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**A STUDY OF THE LINGUISTIC FEATURES
OF SUGGESTION VERBS IN ENGLISH AND
THEIR VIETNAMESE EQUIVALENTS**

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

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Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

Verbs denoting suggestion are one type of verbs with a variety of meanings. According to the online dictionary Wikipedia [127] “Suggestion is the name given to the psychological process by which one person may guide the thoughts, feelings of behaviour of another. For nineteenth century writers on psychology such as James W. [26] the words “*suggest*” and “*suggestion*” are used in senses very close to those which they have in common speech; one idea is said to suggest another when it brings that idea to mind. Early scientific studies of hypnosis by scientists such as Clark L. H. [10] led to the extension of the meaning of these words in a special and technical sense. The original neuro-psychological theory of hypnotic suggestion is based upon the ideo-motor reflex response of Braid J. [5]. He also states suggestion is the essence of hypnotism and anything you can ask a person to do in hypnosis can be equally well accomplished without formal inductions, the elaborate rituals of “hypnosis” stage shows have little to do with hypnosis and more to do with entertainment accomplished through suggestion and imitation. English verbs denoting suggestion consist of *suggest, request, demand, command, recommend, propose, ask, order, require, offer, petition, claim* and *put forward*. However, in this paper, we only focus on eight verbs such as “*ask*”, “*demand*”, “*order*”, “*propose*”, “*recommend*”, “*request*”, “*require*” and “*suggest*”. These verbs have wide occurrence in various types of contexts both in English and Vietnamese. In fact, the same meaning that can be expressed by many words in English and Vietnamese often causes a big problem that needs to be clarified. That is to say, it is undoubted that some learners of English feel confused and unconfident to use English

suggestion verbs (ESVs) in speaking and writing effectively. Let us consider the following examples:

- (1) I **suggest** that you stay here tonight. [59]
(Tôi **đề nghị** bạn ở lại đây tối nay).
- (2) It seems that they **propose** to build a motorway behind our house. [61]
(Dường như họ **đề xuất** xây dựng một xa lộ đằng sau nhà của chúng tôi).

As regards the word “**suggest**” (1), we can see that its meaning is to say what we think somebody should do or what should happen. Similarly, the word “**propose**” (2) shows an intention or a plan. In Vietnamese, the two verbs are interpreted as “*đề nghị*” and “*đề xuất*” respectively. Both these two cases share the same meaning the speaker asks to carry out an action from the hearer. It means that when the speaker utters his or her suggestion, he or she wishes the hearer to implement it. In Vietnamese, Diệp Quang Ban [45] arranges this type of verbs in a particular group which he calls “*nhóm động từ khiến động*”, for example *nhờ, bảo, yêu cầu, bắt*. In fact, users face difficulties in using these verbs. For examples, in the sentence “*The doctor **ordered** me to stay in bed*”. The verb “*order*” means telling somebody that they must do something. However, the word “*order*” in “*when the waiter came I **ordered** an omelet*” means that you want something to be made or sent. This is really a big barrier for all users of language. In a sense, wishing to make a small contribution by studying these verbs in order to help learners of English use them effectively in their speaking and writing.

For the above reasons, I wish to carry out the thesis entitled “*A Study of the Linguistic Features of Suggestion Verbs in English and Their Vietnamese Equivalents*” with the purpose of helping

learners of English understand how to use these verbs correctly and to avoid mistakes as well as misunderstanding.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.2.1. Aims

This study aims at making a detailed and systematic description of the syntactic and semantic features of SVs in English and their Vietnamese equivalents. It is hoped that the results of the study can help to raise the awareness of Vietnamese learners of English in terms of this kind of verbs so that they can apply the right use of these verbs in using the English language.

1.2.2. Objectives

The objectives of this study are:

- To describe the syntactic and semantic features of SVs in English and their Vietnamese equivalents.
- To find out the differences and similarities between ESVs and their Vietnamese equivalents.
- To suggest some implications for teaching and learning English by Vietnamese people.

1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The study tries to answer the following questions:

1. What are the syntactic and semantic features of SVs in English and Vietnamese?
2. What are the similarities and differences of SVs in English and Vietnamese?
3. What are some implications for teaching ESVs for Vietnamese learners?

1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study mainly focuses on the syntactic and semantic features of SVs in English and Vietnamese. Simultaneously, we analyze the similarities and differences of these verbs in English and

Vietnamese. The research does not focus on all SVs in English but on 8 commonly used verbs in English namely *ask, demand, order, propose, recommend, request, require, suggest* and their equivalents in Vietnamese.

1.5. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The study is organized into five chapters: Chapter 1 is Introduction; Chapter 2 is Literature Review and Theoretical Background; Chapter 3 is Methods and Procedure; Chapter 4 is Findings and Discussions; Chapter 5 is Conclusions and Implications.

Chapter 2 LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. LITERATURE REVIEW

Suggestion verbs have been discussed by many linguists and researchers. Quirk R. et. al. in “*A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*” [33] point out that SVs are followed by a *that*-clause containing the mandative subjunctive, putative *should* and the indicative.

In the book “*A Student’s Grammar of the English Language*” (1990), Sidney G. and Quirk R. [32] state that SVs belong to “factual verbs”.

Angela D. and Philip L. (1995) in the book “*A University Course in English Grammar*” [4], point out the position of SVs and analyzed the syntactic features and these verbs are followed by *means of subjunctive* or *should + infinitive* and *that-clause*.

In the book entitled “*Fowler’s Modern English Usage*” (1998), Burchfield R. W. [6] focuses on the usage of SVs in syntactic patterns.

In “*Lôgích và Tiếng Việt*” (1999), Nguyễn Đức Dân [48] notices the pragmatic features of performative verbs such as *yêu cầu, bảo, đề nghị, ra lệnh, hỏi*.

Moreover, Hồ Lê (2003) in “*Cấu tạo từ Tiếng Việt hiện đại*”, [51] describes and analyzes the change of SVs into *suggestion nouns*. For example: *suggest (V) + ion: suggestion (N); propose (V)+ al: proposal (N)*

In the book “*Ngữ pháp Tiếng Việt*” (2003), Diệp Quang Ban and Hoàng Văn Thung [46] mention verbs in general. More importantly, this book focuses on the position of SVs in the sentence and shows what types these verbs belong to (transitive or intransitive).

In “Language” magazines, Đào Thanh Lan [100] focuses on “*cách biểu hiện hành động cầu khiến gián tiếp bằng câu hỏi- câu khiến*” and [101] “*nhận diện hành động ngôn từ gián tiếp trên tư liệu lời hỏi – cầu khiến tiếng Việt*”

Besides, there are some dissertations of Vietnamese learners about verbs and some related issues to our study which can be listed as Trần Thị Diệu Anh [39], Lưu Thị Mỹ Hạnh [40], Trần Thị Phương Hoa [41], Trần Thị Ngọc Phúc [42], Lê Lan Phương [43] and Nguyễn Thị Tố Nga [44].

In sum, some English linguists point out the syntactic characteristics of SVs in general and find out how to use these verbs in the sentence. The Vietnamese linguists and researchers indicate the pragmatic features of SVs and their position in the sentence. However, none of the above studies focus on the syntactic and semantic features of SVs in detail. That is the reason why I have decided to conduct the research entitled “*A Study of the Linguistic Features of Suggestion Verbs in English and Their Vietnamese Equivalents*”.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Definition of the Verb

2.2.2. Definition of Verb Phrase

2.2.3. Verb Classification

2.2.4. Syntactic Features of Verbs

2.2.4.1. Syntactic Relations

2.2.4.2. Grammatical Categories of Verbs

2.2.4.3. Functions of Verbs

2.2.5. Semantic Features of Verbs

2.2.5.1. Verb Meaning

2.2.5.2. Word Meaning

2.2.5.3. Seven Aspects of Word Meaning

2.2.5.4. Lexical Meaning and Grammatical Meaning

2.2.5.5. Sense Relations

2.2.5.6. Suggestion Verbs in English and Vietnamese

In “*The New Oxford Dictionary of English*” [28], the meaning of SVs in English as follows:

ASK has the meanings (1) to say something in order to obtain an answer or some information; (2) to request (someone) to do or give something; (3) to request permission to do something; (4) to request to speak to; (5) to request a specific amount as a price for selling something; (6) to invite someone to (one’s home or a function).

The meanings of **DEMAND** are (1) to ask authoritatively or brusquely; (2) to insist on having; (3) to require, need; (4) to ask for something in the way that shows you expect to get it.

ORDER brings the following meanings: (1) to give an authoritative direction or instruction to do something; (2) to command (something) to be done or (someone) to be treated in a particular way; (3) to request something to be made, supplied or

served; (4) to arrange something in a methodical or appropriate way; (5) to tell someone to do something in a strong way which does not permit him/her to refuse, and without saying “please”.

PROPOSE includes three meanings (1) to put forward (an idea or plan) for consideration or discussion by others; (2) to nominate (someone) for an elected office or as a member of a society; (3) to make an offer or marriage to someone.

RECOMMEND has four meanings (1) to put forward (someone) or (something) with approval as being suitable for a particular purpose a role; (2) to advise or suggest something as a course of action; (3) to advise someone to do something; (4) to command or entrust someone or something to (someone).

The meanings of **REQUEST** are (1) politely or formally ask for; (2) politely ask someone to do something.

The meanings of **REQUIRE** consist of (1) to need for a particular purpose; depend on for success or survival; (2) to cause to be necessary; (3) to specify as compulsory; - (of someone in authority); (4) to instruct or expect someone to do something; (5) to wish to have; (6) to demand or order something.

SUGGEST refers to the meanings (1) to propose a plan or idea for someone to discuss or consider; (2) to put forward for consideration; (3) to cause one to think that (something) exists or in the case; (4) to state or express indirectly; (5) to say that the person or thing is suitable, especially a person or thing that you know about from your own experience; (6) to say or show something in an direct way.

In Vietnamese, these verbs are called “*động từ khiến động*” by Diệp Quang Ban [45] for example: *nhờ, bảo, yêu cầu, bắt, cử, lệnh, ra lệnh, đề nghị, đòi hỏi*, etc. He states that [45, p. 504] “*Động từ mang ý nghĩa khiến động đòi hỏi “vật thể nhận lệnh” và “nội dung*

lệnh”, *vật thể nhận lệnh không hẳn là đích thể mà cũng không hẳn là động thể, thực ra nó là đích thể trong quan hệ với động từ khiến động và là động thể trong quan hệ với nội dung lệnh*” For examples: “*bảo em đọc sách*”, “*sai em lấy nước*”, “*buộc họ nhận lỗi*”, “*bắt họ thôi việc*” etc. According to Nguyễn Đức Dân [46], he arranges them into a group of performative verbs such as *yêu cầu, bảo, đề nghị, ra lệnh, hỏi*. Nguyễn Hữu Quỳnh [55] calls this group “*nhóm động từ gây khiến*” such as *khuyến, bảo, yêu cầu*, etc. That name is also named by Nguyễn Kim Thản [56], these verbs consist of *bảo, đề nghị*, etc.

Chapter 3 METHODS AND PROCEDURE

3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

The study is carried out through a qualitative approach which is used in describing and analyzing data to find out the distinctive features of SVs as well as the similarities and differences between ESVs and Vietnamese Suggestion Verbs (VSVs) in terms of the syntactic and semantic features.

3.2. RESEARCH METHODS

With the aim of achieving the set goal “to find out the syntactic and semantic features” and “to make a comparison between those aspects of ESVs and VSVs”, several methods will be employed here: - Descriptive method; - Contrastive method; - Analytic method; - Inductive methods.

3.3. RESEARCH PROCEDURES

In order to prepare the base for the research, I proceeded to carry out the tasks as follows:

- Collecting data of *ask, demand, order, propose, recommend, request, require and suggest* from English and Vietnamese magazines, short stories, some dictionaries and the Internet.

- Clarifying and choosing data of *ask, demand, order, propose, recommend, request, require and suggest*.

- Analyzing data of ESVs and VSVs in terms of the syntactic features and making a contrastive analysis to find out the similarities and differences between the syntactic features of ESVs and VSVs.

- Analyzing data of ESVs and VSVs in terms of the semantic features and making a contrastive analysis to find out the similarities and differences between the semantic features of ESVs and VSVs.

- Synthesizing the findings and drawing conclusions.

- Putting forward some implications for the teaching and learning English and giving some suggestions for further research.

3.4. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLE

In order to prepare data for research, I proceeded to collect data as follows.

Firstly, I determined 2 criteria to select the samples which contain both ESVs and VSVs in sentences as follows.

- The samples must have characteristics of verbs as mentioned in 2.2.1

- They include eight suggestion verbs like this: *ask, demand, order, propose, recommend, request, require* and *suggest*

Secondly, with such set criteria I also sorted out over 300 sentences which consist of 300 samples of ESVs and VSVs: 219 samples in magazines and 58 samples, 10 samples and 23 samples in short stories, dictionaries and the internet respectively.

Lastly, the distinctive features of ESVs and VSVs were found and analyzed.

3.5. DATA COLLECTION

For the English data source I selected randomly over 300 samples from three types of newspapers and 12 short stories

3.6. DATA ANALYSIS

With the collected data, we carry out the analysis of ESVs and VSVs in terms of the syntactic and semantic features. The analysis

results of the ESVs and VSVs will be compared and contrasted in order to find out the similarities and differences between them.

The analysis results of ESVs and VSVs are examined and compared in each category in an attempt to find out the similarities and differences between the two languages.

3.7. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

Chapter 4 FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1. SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF ESVs AND THEIR VIETNAMESE EQUIVALENTS

4.1.1. Structures with ASK and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

In the terms of syntactic features, ASK is a reported verb. When we report a *wh*-question and *yes-no* question we use a reporting clause followed by a clause beginning with a *wh*-word and either *if* or *whether*. In this structure, ASK brings a Vietnamese equivalent “*hỏi*”. ASK is described as belonging when it depends on the sub-group of transitive and intransitive. It may stand alone in *that*-clause and it also can combine with *to-infinitive* and a noun or noun phrase following it. When this verb goes with *to infinitive*, it renders into Vietnamese with meanings “*mời*”, “*yêu cầu*”, “*cử*”. A noun or noun phrase is attached to this verb, the meanings of their Vietnamese equivalents are “*yêu cầu*”, “*đề cử*”, “*kêu gọi*”, “*mời gọi*”. Moreover, ASK makes some combinations with prepositions such as *for, about, at*, etc. When there are some prepositions followed, their Vietnamese equivalents include “*yêu cầu*”, “*thắc mắc*”, “*liên hệ*”, “*đòi*”.

4.1.2. Structures with DEMAND and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Like the syntactic features of some verbs, DEMAND is followed by a *that*- clause either with putative “*should*” or with the subjunctive mood and the third possibility, a *that*- clause with an

indicative verb. In addition, it combines with the infinitive or *to*-infinitive in English. Moreover, after DEMAND, a noun or noun phrase can be used. As can be seen in their Vietnamese equivalents, the only meaning “*yêu cầu*” is taken for all of above structures.

4.1.3. Structures with ORDER and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

ORDER is one of the reported verbs, which may also be followed by a clause, introduced by *that*. After *that*- clause, a putative “should”, a subjunctive and an indicative verb can be required. These structures, when translated into Vietnamese, often take the meaning of “*lệnh*”. Moreover, ORDER is followed by *to*-infinitive with or without a preceding noun, the Vietnamese equivalent is “*được lệnh*”. Furthermore, after ORDER, some modifiers are used such as nouns, noun phrases and particles such as the preposition *to*, *into*, etc. The Vietnamese equivalents are “*ra lệnh...đến...*”, “*ra lệnh cho...cho...*”

4.1.4. Structures with PROPOSE and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

In the book “*A Comprehensive Grammar of English Language*”, Quirk R. et al.[33] mentions some suasive verbs. PROPOSE is included in these verbs. It is also a kind of reported verbs. Likely, after PROPOSE, *that*- clause is usually used. With this structure, we can see its Vietnamese equivalents “*cho rằng*”, “*đề nghị rằng*” “*đề nghị*”. Moreover, the gerund and the infinitive follow these verbs to express the Vietnamese meaning “*đề nghị*”. Besides, nouns or noun phrases are possible in English and Vietnamese. The Vietnamese equivalents are “*câu hôn*”, “*đề nghị*”, “*đề xuất*”.

4.1.5. Structures with RECOMMEND and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

RECOMMEND is a transitive verb. It requires an at least object. Syntactically, RECOMMEND combines with *that*-clause in English. In their Vietnamese equivalents, “*khuyến*” is often used for that structure. Moreover, a gerund is put after RECOMMEND and it has the meaning of “*đề nghị*” in its Vietnamese equivalent. We can see that a pronoun or a noun or a noun phrase is between RECOMMEND and *to*-infinitive. This structure is known with the meaning as “*khuyến*” in Vietnamese. Besides, this verb is also enclosed with a noun or a noun phrase in the English structure with the meaning “*mời*” in the Vietnamese one.

4.1.6. Structures with REQUEST and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

REQUEST is used as a reported verb. It may also be followed by a *that* -clause. REQUEST often combines with *to*-infinitive to express an action in the English language. The Vietnamese equivalent verbs are “*yêu cầu*”, “*đề nghị*”.

4.1.7. Structures with REQUIRE and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

With REQUIRE, its syntactic feature is rather complex. REQUIRE is a transitive verb. A clause introduced by *that* follows this verb. It is rendered into Vietnamese as “*yêu cầu*”. REQUIRE is linked with a noun or a noun phrase in English and often it is translated into Vietnamese “*đòi hỏi*”, “*cần*”. *To- Infinitive* is ordered after this verb with the only meaning “*yêu cầu*” in its Vietnamese equivalent. A noun or a noun phrase is between REQUIRE and *to*-infinitive. Sometimes, the Vietnamese equivalents “*yêu cầu*”, “*cần*” are used. However, when a noun or noun phrase is put between REQUIRE and a gerund, the Vietnamese equivalent is “*đòi hỏi*” in their Vietnamese equivalents.

Table 4.36. Syntactic Features in ESVs and VSVs

Types of Structures	ESVs		VSVs	
	Occurrence	Rate	Occurrence	Rate
1. SVs + <i>that</i> -clause	7	20.0%	7	16.7%
2. SVs + to Inf	4	11.4%	6	14.3%
3. SVs + N/ NP/ Pro + to Inf	6	17.0%	7	16.7%
4. SVs + Prep + N/ NP	1	2.9%	1	2.4%
5. SVs + N/ NP + Prep	2	5.7%	2	4.7%
6. SVs + <i>Wh</i> -clause/ <i>If</i> - clause	1	2.9%	0	0%
7. SVs+ N/ NP + Inf	1	3.9%	5	11.9%
8. SVs + N/ NP	7	20.0%	4	9.5%
9. SVs + Ving	3	8.5%	4	9.5%
10. SVs + N/ NP + Ving	1	2.9%	6	14.3%
11. SVs + I.O. + Ving	1	2.9%	0	0%
12. SVs + Prep + I.O. <i>that</i> -clause	1	2.9%	0	0%
Total	35	100%	42	100%

4.2. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF ESVs AND THEIR VIETNAMESE EQUIVALENTS

4.2.1. DEMAND, ORDER & REQUIRE and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Table 4.38. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of DEMAND and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalents
DEMAND	-To ask authoritatively or brusquely	<i>Hỏi</i>
	- To insist on having	<i>Yêu cầu</i>
	- To require , need	<i>Yêu cầu</i>
	- To ask for something in the way that shows you expect to get it	<i>Đòi hỏi, yêu cầu, để cù</i>

Table 4.39. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of REQUIRE and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalents
REQUIRE	-To need for a particular purpose; depend on for success or survival	<i>Yêu cầu, đòi hỏi</i>
	- To cause to be necessary	<i>Yêu cầu, đòi hỏi</i>
	- To specify as compulsory	<i>Yêu cầu</i>
	- (of someone in authority)To instruct or expect someone to do something	<i>Yêu cầu</i>
	- To wish to have	<i>Cần, nhằm giúp</i>
	- To demand or order something	<i>Yêu cầu, đòi hỏi</i>

Table 4.40. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of ORDER and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalents
ORDER	- To give an authoritative direction or instruction to do something	<i>Ra lệnh, lệnh</i>
	- To command (something) to be done or (someone) to be treated in a particular way	<i>Ra lệnh, lệnh</i>
	- To request something to be made, supplied or served	<i>Đặt, gọi, đặt hàng.</i>
	- To arrange something in a methodical or appropriate way.	<i>Sắp đặt, để xuất</i>
	- To tell someone to do something in a strong way which does not permit him/her to refuse, and without saying 'please'	<i>Ra lệnh</i>

Table 4.41. A Summary of the Comparison of the Meaning Nuances of DEMAND, ORDER & REQUIRE

Meaning Nuances Verbs	Differences	Similarities
DEMAND	- To insist on doing something, demand the hearer to do while expressing a strong will	- Ask the hearer to do something just because it is the speaker's wishes. - The speaker's authority over the addressee
REQUIRE	- To give an order as compulsory	
ORDER	- To give an authority over the hearer, express the highest power	

4.2.2. ASK & REQUEST and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Table 4.42. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of ASK and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalents
ASK	- To say something in order to obtain an answer or some information	<i>Hỏi</i>
	- To request (someone) to do or give something	<i>Yêu cầu, kể</i>
	- To request permission to do something	<i>Hỏi</i>
	- To request to speak to	<i>Nhắc</i>
	- To request a specific amount as a price for selling something	<i>Yêu cầu</i>
	- To invite someone to (one's home or a function)	<i>Xin, mời</i>

Table 4.43. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of REQUEST and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalents
REQUEST	- politely or formally ask for	<i>Yêu cầu, xin</i>
	- politely ask someone to do something	<i>Yêu cầu, đề nghị</i>

Table 4.44. A Summary of the Comparison of the Meaning Nuances of ASK & REQUEST

Meaning Nuances Verbs	Differences	Similarities
ASK	- To ask the hearer to perform the action or answer his or her question.	- To require for anything for the sake of himself, for the hearer's sake. - To do for the sake of somebody other than interlocutors.
REQUEST	- To ask someone to do something politely, say "please".	

4.2.3. PROPOSE, SUGGEST & RECOMMEND and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Table 4.45. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of PROPOSE and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalents
PROPOSE	- To put forward (an idea or plan) for consideration or discussion by others.	<i>Đề nghị, đề xuất</i>
	- To nominate (someone) for an elected office or as a member of a society.	<i>Đề nghị</i>
	- To make an offer or marriage to someone	<i>Câu hôn</i>

Table 4.46. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of SUGGEST and Their Vietnamese Equivalent

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalent
SUGGEST	- To propose a plan or idea for someone to discuss or consider	<i>Đề xuất, yêu cầu, đề nghị</i>
	- To put forward for consideration	<i>Cho biết, khiến</i>
	- To cause one to think that (something) exists or in the case	<i>Khiến</i>
	- To state or express indirectly	<i>Khuyến</i>
	-To say that the person or thing is suitable, especially a person or thing that you know about from your own experience.	<i>Cho rằng, đề xuất</i>
	- To say or show something in an direct way	<i>Cho thấy, đưa ra</i>

Table 4.47. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of RECOMMEND and Their Vietnamese Equivalent

Verb	English Meaning Nuances	Vietnamese Equivalent
RECOMMEND	- To put forward (someone) or (something) with approval as being suitable for a particular purpose a role	<i>Mời, giới thiệu</i>
	- To advise or suggest something as a course of action:	<i>Khuyến</i>
	- To advise someone to do something	<i>Khuyến</i>
	- To command or entrust someone or something to (someone)	<i>Thể hiện, giới thiệu</i>

Table 4.48. A Summary of the Comparison of the Meaning Nuances of PROPOSE, SUGGEST & RECOMMEND

Meaning Nuances	Differences	Similarities
Propose	- To give an idea or a plan, a proposal can be accepted or rejected	- Proposed by an older, wiser person to an inferior one
Suggest	- To suggest something is to bring it to the mind of the hearer without necessarily explicitly affirming it and without a strong commitment to its truth.	- Do not deal much with speaker's authority or experience - People of any status can have good ideas to suggest
Recommend	- To advise while presupposing that the future action recommended is good in general	- More relate to the moral or emotional aspects

Table 4.49. The Semantic Specification of the Groups of SVs

Functions of the Groups of Suggestion Verbs	Typical Members of the Group	Semantic Specification
Requirements	demand, order, require	-Requirements that ask the hearer to do something just because it is the speaker's wishes. The most considerable element that brings about the force of requirements is the speaker's authority over the addressee
Requestives	ask, request	-Requestives that can require anything for the sake of himself, for the hearer's sake or for the sake of somebody other than the interlocutors.

Advisories	suggest, propose, recommend	-Advice is often proposed by an order, wiser person to an inferior one. Advisories more relate to the moral and emotional aspects because the speaker seems not to profit much or get no benefit from the hearer's act.
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Table 4.50. Powerful Degree of Meaning Nuances of SVs

Verbs	Powerful Degree of Meaning Nuances
1. Order	- To give an authority over the hearer, express the highest power
2. Require	- To give an order as compulsory
3. Demand	- To insist on doing something, demand the hearer to do while expressing a strong will
4. Propose	- To give an idea or a plan, a proposal can be accepted or rejected.
5. Suggest	- To suggest something is to bring it to the mind of the hearer without necessarily explicitly affirming it and without a strong commitment to its truth
6. Recommend	- To advise while presupposing that the future action recommended is good in general
7. Request	- To ask someone to do something politely, say "please"
8. Ask	- To ask the hearer to perform the action or answer his or her question.

Table 4.51. A Summary of ESVs and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

ESVs	VSVs
ASK	<i>Yêu cầu, xin, kêu gọi, mời, mời gọi, cử, hỏi, báo, đòi hỏi, liên hệ, kể, đòi, nhắc.</i>
DEMAND	<i>Yêu cầu, hỏi, đòi hỏi, đề cử.</i>

ORDER	<i>Ra lệnh, yêu cầu, lệnh, áp dụng, áp đặt, dùng, đặt, cung cấp, đặt hàng, sắp đặt, gọi, đề xuất.</i>
PROPOSE	<i>Đề nghị, đề xuất, dự trù, cầu hôn, yêu cầu.</i>
RECOMMEND	<i>Khuyến, mời, giới thiệu, thể hiện.</i>
REQUEST	<i>Đề nghị, yêu cầu, xin.</i>
REQUIRE	<i>Đòi hỏi, yêu cầu, cần, nhằm giúp</i>
SUGGEST	<i>Cho (rằng), đề xuất, cho biết, khiến, cho thấy, yêu cầu, đề ra, đưa ra, đề nghị, gợi ý (rằng), gợi, dành.</i>

4. 3. SUMMARY

To sum up, most of the syntactic features of SVs are analyzed basing on the theoretical background by Quirk et.al [33] such as the construction of the verbs, verb phrases. The semantic characteristics are shown like the meaning nuances and the powerful degree of meanings of SVs. Some similarities and differences of ESVs and VSVs in syntax are carried out in this chapter. There are some comparisons between SVs in each group as *requirements*, *requestives* and *advisories*. In fact, the complication and the diversity of the structures and the meaning nuances of SVs are clear.

Table 4.52. A Summary of Structures of ESVs and Their Vietnamese Equivalents

Verbs	Occurrence	Rate
ASK	5	14.7%
DEMAND	4	11.8%
ORDER	5	14.7%
PROPOSE	4	11.8%
RECOMMEND	4	11.8%
REQUEST	3	8.7%
REQUIRE	4	11.8%
SUGGEST	5	14.7%
Total	34	100%

Table 4.53. A Summary of the Meaning Nuances of SVs

Common Meaning Nuances				Private Meaning Nuances	
Group of Meaning Nuances	Verbs	Occurrence	Rate	Occurrence	Rate
Requirements	DEMAND	3	37.5%	4	11.1%
	ORDER			5	13.9%
	REQUIRE			6	16.7%
Requestives	ASK	2	25.0%	6	16.7%
	REQUEST			2	5.5%
Advisories	PROPOSE	3	37.5%	3	8.3%
	SUGGEST			6	16.7%
	RECOMMEND			4	11.1%
Total		8	100%	36	100%

Chapter 5 CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSIONS

SVs are one of diversified verb types. They have a lot of structures and the meaning nuances. Moreover, the meaning nuances of SVs have similarities. It is not simple to distinguish between them. With this aim, I have set up major goal for the thesis, for instance, to investigate the syntactic and semantic features of ESVs and VSVs and find out the similarities and differences between ESVs and VSVs.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

In a sense, this study provides some further implications for teaching English suggestion verbs for Vietnamese learners.

With the purpose of helping learners of English to save a profound knowledge and to use English in general and SVs in

particular perfectly, the teachers should engrave theoretical backgrounds of structures and the meaning nuances of SVs on learners' mind and use them proficiently when producing words.

5.3. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Due to the limitation of time and the data collected, it is difficult for us to carry out perfectly although we have tried my best to avoid mistakes and limit shortcomings.

Firstly, syntax and semantics are analyzed for eight SVs but not at all SVs in this paper.

Secondly, the comparison between English and Vietnamese is rather complex.

Lastly, the researcher's knowledge makes it impossible to provide sufficiently and focus on suggestion verbs intensively.

5.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

In this paper, we have only focused on eight SVs in syntactic and semantic features and it can be seen that we have taken English to be the target language and Vietnamese the source language. Therefore, the following aspects referring to SVs further studies:

- A Study of Pragmatic Features of Suggestion Verbs in English and Their Vietnamese Equivalents
- An investigation into Cross-Cultural Features of Suggestion Verbs in English and Vietnamese