	+	+
5- live	-	+
6- destroy	+	-
7- erode, to corrode	+	+
8- worry	+	-
9- waste	+	-
10- submit to ,to accept meekly	+	+
11- win	-	+
12- bite, to stick	-	+
13- acclaim	+	-
14- suit	-	+
15- consume	+	+
16- annoy, to bother	+	-
17- absorb	+	-
18- spread	-	+
19- be part of	-	+
20- make a way by gnawing	+	-
21- correspond	-	+

4.1.2 Meanings of The Words “Drink” in English and “Uống” in Vietnamese

Table 4.2 Meanings of the word DRINK

Meaning of 'drink'	In English	In Vietnamese
1- take into the mouth and swallow (a liquid)	+	+
2- swallow the liquid contents of (a vessel)	+	+
3- take the habit of taking alcoholic	+	+
4- toast	+	+
5- suffer	+	-
4- take eagerly into the mind	+	-
5- spend or waste money on liquor	+	-
6- reduce to a specified state by drinking	+	+
7- have a specified flavor or character when drunk	+	-
8- absorb	+	-
9- inhale	+	-
10- pay close attention to	+	-
11- bring(oneself into a certain condition) by consuming alcohol	+	+
12- dispose of or ruin by excessive expenditure on alcohol	+	-
13- consume alcohol	+	+

4.2 SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF THE METAPHORIC MEANINGS OF THE WORD "EAT" IN ENGLISH AND THE WORD "ĂN" IN VIETNAMESE

4.2.1 Metaphoric Meanings of the Word "EAT" in English

4.2.1.1 Possessing

* *If the ATM eats your card, you have options...*

The word **eat** + *ATM card, salary...*

4.2.1.2 Consuming goods

In this field, people borrow the process of eating act to denote *consuming goods*. We look at the example:

* *...except for tin – it turns out that in straitened times people eat more canned goods.*

eat + *goods* or *a kind of goods*.

4.2.1.3 Consuming energy

eat is also used with the metaphoric meaning of *consuming energy*.

* *so any extra weight will not only eat up your gas, but make it work harder and won't accelerate as quickl*

eat + *gas, electricity, oil...*

4.2.1.4 Doing Corruption

And the word **eat** in this case connotes the meaning of *illegal action to get money*

* *"I told him not to eat dirt", Justine said*

In this case, the word **eat** + *money, dirt* or some other nouns denoting *material value*.

4.2.1.5 Accomplishing or Gaining

* *She was uncritically idolized by an army of fans, male and female. She ate up the adoration...*

With this feature, the word **eat** is combined with the nouns *adoration, advantage, experience...*

4.2.1.6 Winning

The word **eat** connotes winning in this case.

* *If Besiktas come back from this, I'll eat Europe. That's promise.*

In terms of this feature, the word **eat** is followed by a sport team, a person (a competitor)

4.2.1.7 Persuading

The word **eat** connotes *persuading*, something persuades someone

* *No. I think he's taken to some heathen practice—or that rejuvenation is **eating his brain**.*

We see in this meaning feature the word eat is used with the noun *brain*.

4.2.1.8 Reading and Learning

The word **eat** connotes reading and learning as well.

* *He **eats books**.*

In this case the word **eat** is followed by the book or the lesson.

4.2.1.9 Spending time

Eat connotes taking time and spending time. Let us see examples below

* *The reason is as plain as the bill on your desk: photos, movies, games and text **eat up** a lot more cellular minutes than talking alone does.*

eat + *minutes, time, free time*

4.2.1.10 Costing money

The word **eat** connotes the meaning of *costing money*.

* *“The investigation will probably **eat up** the whole \$250 (thousand)....*

eat + *money or specific number of money, budget...*

4.2.1.11 Occupying

This meaning is usually used to show using land irrationally.

* *Population pressure and unplanned use of land during the last 20 years have **eaten up** 5 million acres*

eat + *land or specific number area of land.*

4.2.1.12 Destroying and Ruining

Eat focuses on mentioning something, someone or phenomenon are destroyed or ruined by the impact of something untoward.

* *A town **eaten alive by the earth**- Balakot looks like a town that has been eaten alive. The convulsion buckled the earth, chewed up buses and leveled practically every building in sight.*

eat + *the soul, heart, town...*

4.2.1.13 Celebrating and attending the feast:

* *...custom is repeated each year on 21st Dec, or st Thomas’s Day, which some celebrated by **eating a large feast**.*

Eat + *a feast, eat Christmas or eat for any reason.*

4.2.1.14 Bothering, worrying or annoying

In other aspect, **eat** connotes bothering, worrying and annoying .

* *I knew she **had eaten my father**, and I was glad I did not have to fight....*

In this field the word eat often goes with *you, father, life...*

4.2.1.15 Breaking promise or retracting words

Eat in this field connotes breaking promise and retracting words.

* *There are reactions to future supply disruptions already. Just last week, President Barack Obama appeared **to eat** a lot of past words*

To have this metaphoric meaning feature, the word eat collocates with the noun “words”.

4.2.1.16 Influencing

In other way, **eat** connotes influencing.

* *...that the growing popularity of smart phones and tablets will begin to **eat into the computer chip business**. That business suffered a setback earlier.*

Eat + *business, household budget...*

4.2.2 Metaphoric meanings of the word “ĂN” in Vietnamese:

4.2.2.1 Receiving goods:

It denotes receiving goods.

* *Mé đường lại có chiếc nhà sắt rất cao, đặt máy xe điện ở trên, khi nào có tàu ăn than, xe ấy móc hòm than vận tải từ kho ra toa tàu...*

4.2.2.2 Attracting

* *Theo AP, bảng xếp hạng phim ăn khách nhất Bắc Mỹ tuần này hứa hẹn sẽ có nhiều cuộc bút phá ngoạn mục*

ăn + khách

4.2.2.3 Consuming energy

People often use this word to denote excessive state of consuming gasoline of car or motor

* *Tuy nhiên ,một chiếc xe ăn xăng nhiều có khi không đơn thuần do động cơ, mà lại do vài nguyên nhân khác từ bên ngoài.*

With this meaning feature, the word *ăn + xăng, mực, năng,...*

4.2.2.4 Doing corruption

Ăn is used to denote a person (especially an official) receives money or other material values illegally from the others to help them to get some purposes.

* *Tổng giám đốc công ty bảo hiểm nhà nước của Trung Quốc vừa bị bắt và cáo buộc ăn hối lộ, lạm quyền gây hậu quả nghiêm trọng.*

Ăn + hối lộ, bản, tiền and the noun denoting material value.

4.2.2.5 Punishing

In this field, *ăn* is used to connote punishing.

* *Rồi lớn lên bao nhiêu lần ông ăn đòn trờ com vì con trâu nuôi rẽ đi qua ruộng người thò mõm đớp đôi bụi lúa.*

Dealing with this feature, we have ăn đòn, ăn đạn, ăn tát.

4.2.2.6 Doing Something in very Short Time or Without Time

* *Những ca từ mà họ sáng tác trong những bài hát kiểu như vậy chỉ là dạng "mì ăn liền", nó "sống" được thời gian ngắn rồi lại bị người nghe tự xoá nhoà một cách không thương tiếc.*

ăn + liền, xổi , nhanh.

4.2.2.7 Asking for Help

The other metaphoric meaning of *ăn* which we mention is *asking for help*.

* *Không nơi nương tựa, Nhón lại trở thành kẻ thất nghiệp ăn bám mẹ và chị.*

In this meaning feature, *ăn + xin, đong, bám.*

4.2.2.8 Winning

Ăn here is listed to denote winning of an award, a prize, a match or game...

* *Cả một đời tôi, tôi sẽ chỉ viết một quyển thơ nhưng quyển ấy sẽ ăn giải Nobel và dịch ra đủ mọi thứ tiếng trên hoàn cầu.*

The word *ăn + giải, 3, 3 bàn...*

4.2.2.9 Receiving to enjoy

Ăn in this field deals with the fortune and indicates receiving to enjoy.

* *Nếu cứ phô cái hình thù ấy mà bị được mắt mọi người thì thật bác phải là có thánh cho ăn lộc mới được, vì người không còn có vẻ gì là sang.*

With this feature we see the word *ăn + lộc, hoa hồng, thừa tự*

4.2.2.10 Feeding by the body's sale

Ăn concerns to imply the girls who sell their body to feed themselves.

* *Trông người ngoan thế này ai lại đi “ăn xu”.*

Beside ăn xu, ăn sương people also use ăn đêm in this field.(
Here we don't mention ăn đêm in literal meaning)

4.2.2.11 Doing something secretly and unfaithfully

“**Ăn vụng**” is how to solve hunger covertly in literal meaning.
In this case, it refers to the people who got married but have an adulterous affair with other persons.

* *Khi tôi phát hiện ra anh ta cũng **ăn vụng** cả với Imogen, tôi thực sự bị tổn thương.*

Ăn + *vụng*

4.2.2.12 Doing bad action to get purpose

Ăn is used to describe various bad actions of some persons to get purpose or advantages for themselves.

* *Màn **ăn vạ** nhằm kiếm quả phạt đền dẫn đến chiến thắng thiếu thuyết phục của Napoli trước câu lạc bộ cũ Juventus.*

So we can see the word combinations of the word **eat** + *gian, ăn vạ, quyt.*

4.2.2.13 Acting dishonestly

Ăn in this field can be defined illegal action with violence to get properties of other people.

* *Nó **ăn hiếp** người ta, chiếm đoạt tiền mandat của người ta, lại còn vô cớ đánh, trói người ta.*

With this semantic feature, the word **ăn** + *hiếp, cướp*

4.2.2.14 Destroying

In this case, **ăn** is used to connote destroying.

* *Thật vậy có thực mới vực được đạo, khi anh còn phải **ăn hại** người khác cho dầu là bố mẹ thì anh không có quyền vội nói gì đến đạo lý.*

With this feature, the word **ăn** + *hại, mồn.*

4.2.2.15 Celebrating and attending a feast on the occasion

Ăn is used with the metaphoric meaning to connote celebrating and attending on the occasion.

* *Năm ấy, nàng không hiểu sao- và hiện giờ nàng vẫn chưa hiểu- Nam lại lên Lạng Sơn **ăn Tết** với cha mẹ nàng.*

Ăn + *cưới, tiệc* (ăn + noun)

An + *mùng, khao* which have syntactic feature ăn + adjective

4.2.2.16 Taking advantage of

Out of denoting manner of eating (someone eats according to someone or go with someone), in this field the word **ăn** connotes taking advantage of weakness or chance to do another thing.

* *Sừng sốt với đàn Guitar cảm ứng "**ăn theo**" iPhone .Cây Guitar này bao gồm 3 bộ phận chính, thân đàn; cần đàn và bàn phím cảm ứng trên màn hình 8 inches*

With this meaning feature, we have **ăn** + *theo, hôi.*

4.2.2.17 Spreading

The word **ăn** is followed by measure of length, depth to connote spreading.

* *gây nứt 15m mặt đường nhựa và vết nứt **ăn sâu** vào 2,2m khu phố K44 Điện Biên Phủ.*

In (75) constructing the work has broken the road .Then this breakdown causes slitting area of land of the residential area.

With this feature, we see ăn + *sâu, sang.*

4.2.2.18 Harmonizing

In this case, ăn imply to agreement, understanding and suit of two person or two things.

* *Thành công của Porto dựa trên một hàng công thi đấu ấn tượng với cặp tiền đạo Hulk-Falco và một hàng tiền vệ (gồm: Fernando Belluschi, Ruben Michael, Fredy Guarin và Fernando)chơi **ăn ý** cực kỳ sáng tạo.*

* *Thoa lựa lọc dần dà cho sự sống của Thoa nhẹ nhàng ăn khớp với cuộc đời mới.*

Ăn + ý, khớp, nhịp, nhập.

4.2.2.19 Impressing or embedding

Ăn in this feature is used to connote something leave impression, memorize and embed in mind.

* *...song mới lễ nghi đạo đức của nho giáo chỉ thoáng qua trí thức, chứ đối với mẹ anh thì nó đã ăn sâu vào tâm não,*

ăn + sâu

4.2.2.20 Denoting Relation of Human in Common

Ăn is also used to refer a lot of relations of human. We look at the following examples:

* *Này, cụ là người phúc đức, cậu ký cũng là người biết thương thì u cũng ăn ở cho nó lễ phép, cho nó nên ơn nên nghĩa, phải ngoan ngoan mà trông nom em biết chưa?*

Ăn ở is used to refer behavior of a person to people around.

Ăn ở in this example refers to behaviour and relationship of a couple.

ăn + mặc, chơi, diện, tiêu, học, nói, ở, nằm.

4.2.2.21 Living

With this case, ăn connotes living

* *Nếu đất Cửa Việt không sinh sống nổi mà phải vô Hué hoặc Đà Nẵng kiếm ăn thì Thám cũng có họ hàng khỏi phiền thiếu ứ.*

In this meaning, ăn is found in kiếm ăn, ăn lương.

Table 4.3 A Summary of Metaphoric Meanings of the Word EAT in English and in Vietnamese

Order	Metaphoric meaning	EAT	AN
		Collocation	Collocation
1	Pocessing	Eat ATM card,salary	

2	Consuming goods	Eat a large number of food,goods	
3	Consuming energy	Eat gas,electricity	Ăn xăng
4	Doing corruption	Eat money,eat dirt	Ăn bẩn,
5	Gaining	Eat up adoration,eat into advantage	
6	Winning	Eat +noun phrase(a person or a sport team)	An giải,
7	Persuading	Eat brain	
8	Learning	Eat book,eat lesson	
9	Costing money	Eat up money, eat budget	
10	Spending time	Eat up time,eat into time	
11	Occupying	Eat land	
12	Destroying	Eat soul,eat town	Ăn mòn
13	Celebrating	Eat a feast,eat Christmas	Ăn Tết
14	Bothering	Eat life, you,father	
15	Breaking promise	Eat words	
16	Influencing	Eat into business,household budgets	
17	Receiving goods		Ăn than
18	Asking for help		Ăn xin
19	Receiving to enjoy		Ăn lộc
20	Feeding by sale the body		Ăn xu
21	Doing something secretly		Ăn vụng
22	Purnishing		Ăn đòn

23	Doing bad action to get purpose		Ăn gian
24	Acting dishonestly		Ăn cướp
25	Taking advantage of		Ăn hôi
26	Spreading		Ăn sâu
27	Doing something in short time		Ăn liền
28	Attracting		Ăn khách
29	Harmonizing		Ăn ý
30	Impressing		Ăn sâu vào tâm hồn
31	Denoting relations of human		Ăn ở
32	Earning		Kiểm ăn,

4.2.3 Summary

EAT+ Noun or Noun Phrase, EAT+ prep+ Noun, ĂN + Adjective, ĂN+ Verb, ĂN+ Verb and pattern Kiểm+ ĂN.

4.2.4 Similarities of the Metaphoric Meanings of the Word “EAT” in English and the Word “ĂN” in Vietnamese

From the table above, there are thirty two metaphoric meanings of EAT and ĂN found both in English and in Vietnamese. We found some similarities of the word EAT and ĂN as follows:

- Firstly, the words EAT and ĂN are used to refer other activities relating to human and other fields in life as well.
- Secondly, the metaphoric meanings of EAT and ĂN express both denotative meaning and connotative meaning.
- Thirdly, five of these metaphoric meanings are same.
- Fourthly, the metaphoric meanings of EAT and ĂN in collocation EAT+ NOUN or EAT+ NOUN Phrase.

4.2.5 Differences of the Metaphoric Meanings of the Word “EAT” in English and the Word “ĂN” in Vietnamese

We also withdraw some differences as follows:

- Firstly, ĂN (twenty-one meanings) in Vietnamese is much than the word EAT (sixteen meanings) in English.

- Secondly, the word EAT in English is used in most of fields relating to our life and the word ĂN in Vietnamese is used chiefly for daily activities, behaviors or lifestyle of human.

- Thirdly, due to cultural differences, there are many meanings only appear in English, not in Vietnamese and vice versa.

a) The metaphoric meanings of EAT appear in English but not in Vietnamese such

b) There are sixteen metaphoric meanings of the word ĂN appear in Vietnamese but not in English.

c) However, we still find some correspondences between EAT and other words relating to food in Vietnamese.

- *eat words = nuốt lời* which is also related to eating, *eat card = nuốt thẻ*, *eat brain = gặm nhấm trí óc*.

- Fourthly, we see the metaphoric meanings of EAT are formed chiefly by EAT+ Noun, EAT+ prep+ Noun or Noun Phrase. Whereas, the metaphoric meanings of ĂN in ĂN+ Noun, ĂN+ Adjective, ĂN+ Verb, ĂN+ Verb (has parallel function with ĂN) and pattern Kiểm + ĂN.

4.3 SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF THE METAPHORIC MEANINGS OF THE WORDS “DRINK” IN ENGLISH AND “UỐNG” IN VIETNAMESE

4.3.1 The Metaphoric Meanings of the Word “Drink” in English

4.3.1.1 Drinking Alcohol

In this case, drink denotes drinking alcohol. Let's examine the following examples:

* *Logistic regression models confirmed that college students not living with parents were more likely to **drink** heavily than those living with parents ...*

4.3.1.2 Costing Money for Drinking Alcohol

People borrow process of consuming liquid to denote costing money for drinking alcohol.

* *... put aside sixpence for a bed, and sixpence for more arf and arf, he generously proposed that we **drink up** the whole shilling.*

So the word **drink** + denoting money such as shilling, wages.

4.3.1.3 Inhaling

Sometimes we see the word **drink** indicates inhaling

* *I pace the earth, and **drink the air** and feel the sun.*

In this field, the word **drink** is found in collocation drink the air.

4.3.1.4 Absorbing

Drink refers to a biological phenomenon- absorbing process of water.

* *This plant **drinks** a lot of water.*

In this field the word **drink** + the rain, water, the sunlight.

4.3.1.5 Celebrating

Drinking is widened to connote celebrating.

* *...attlement their ordnance fire: the king shall **drink to Hamlet's better breath**, and ...*

drink to + success, better breath, health...

4.3.1.6 Enjoying

It's interesting to find out the word **drink** connotes enjoying.

* *I was at peace, and **drank your beams** as they were life to me.*

drink collocates with *beams, eager joy*

4.3.1.7 Paying attention to

Drink is used to indicate *paying attention to something*.

* *The mother **drinks** in every word of her son on the stage. drink + in every word, a hundred words.*

4.3.1.8 Suffering

The other metaphoric meaning of **drink** is suffering. We have examples:

* *...but I like got no peace. And I even took the sacrament, but I felt as though I were eating and **drinking** to my own damnation all the time.*

Thus the word **drink** + *damnation, disappointment*.

4.3.1.9 Receiving

We also find other meaning feature of **drink** is receiving.

* *but it flashed back, each time more condidently, the undisguised delight he **drinks** from hers.*

Drink + *the undisguised delight from hers*

4.3.2 The Metaporic Meanings of the Word “Uống” in Vietnamese

4.3.2.1 Drink Alcohol

The metaphoric meaning of **uống** is drinking alcohol.

* *Hắn sẽ **uống** rất khoẻ, nói toàn những chuyện vá trời lấp biển, rồi đi la cà đến hết đêm mới về.*

Uống + 0

4.3.2.2 Consuming energy

Vietnamese borrow drinking process to talk to consuming energy

* *Một số mẹo sau đây sẽ giúp bạn hạn chế tình trạng xe "**uống xăng**".*

uống + xăng

4.3.2.3 Celebrating

Drink denotes to *celebrating*.

* *Chị uống mừng hạnh phúc cho em đi! Em uống rượu rất dở nhưng đêm nay em muốn uống với chị Suốt đêm.*

uống + mừng hạnh phúc, uống mừng xuân đại thắng,...

Table 4.4: A Summary of Metaphoric Meanings of Drink in English and in Vietnamese

Order	Metaphoric meaning	DRINK	UỐNG
		Collocation	Collocation
1	Drink alcohol	Drink+ 0 or depend on context	Uống+0 or depend on context
2	Costing money for alcohol	Drink up +money : drink up the shilling, drink up wages	
3	Inhaling	Drink the air	
4	Absorbing	Drink the water, the rain, the sunlight	
5	Celebrating	Drink to the success, drink to one's health	Uống mừng
6	Enjoying	Drink beams, drink eager joy	
7	Paying attention to	Drink in every word, drink a hundred word	
8	Suffering	Drink damnation, drink disappointment	
9	Receiving	Drink the delight from someone	
10	Consuming energy		Uống xăng

4.3.3 Summary

There is also similarity in metaphoric meanings of both DRINK and UỐNG although UỐNG has 3 metaphoric meanings.

DRINK is formed by the syntactic pattern DRINK+ Noun or Noun Phrase and DRINK+ prep+ Noun.

4.3.4 Similarity of Metaphoric Meanings of the Word “DRINK” in English and The Word “UỐNG” in Vietnamese

We found some similarities of the word DRINK and UỐNG as follows:

- Firstly, the word DRINK and UỐNG in both languages are used to refer other activities relating to human and other fields in life as well.

- Secondly, two of these metaphoric meanings which we found the same meaning features in both languages: *drinking to toast, drinking alcohol*.

- Thirdly, although there are great differences in social development as well as culture in general, drinking culture of two nations may be similar.

- Fourthly, metaphoric meanings of DRINK and UỐNG are formed by the collocation DRINK+ Noun or DRINK+ prep+ Noun, UỐNG+ Noun.

4.3.4 Differences of Metaphoric Meanings of the Word “DRINK” in English and the Word “UỐNG” in Vietnamese

- Firstly, the metaphoric meaning of *drink* in English is more diverse and is used in many other fields in life than this one in Vietnamese.

- Secondly, in English *drink* is used with the metaphoric to show the relaxation and leisure of human.

- Thirdly, we have the meaning of consuming energy in Vietnamese but this meaning does not exist in English.

CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION

5.1 SUMMARY OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Pleasurely, the words relating to food chosen in this study can be used to express metaphorically many activities, events or fields in our daily life. We found some similarities and differences. There are 32 metaphoric meanings of the word EAT in both languages. EAT denotes *celebrating, destroying and ruining, consuming energy, doing corruptedly* are used popularly in both language.

Another point is that the word DRINK in Vietnamese has only two metaphoric meanings. Whereas the word DRINK in English expressing 9 meanings and there are 7 meanings differing from Vietnamese

A new word that being used in industrialized time in Vietnam is *ăn liền*. However, in this case people want to denote the state, jobs or problems which are solved immediately without investing time, labour, counting, thinking.

5.2 IMPLICATIONS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

For language learning and teaching, we would like to put forward some suggestions:

Firstly, Vietnamese learners when learn metaphoric meaning of the word related to food should be aware of the similarities and differences between the two languages to avoid misusing and misunderstanding.

Secondly, with the aims of helping learners of English to write as well as to communicate effectively, teachers should help learners distinguish the metaphoric meaning from literal meaning.

Thirdly, not all of metaphoric meanings can be translated from or to, so learners should find the meanings that have the best similarities.

Fourthly, fluency in a language includes mastering how to understand and produce words and phrase with particular meanings.

5.3 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Due to the constraint of time, referential material, the study has got certain restrictions. The study did not cover all most of the words related to food. We just find out the metaphoric meaning of two words EAT and DRINK in English and in Vietnamese.

The samples selected for analysis are only from short stories, some novels, newspapers, magazines; therefore the findings of their typical features cannot reflect thoroughly all fields in life.

Though, hopefully, the study will be a reference for those who take an interest in the metaphoric meaning of the words relating to food, especially the words Eat and Drink.

5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RESEARCH

The study of metaphoric meanings of the words relating to food helps learners of English in reading and writing. Understanding their true meanings make it easier for learners to comprehend and use those words correctly in various situations. I would like to offer some suggestions for further research. The words related to foods in the fields of syntactics, pragmatics and cultures; in idioms should be studied more. Especially, the metaphoric meaning of words relating to food can be studied under the theory cognition.