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**MOOD ADJUNCTS EXPRESSING THE DEGREE OF
INTENSITY IN SPORTS COMMENTARIES IN
ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE IN THE PERSPECTIVES
OF SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR**

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Chapter One

INTRODUCTION

1.1. RATIONALE

It is said that a healthy nation is always a wealthy nation; therefore, it is necessary to put emphasis on sports. One can think of a healthy mind only in a healthy body. Both physical and mental being well are the prerequisites of great achievements in man's life. As a result, sports play an important role in the development of each country all over the world. That is the reason why there is an increasingly number of national and international competitions taking place every year. Thus, the role of the commentators is very important. They have to provide commentaries about the game and to entertain at the same time. They have to deal with the unfolding events on the pitch linguistically without hesitation. The nature of their job and the unusual linguistic setting is what makes their speech so specific and to bring interesting matches to audiences.

Like whatever, sports also have its spirit and rhythm. It is the commentaries made by commentators that not only contribute to make matches become more vivid, but also help people follow the match conveniently. There is no doubt that it is so difficult for the commentators to produce such an attractive commentary, especially, to employ precise language so as to interpret and evaluate exactly the spirit of the running matches. I wonder in what way the commentators can transform different situations and attract his audiences' attention into what is happening effectively? What kind of language he use? These questions actually capture my attention.

Besides quick observation skill, comprehension about sport and an emotive voice, it is essential for commentators to know how to use of language so that they can analyze unexpected situations, express the scale of different kinds of feelings most impressively and direct people up to the competition. As a result, the introduction of Appraisal theory is necessary to meet this demand.

Appraisal theory is an emerging aspect in linguistic research, which has attracted many linguists over the world in recent years. Appraisal theory concerns with the interpersonal meaning in language, with subjective presence of writer / speakers in texts as they adopt stances toward both the material they present and those with whom they communicate (Martin & White, 2005). The Appraisal framework has a ramified structure allowing it to recognize even slight expressions of attitude. Three main categories of the framework are Attitude which is concerned with our feelings, including emotional reactions, judgments of behavior and evaluation of things (Martin & White, 2005), Engagement which is directed towards identifying the particular dialogic positioning associated with given meanings and towards describing what is at stake when one meaning rather than another is employed (Martin & White, 2005), and Graduation which deals with grading phenomena whereby feelings are amplified and categories blurred (Martin & White, 2005).

Each category has its subcategories which are responsible for various evaluative functions. In particular, Force is one of the two subsystems of Graduation which covers assessments as to degree of intensity and as to amount. In the sport commentaries, the degree of intensity can be realized via quality and process. It is undeniable that

so far there has been several studies conducted involving in the language of evaluation; however, the number of deep researches in terms of intensification in sport commentaries carried out is not so many.

For all reasons mentioned above, I decided to do the research entitled **“Mood Adjuncts Expressing the degree of Intensity in Sport Commentaries in English vs. Vietnamese in the Perspectives of Systemic Functional Grammar”**. I hope this paper is expected to help Vietnamese learners of English achieve better comprehension in the degree of intensity expressed in sport commentaries in English and Vietnamese as well as to benefit to those who are interesting in this topic with a good resource of reference.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.2.1. Aims

The study aims at investigating Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity in sport commentaries based mainly on the theory of Appraisal and Functional Grammar. The study also focuses on finding the differences and similarities of Mood Adjuncts expressing intensification in terms of semantic and syntactic features between English and Vietnamese. The findings of this study contribute to the better comprehension in evaluative language used in entertainment context.

1.2.2. Objectives

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

- To identify and describe types of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity in sport commentaries in terms of semantic and syntactic features in Vietnamese and English;
- Find out the similarities and differences in using Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity in English and Vietnamese sport commentaries in terms of semantic and syntactic features in Vietnamese and English;

1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study primarily focuses on the analysis of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity in the sport commentaries. Particularly, the study investigates the language in terms of syntactic and semantic features in the perspective of Functional Grammar and Appraisal framework respectively. The description of the syntax of Mood Adjuncts is made in reference to the functional framework in terms of clause as exchange along with their syntactic realizations. The examination of the semantics of Mood Adjuncts is done with a look into the semantic categories based on Appraisal framework. Repetition and Infusion - two of modes of intensification- is not investigated.

In spite of a lot of stylistic devices used in sport commentaries, it will not be mentioned here.

1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

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

1. What are the syntactic features of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of Intensity in sport commentaries in the view of Functional Grammar?
2. What are the semantic features of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of Intensity in sport commentaries in the view of Appraisal theory?
3. What are the similarities and differences of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of Intensity in sport commentaries in terms of syntactic and semantic features between English and Vietnamese?

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The findings of the study is expected to help the Vietnamese and English learners, language users, especially commentators understand the language expressing the degree of intensity within different situations used in sport commentaries so that they can have an interesting commentary on a running match. Learners and readers of English can acquire the semantic values of graduation as well as the linguistic realizations, and then they can apply it in social life. This study is also a beneficial reference for further researches.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

This study consists of 5 main chapters as follows:

- Chapter 1: “*Introduction*”
- Chapter 2: “*Literature review*”.
- Chapter 3: “*Methods and Procedures*”
- Chapter 4: “*Findings and Discussion*”
- Chapter 5: “*Conclusion and Implications*”

Chapter Two

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. LITERATURE REVIEW

Rothery & Stenglin (2000) discussed the role of Appraisal in interpreting literature. “On possible factors in the aesthetic appreciation of metaphors” by Csatár, Pethó, and Tóth (2006) revealed that aesthetic judgments concerning metaphors are mECsurable to some extent.

Veissier, Boissy, Désiré and Greiveldinger (2009) borrowed appraisal theories developed in cognitive psychology to study sheep emotions. Emotions are viewed as the result of how an individual evaluates a triggering situation, following a sequence of checks, including the relevance of the situation (its suddenness, familiarity, predictability, and intrinsic pleasantness), its implications for the individual (including consistency with the individual's expectations), the potential for control, and both internal and external standards. They assumed that if the outcome of checks has an impact on the animal's emotional responses, then animals do not only show emotional responses but also feel emotions. This study showed that sheep use similar checks to those used by humans to evaluate their environment, for example suddenness, familiarity, predictability, consistency with expectations, and control. Furthermore, the evaluation affects their emotional responses (behavioural responses,

such as startle, ear postures, and cardiac activity). It is concluded that sheep are able to experience emotions such as fear, anger, rage, despair, boredom, disgust and happiness because they use the same checks involved in such emotions as humans. For instance, despair is triggered by situations which are evaluated as sudden, unfamiliar, unpredictable, discrepant from expectations, and uncontrollable, whereas boredom results from an overly predictable environment, and all these checks have been found to affect emotional responses in sheep.

Karen & Philippe (2014) applied Appraisal Theory to determine the intensity and duration which are two central characteristics of an emotional response. The goal of the present study is to explain a systematic empirical study comparing predictors of emotion intensity and duration. Participants were asked to recall recently experienced episodes of anger, fear, disgust, guilt, sadness, and shame. Subsequently, they were asked to answer a number of questions regarding (a) the intensity and duration of these emotions, (b) their appraisal of the emotion-eliciting event, and (c) their use of a wide range of regulation strategies. Emotion intensity was found to be mainly predicted by appraisals whereas emotion duration was equally well predicted by appraisals and regulation strategies.

Many Vietnamese researchers also have concerns with the Appraisal theory. For example,

Hò Lòng Ngọc (2006) disclaimed markers in English and Vietnamese in view of Appraisal. The study investigated a wide

range of linguistic devices to mark the speakers / writers' disclaim with different structures of verbs, adverbs, adjectives and nouns in the two languages.

Together with studies based on Appraisal Theory, Lê Thị Hà (2014) used the Appraisal framework developed by Martin & White (2005) to analyze evaluative language used in English and Vietnamese love letters. Her overall purpose was to find out the similarities and differences between the two languages in the use of patterns of Appraisal to express love feelings. The findings obtained from the data analysis of 60 love letters show that Affect, a sub-type of Attitude, was the most prominent in both English love letters and Vietnamese love letters. The thesis provided readers with useful knowledge of using sub-systems of Appraisal in translating and writing letters in general and love letters in particularly.

Trần Hữu Thuân (2013) conducted a study on the syntactic and semantic features of Appreciation in football commentaries in English and Vietnamese. Based on the Appraisal Theory, the author provided Vietnamese learners with pragmatic knowledge and the use of appreciation effectively in communication and translation. In addition, the study brought practical benefits for those who wanted to use appreciation in English and Vietnamese as far as the appreciation in football commentaries was concerned.

Cái Kim Nhung (2016) carried out Graduation used in advertising of cosmetics in English and Vietnamese in form of the

syntactic features of phrases, in semantic view of Appraisal Theory as well as in pragmatic view of Speech Acts. The study is both quantitative and qualitative. The thesis focused on analysing and contrasting Graduation used in advertising of cosmetic in English and Vietnamese. This study revealed that Graduation used in advertising of cosmetics were syntactically found in form of noun phrases, verb phrases, adjective phrases as well as adverb phrases. Semantically, Graduation was used in advertising of cosmetics in English and Vietnamese as modes of force and of focus. Additionally, Graduation was pragmatically found in boosting illocutionary force of representative and of directive in advertising of cosmetics in English and Vietnamese. The study also pointed out the similarities and differences between Graduation used in advertising of cosmetics in English and Vietnamese in terms of syntactic and semantic features.

In short to this section, there have been several aspects of Appraisal researched in many studies above. However, the degree of intensity in sport commentaries is not still explored. This study is conducted with the expectation that it will help Vietnamese learners of English better understand the use of Intensification in commentary.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Appraisal Theory

2.2.2. Intensification and Modes of Intensification

2.2.3. An Overview of Functional Grammar

- *Ideational metafunction*
- *Interpersonal metafunction*
- *Textual metafunction*

2.2.3.1. *The Mood Element*

2.2.3.2. *Adjunct*

2.2.3.1. *Mood Adjuncts*

Chapter Three

RESEARCH METHODS AND METHODOLOGY

3.1. METHODOLOGY

This study makes use of quantitative and qualitative research design employing descriptive and comparative method.

Quantitative method is aimed to classify types of intensification and count the number of commentaries in each type to determine which kind of intensification is popular in English and Vietnamese commentaries

It is qualitative because it explores linguistic information such as linguistic features in terms of syntactic and semantic categories/subcategories from the qualitative data. Particularly, the Functional grammar and Appraisal framework is used to analyze language of the degree of intensity. Then, comparative method

applied is to look for the differences and similarities of language expressing the degree of intensity in English and Vietnamese sport commentaries.

3.2. SAMPLING OF THE STUDY

The degree of intensity is expressed by Mood Adjuncts which are recognized in the form of Adverbs.

The sampling of the study is done in terms of football with 150 English and 150 Vietnamese commentaries in 2017.

3.3. DATA COLLECTION

3.3.1. Instruments of Data Collection

After being collected and examined, instances of Mood Adjuncts will be analyzed in terms of grammatical realizations and semantic features. Afterwards, there will be a contrastive analysis to find out the similarities and differences in English and Vietnamese sport commentaries.

3.3.2. Procedures of Data Collection

The steps for collecting data included:

- To collect data of expressing the degree of intensity in English and Vietnamese sport commentaries in Internet, newspapers, magazines and so on.
- To describe the syntactic features of Mood Adjuncts based on Functional Grammar System.
- To identify the semantic features of intensification in both English and Vietnamese sport commentaries.

- To discover similarities and differences in the use of Mood Adjuncts to express the degree of intensity in both English and Vietnamese sport commentaries.

The sport commentaries are randomly collected from the following newspapers, magazines and websites:

3.3.3. Data analysis

Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity in sport commentaries are analyzed in terms of these following aspects:

- Semantic features of intensification in the view of Appraisal Theory.
- Grammatical realizations of mood adjuncts in the view of Functional Grammar.

3.4. VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

Chapter Four FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter aims to present the findings and discussion of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity used in sport commentaries in English and Vietnamese in terms of syntactic and semantic features.

4.1. SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF MOOD ADJUNCTS EXPRESSING THE DEGREE OF INTENSITY USED IN SPORT COMMENTARIES IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE IN THE VIEW OF FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR

Table 4.1. The Frequency Rates of Adverbs Expressing the degree of Intensity Used in sport commentaries in English (ECs) and in Vietnamese (VCs)

Mood Adjuncts expressing the Degree of Intensity		ECs		VCs	
		Occurrence	Rate	Occurrence	Rate
Pre- modifier	Noun	12	8%	31	22%
	Adjective	43	29%	72	48%
	Adverb	5	3%	0	0%
	Verbal group	90	60%	47	30%
Total		150	100%	150	100 %

4.1.1 Mood Adjuncts of Intensity used as pre-modification of an Adjective

Burnley	are	extremely	deep	at the moment as they... moments.
Subject	Predication	pre-mod Adjunct	Complement	Adjunct
Noun	Copula	Mood Adjunct	Adjective	Prep phrase
MOOD		RESIDUE		

Figure 4.1: Thematic Structure of Mood Adjunct of Intensity used as pre-modification of an Adjective in English Commentaries

Pha va bóng	vô cùng	nguy hiểm	của tiền vệ mang áo số 8 bên phía Thái Lan.
Subject	pre-mod	Complement	Adjunct

	Adjunct		
Noun	Mood Adjunct	Adjective	Prep phrase
MOOD	RESIDUE		

Figure 4.2: Thematic Structure of Mood Adjunct of Intensity used as pre-modification of an Adjective in Vietnamese Commentaries

4.1.2. Mood Adjuncts of Intensity used as pre-modification of an Adverb

The Portuguese	Is	quite	clearly	frustrated	as his, ... San Mames
Sub	Predicator	pre-mod Adjunct	Adjunct	Comp	Adjunct
N	Copula	Mood Adjunct	Manner Adverb	Adjective	Adverb phrase
MOOD	RESIDUE				

Figure 4.3: Structure of Mood Adjunct of Intensity used as pre-modification of an Adverb in English Commentaries

4.1.3. Mood Adjuncts of Intensity used as pre-modification of a Noun

City	Had		a little	scare	earlier in the half but have otherwise been in control
Sub	Finite	Pred	Pre-mod Adv	Comp	Adjunct
Noun	V		Mod Adj	Noun	Adverb phrase
MOOD		RESIDUE			

Figure 4.4: Structure of Mood Adjunct of Intensity **little** used as pre-modification of a Noun in English Commentaries

Chính	thủ quân Lionel Messi	mới	là	người chỉ đạo đồng đội thi đấu.
Pre-mod Adverb	Subject	Adjunct	Finite/Pred	Comp
Mood Adjunct	Noun	Adverb	Verb	NP
MOOD		RESIDUE		

Figure 4.7: Structure of Mood Adjunct of Intensity **Chính** used as pre-modification of a Noun in Vietnamese Commentaries

4.1.4. Mood Adjuncts of Intensity used as modifier to verbal group

The cross into the middle	Almost	finds		the towering Gestede	although the striker ... unscathed
Subject	Modifier	finite	Predicator	Complement	Adjunct
Noun	Mood Adjunct	Verb		Noun	Adverbial Clause
MOOD		RESIDUE			

*Figure 4.11: Structure of Mood Adjunct of Intensity **almost** used as modification of a Verbal Group in English Commentaries*

Trong các trận đấu trước, đội tuyển Việt Nam	chỉ	chơi		bóng kiểm soát và áp đặt lối chơi	lên phần sân của đội phuong.
Adv	Subject	Modifier	finite	Pred	Complement
Adverb phrase	Noun	Mood Adjunct	Verb		Noun
MOOD		RESIDUE			

4.1.5. Summary

4.2 SEMANTIC FEATURES OF MOOD ADJUNCTS EXPRESSING THE DEGREE OF INTENSITY USED IN SPORT COMMENTARIES IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE APPRAISAL THEORY

4.2.1. Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity Used in Sport commentaries as Force

4.2.1.1. Mood Adjuncts Up/ Down Scaling of qualities

4.2.1.2. Mood Adjuncts Up/ Down Scaling of verbal processes

Table 4.2.: Summary of Mood Adjuncts as Isolated Intensification used in English Sport commentaries

Category of Evaluation	Linguistic realization	Example	Raw Number	%
QUALITY	completely	Leicester are completely rampant	2	1.3
	really	it is really poor defending from ...	8	5.3
	fully	They are fully deserving of their ..	2	1.3
	extremely	Burnley are extremely deep	3	2
	absolutely	Klopp was absolutely furious.	7	4.6
	entirely	Lloris is not entirely convincing	2	1.3
	relatively	.. which is relatively rare in ...	1	0.6
	hardly	Bayern are hardly going to be	1	0.6

	very	Verygood defending from Hummels	2	1.3
	actually	The ... Moreno has actually	1	0.6
	A little	A little worrying for the hosts..	3	2
	rather	it was rather too close to Ryan	2	1.3
	even	it was even more suited	1	0.6
	almost	I am almost lost for words here	7	4.6
	just	Just incredible scenes here.	3	2
	pretty	The angle is pretty tight	7	4.6
	slightly	Benitez slightly hamstrung	3	2
	fairly	Ramos have been fairly low	1	0.6
	A bit	A bit better from Everton	1	0.6
	quite	That wasn't quite route	3	2
PROCESS	really	Barcelona are really missing Iniesta	13	8.6
	only	This only goes down as a half	14	9.3
	almost	The changes almost worked against	15	10

	just	the Blues just squandered those two	14	9.3
	even	They have not even looked like	1	0.6
	quite	it hasn't quite lived up	13	8.6
	completely	Barcelona have completely lost	6	4
	relatively	Ederson may be relatively unknown	1	0.6
	hardly	The frontman has hardly had a sniff	2	1.3
	perfectly	The striker stalls perfectly in	2	1.3
	simply	Burnley are simply keeping	2	1.3
	totally	Okaka is left totally unmarked	1	0.6
	Very little	Very little seems to be happening	1	0.6
	fully	...and you fully expect Spurs	1	0.6
	nearly	That nearly proved the case again	3	2
	actually	Everton have actually looked the	1	0.6

Table 4.3:Summary of Mood Adjuncts as Isolated Intensification used in Sport commentaries in Vietnamese
Sport commentaries

Category of Evaluation	Linguistic realization	Example	Raw Number	%
QUALITY	hở	cú treo bóng của C.Phượng hở sâu	9	6
	rất	Một pha phòng ngự rất tốt	48	32
	khá	Tình huống mất bóng khá đáng tiếc	19	12.6
	quá	những đường chuyền quá vội	11	7.3
	thật sự	Thật sự rất khó để thực hiện những	10	6.6
	vô cùng	Pha va bóng vô cùng nguy hiểm	2	1.3
	cực kỳ	một cầu thủ cực kỳ quan trọng	3	2
	tương đối	Một lối chơi tương đối cầu toàn	1	0.6
PROCESS	chỉ	tuyển VN chỉ chơi bóng kiểm soát	20	13.3
	rất	Thái Lan đang rất muốn chiến thắng	6	4

	thật	Như.. thật khó hiểu cho C. Phượng	2	1.3
	rất ít khi	hậu vệ..... rất ít khi lên tham gia	2	1.3
	hoàn toàn	các cầu thủ của VN hoàn toàn có..	7	4.6
	gần như	Các cầu thủ VN gần như .. đuôi kịp	4	2.6
	thực sự	M.LONG gần như chưa thực sự phải	2	1.3
	hơi	Lê Văn Nam vừa rồi đã hơi chủ quan	4	2.6

Table 4.5: Frequency of Mood Adjuncts as Isolated Intensification used in Sport commentaries in English and Vietnamese Sport commentaries

	Isolated Intensification in English		Isolated Intensification in Vietnamese	
	Raw number	%	Raw Number	%
QUALITY	60	40	103	70
PROCESS	90	60	47	30

4.2.2. Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity used in Sport commentaries in terms of Affect, Judgment, Appreciation and Engagement

4.2.2.1. Intensification as modification of Judgement

4.2.2.2. Intensification as modification of Affect

4.2.2.3. Intensification as modification of Appreciation

4.2.2.4. Intensification as modification of Engagement

Table 4.6: Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity
used in Sport commentaries in terms of Affect, Judgment,
Appreciation and Engagement

Category	Sub-category	English		Vietnamese	
		Raw numbe r	Rat e (%)	Raw numbe r	Rat e (%)
JUDGEMENT	Normality	14	9.3	6	4
	Capacity	18	12	23	15.3
	Tenacity	6	4	18	12
AFFECT	Un/happiness	7	4.6	0	0
	In/security	16	10.6	0	0
	Dis/satisfactio n	19	12.6	3	2
APPRECIATIO N	Reaction	8	5.3	20	13.3
	Composition	18	12	47	31.3
	Valuation	37	24.6	33	22

ENGAGEMENT	Entertain	7	4.6	0	0
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4.3. SOME REMARKS ON THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF MOOD ADJUNCT OF INTENSITY USED IN VIETNAMESE AND ENGLISH SPORT COMMENTARIES

4.3.1. The similarities and differences of Mood Adjuncts of Intensity used in sport commentaries in terms of syntactic features between English and Vietnamese

4.3.1.1. Similarities

Syntactically, it is apparent from the data analysis supplied that Mood Adjuncts of intensity used in sport commentaries in English and Vietnamese was found in forms of pre-modifier of a noun, of an adjective and in the form of modifier of verbal group. Regarding forms of pre-modifier of a noun and a adjective, Mood Adjuncts of intensity in English and Vietnamese share the same structures and position of structural elements. In terms of pre-modifier of an adverb, Mood Adjuncts of intensity in English and Vietnamese have the lowest rate in total, 3% in English and 0% in Vietnamese. This proves that using Mood Adjuncts of intensity as the pre-modification of an adverb is not popular in English and even there was no case used in Vietnamese. It can be concluded that English commentators have the tendency of using Mood Adjuncts as modifier of verbal group as the main tool to boost or soften the intensity of situations

4.3.1.2. Differences

The first different point is that in English, Mood Adjuncts of intensity used as modifier of verbal group is the most widely used, at the highest rate 60% in comparison with other forms. In contrast, Mood Adjuncts of intensity used as pre-modifier of the adjective is the most popular, reaching 48% compared with the rest forms in Vietnamese. Secondly, in terms of modifier of verbal group, position of Mood Adjuncts of intensity always is in front of the verb in Vietnamese commentaries, however, Mood Adjuncts of intensity in English commentaries was found in front of the verb and in the verb phrases as well. It can be concluded that English commentators have the tendency of using Mood Adjuncts as modifier of verbal group as the main tool to boost or soften the intensity of situations in a match. Nevertheless, Vietnamese commentators use Mood Adjuncts of intensity as pre-modifier of an adjective to do that.

4.3.2. Similarities and differences of Mood Adjuncts of intensity used in sport commentaries in English and Vietnamese in terms of semantics

4.3.2.1. Similarities

Based on the data analysis, both in English and Vietnamese commentaries, there were Mood Adjuncts of intensity evaluating nature, behavior or process in dimensions of Appraisal Theory like

Judgement, Affect, Appreciation and Engagement, and in sub-dimensions as well.

Mood Adjuncts as Isolated Intensification were found both in Sport commentaries in English and Vietnamese Sport commentaries

Both in English and Vietnamese commentaries, it reaches the highest frequency in total in each one,

4.3.2.2. Differences

Quanlitatively, in English commentaries, there were more sub-categories expressing the degree of intensity than that in Vietnamese commentaries.

Quantitatively, in terms of Appreciation, in Vietnamese, the number of Mood Adjuncts as modification of Appreciation is higher than that in English (66.6% and 41.9% repetitively). Mood Adjuncts as modification of Engagement accounts for the lowest rate in English commentaries at 4.6%, even they were not found in Vietnamese commentaries, at 0%.

Chapter 5

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

From the theoretical background and the result of the data analysis of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity used in sport commentaries in English and in Vietnamese in the preceding chapters, this chapter presents some conclusions, implication as well as the limitation of the study in this chapter.

5.1. CONCLUSIONS

Basing on the analysis of Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity used in 150 instances of English sport commentaries and in 150 of Vietnamese ones, the study has come to the following conclusions:

Syntactically, Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity used in sport commentaries in English and in Vietnamese was realized in form of adverbs. The adverbs were found in sentences and clauses as the pre-modification of a noun, of an adjective, of an adverb and the modification of a verbal group in both English and Vietnamese commentaries, however, in Vietnamese commentaries, there was no Mood Adjuncts pre-modifying an adverb found. The pre-modifying structural positions of Mood Adjuncts towards the adjective and noun are the same in English and in Vietnamese commentaries. The structure of Mood Adjuncts used as modifier of verbal group in English commentaries is different from that in Vietnamese commentaries. In English, Mood Adjuncts both pre-modify and modify a verbal group. Nevertheless, in Vietnamese, Mood Adjuncts just pre-modify a verbal group. Quantitatively, Mood Adjuncts used as modifier of verbal group have a widest distribution in both English and Vietnamese commentaries. On the other hand, Mood Adjuncts used as pre-modifier of an adverb are hardly found in both English and Vietnamese commentaries.

Semantically, Mood Adjuncts expressing the degree of intensity used in sport commentaries in English and in Vietnamese was noticeably examined in terms of Appraisal Theory. Based on the result of the data analysis, it can be summarized that Mood Adjuncts of intensity was categorized and analyzed in the five main dimensions of Appraisal theory: Engagement, Affect, Judgment, Appreciation and Graduation. In term of graduation, the study just focuses on the isolated intensification. Isolated intensification used in English sport commentaries as scaling of processes has the higher population than that found in Vietnamese sport commentaries. In contrast, the proportion of Isolated intensification used in Vietnamese sport commentaries as scaling of quality is higher than that in English.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

Expectedly, the thesis is hoped to bring teachers and learners the new view and the better understanding of Appraisal Theory in general and Intensification in particular which was used in sport commentaries in English and Vietnamese through Mood Adjuncts.

To the teachers

This thesis is mainly based on syntactic features of Functional Grammar and semantic features of Appraisal Theory as mentioned above. The study is concerned with the intensification used in sport commentaries in English and in Vietnamese. By way of introduction to some key theoretical background and of presentation

to the data analysis, this study is expected to contribute a better and clearer knowledge of syntactic and semantic features of Mood Adjuncts so that teachers can pay more attention to deeper structure. Moreover, it is necessary for them to use a variety of intensifiers as mentioned above to analyze sporting language and how to evaluate the discourse of sport commentaries. The study also provides teacher the knowledge of intensification in terms of Appraisal Theory which plays an important role in expressing the evaluation of a behavior or phenomena, and the way of how to up-scale or down-scale the intensity towards a situation in a certain context.

To the learners

For learners, Appraisal Theory and Functional Framework in general and the analysis in particular in this study are expected to help them comprehend and use Mood Adjuncts of intensity in sport commentaries. Furthermore, learners should pay attention to and focus on syntactic features of adverbs of intensity and semantic features in the view of Appraisal Theory. Basing on what was presented in the thesis, learners can enrich their ability apply this kind of language in commentaries and in any fields as well in adjusting the degree of an evaluation – how strong or weak the feeling is. Especially for commentators, the thesis will help them to know how to raise or lower, sharpen or soften their attitude in sport commentaries.

With the findings in conclusion, it is believed that the study has some enlightening implications for further study of Appraisal Theory and for English learning and teaching as well.

5.3. LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

Despite a lot of efforts made into the study, it cannot avoid certain limitations and shortcomings. The number of sport commentaries is so large that I cannot analyze all commentaries in a variety of kinds of sport because of the limited time. This number of samples may not be enough to reflect the reality of using Mood Adjuncts of intensity and the result may be less generalized.

5.4. SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER STUDY

For the sake of studying English linguistic, I would like to offer some suggestions for further research such as:

- The pragmatics of Mood Adjuncts in Sport Commentaries in English and Vietnamese
- Mood Adjuncts of intensity as modification of Engagement in Sport Commentaries