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**A CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF
LINGUISTIC AND SOCIO-CULTURAL
FEATURES OF WORDS DENOTING
“MALE” CHARACTERISTICS
IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE**

Field: THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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**MASTER THESIS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
SUMMARY**

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RATIONALE

Language promptly saves these gender differences in language communication, in words denoting male and female characteristics and their meanings. In language communication, we have found words sometimes reflect the attributives of sexual features of two genders and the gender discrimination due to social division. There are a great number of nouns, verbs, adjectives used only for each gender and if not used properly it will lead to changes in content towards gender characteristics of which words are used incorrectly reflected. The discrimination of gender in the social “respect men and despise women” exposes obviously in language. Numerous English words are composed of element “*man*” reflects the position of men in society. For example, “*chairman*”, “*spokesman*” and “*businessman*” The words “*human, mankind*” also contains elements “man”.

The study *A Contrastive Analysis of Linguistic and Socio-Cultural Features of Words Denoting “Male” Characteristics in English and Vietnamese* (WsDMC) attempts to find out linguistic and socio-cultural features of WsDMC in both English and Vietnamese. Moreover, the study would like to enrich learners’ vocabulary and improve their ability of using words in various situations of speech performance.

1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH

1.2.1 Aims

The study is expected to provide Vietnamese learners with a description of grammatical, semantic and socio-cultural features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese.

1.2.2 Objectives

The study is intended:

- To find out the similarities and differences in grammatical, semantic and socio-cultural features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese
- To put forward some suggestions relating to the teaching and learning of English as well as to those whose work is translating documents from English into Vietnamese and vice versa.

1.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH

The study will contribute to clarifying the linguistic features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese. Simultaneous analysis comparing the sociocultural features of the WsDMC in English and Vietnamese will help explain the existence of the meaning and the usage of these words in contexts as well.

1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

To achieve the purposes of this study, subjects focus on answering the following research questions:

1. What are the similarities and differences in grammatical features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese?
2. What are the similarities and differences in semantic features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese?
3. What are the similarities and differences on specific socio-cultural features of the WsDMC in English and Vietnamese?

1.5 SCOPE OF RESEARCH

Due to time, length limit of the thesis and the ability of our own, this paper is just intended to analyze and compare the prominent linguistic features namely grammatical, semantic and socio-cultural features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese.

1.6 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

This thesis consists of five chapters, in addition to the conclusion, appendices and references.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Many authors had written a number of research papers on the relationships of gender and language and the influence of socio-cultural features on using language of both genders such as Gershuny, Hudson, Gramley, Klann-Delius, Stephen-Patzold, Kurt-Michael. As for semantics, Cruse, John I. Saeed also pays much attention to the semantics features of words. In Vietnam, Nguyen Thien Giap, Do Huu Chau has the researches on words and kinds of words in Vietnamese. Besides, there are some papers on language and gender written by Nguyen Van Khang, Le Thi Viet Hoa, Tran Thi Ngoc Lang. Almost researches just stop at the statistics, sorting those two syllables word denoting gender. Researches are only within the meaning of the words denoting men and women's characteristics from the initial investigation and the ability to use these words today. The concept of WsDMC and their linguistic and sociocultural features are still inaccessible to many of us. This research tries to hit this target.

2.2 THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1 "Male" characteristics

"Male" characteristics are typically physical, biological, psychological, gender-discrimination characteristics belonging to male gender discovered through the words collected and analyzed.

They can be classified into man in general, man in particular, kinships, occupations, VIPs, man's characteristics, man's conduct, man's health, man's attitudes, man's knowledge, man's emotions, man's mental and physical state, man's actions and man's ways of performing actions.

2.2.2 Grammatical Features

2.2.2.1 Word structures

Bloomfield, Golovin, Richard, Weisler and Slavoljub P. Milekic considered word as a "minimal morphological freedom". "Morphemes can be divided into two general classes. Free morphemes are those which can stand alone as words of a language, whereas bound morphemes must be attached to other morphemes."

2.2.2.2 Types of words

Structurally words are classified into simple, complex and compound words

- a. Simple words
- b. Complex words
 - b.1 Derived word: *computer, boys, magnetize*
 - b.2 Compound word: *barefoot, loudspeaker*

2.2.2.3 Word classes

Word classes consist of open word classes and closed word classes. As the limit of the thesis, we focus on open word classes. They are Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives and Adverbs.

a. *Nouns*: As we know, a noun is a member of a syntactic class that includes words which refer to people, places, things, ideas, or concepts.

b. *Verbs*: English verbs can be subdivided into main verbs and auxiliaries. Verbs are subdivided into transitive, intransitive, and linking.

c. *Adjectives*: Adjectives are words that describe things.

d. Adverbs: A word used before or after a verb, before an adjective or preposition, or with another adverb to show time, manner, place, degree etc.

2.2.2.4 Syntactic functions

a. Syntactic functions of Nouns

The Ten Functions of Nouns in English Grammar are: Subject, Predicate nominative, Direct object, Object complement, Indirect object, Prepositional complement, Noun phrase modifier, Possessive modifier, Appositive, Adverbial.

b. Syntactic functions of Verbs

Verbs perform six main and six nominal grammatical functions in the English language. Of the twelve possible functions, verbs perform six major functions: four verbal, one adjectival, and one adverbial. The six major functions are: Verb phrase head, Predicate, Noun phrase modifier, Adjective phrase complement, Verb phrase complement, Adverbial.

c. Syntactic functions of Adjectives: Attributive, Adjective, Predicative, Noun Pre-Modifiers, Noun Post-Modifiers,

d. Syntactic functions of Adverbs: Adverbial, Predicative, Object, Attributive

2.2.3 Semantic Features

2.2.3.1. Components of meaning

Denotation is that part of the meaning of a word or phrase that relates it to phenomena in the real world or in a fictional or possible world. Connotation is the additional meaning(s) that a word or phrase has beyond its central meaning (Denotation).

2.2.3.2 Transference of meaning

a. Metaphor

Metaphor is the transference of names based on association of similarity. In other words, metaphor is a hidden comparison.

There are 12 types of metaphor

b. Metonymy

“Metonymy is the transference of name based on the association of contiguity. The name of one thing is changed for that of another to which it related.” There are 6 types of relation on which metonymy based on.

2.2.3.3 Sense relations

The meaning of a word is understood in relation to others. So when we want to identify the exact meaning of the word we must take into consideration not only what it refers to but also its boundaries with others’ related meaning.

2.2.3.4 Semantic fields

A suggestion for categorizing vocabulary in semantic fields, from Sutton, Peter and Michael Walsh is the following subject matters: Body parts and functions, physical, motion, emotion, mind and thought, desire, social relations, religion and beliefs, human beings, ageing, disability, kinship terms (by blood and marriage, address and relationship terms), play, fighting, positive, negative.

2.2.4 Language, Society and culture

Language exists and develops when society exists and develops. Language is produced by society. It serves social needs. Language change reflects social change.

2.2.5 The Gender Discrimination

Sex differences can be considered as the result of different social attitudes towards the behavior of men and women, and the attitudes of men and women themselves. Differences can be due to innate differences, personality, cultural elaboration, division of labor by sex, male dominates, and differing value systems.

2.2.6 Context

Context is the abstract knowledge underlying speech act types and also a set of social circumstances in which utterances can be produced and interpreted as realizations of their underlying constitute rules.

2.3. SUMMARY FOR CHAPTER 2

CHAPTER 3

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

3.1. RESEARCH METHODS

It is carried out through a descriptive approach and contrastive approach in qualitative and quantitative methods.

3.2 DATA COLLECTION

The main material used in the study is collected from the sources including: the bilingual magazines, novels and short stories, the grammar books written by English and Vietnamese linguists, the English – Vietnamese and Vietnamese – English dictionaries, the studies published in linguistic journals, the academic writing such as linguistic research papers..., the internet sources. Then based on the theoretical background, we read all above documents to pick out the WsDMC. In order to classify these word into suitable categories, 800 sentences in English and 800 sentences in Vietnamese containing WsDMC were examined meticulously.

3.3 DATA ANALYSIS

Data are analyzed by the two main methods: Descriptive method in the basic of linguistic knowledge from the school and Contrastive method to find out:

- The similarities and differences between the grammatical features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese

- The similarities and differences between the semantic features of the WsDMC in English and Vietnamese

- Scores of similarities and differences between the socio-cultural features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese.

From which we draw conclusions and generalize the rules applied in the teaching and learning as well as in translation.

3.4 PROCEDURE

The first step is to identify and collect texts containing WsDMC in English and Vietnamese. The second step is to classify words into different categories in terms of Noun, Verb, Adjective and Adverb. The third step is to discuss the result of analysis and giving explanations for the similarities and differences in terms of grammatical, semantic and socio-cultural features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese. The final step is to make conclusions and to suggest some implications for translators and for language learners/teachers.

3.5 RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

As presented above, the data collection is mainly based on written and spoken discourses by native speakers of English and Vietnamese, and the data ensures to include variants in each language that align to objective findings.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS & DISCUSSIONS

4.1. THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GRAMMATICAL FEATURES OF WsDMC IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

4.1.1 The grammatical features of WsDMC in English

WsDMC have the following features:

4.1.1.1 Types of words

Structurally words are classified into simple, complex (including derived words, compound words and reduplicative words. English WsDMC are classified into simple and complex words, too.

a. Simple words: simple WsDMC such as *rape, crude*

b. Complex words: Complex WsDMC consist of derived words and compound words

b.1 Derived word: such as *manly, stately*

b.2 Compound word: such as *seaman, postman*

4.1.1.2 Word classes

WsDMC chiefly belong to Nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs.

4.1.1.3 Syntactic functions of English WsDMC

a. Syntactic functions of Nouns

a.1 Nouns as Subjects

a.2 Noun as predicate Nominatives

a.3 Nouns as Direct Objects

a.4 Nouns as Object Complements

a.5 Nouns as Indirect Objects

a.6 Nouns as Prepositional Complements

a.7 Nouns as Noun Phrase Modifiers

a.8 Nouns as Possessive Modifiers

a.9 Nouns as Appositives:

b. Syntactic functions of Verbs

b.1 Verb Phrase Head

b.2 Predicate

b.3 Noun Modifier

b.4 Adjective Phrase Complement

b.5 Verb Phrase Complement

b.6 Adverbial

b.7 Subject

b.8 Subject Complement

b.9 Direct Object

b.10 Object Complement

b.11 Indirect Object

b.12 Prepositional Complement:

c. Syntactic functions of Adjectives

c.1 Attributive Adjective:

c.2 Predicative Adjective

c.3 Noun Pre-Modifiers

c.4 Noun Post-Modifiers

d. Syntactic functions of Adverbs

d.1 Adverbial

d.2 Predicative

d.3 Attributive

d.4 Adjective modifier

4.1.2 The Grammatical Features of WsDMC in Vietnamese

4.1.2.1 Types of words

Structurally Vietnamese WsDMC are classified into simple word and complex words.

a. Simple WsDMC are *chàng, ông, etc*

b. Complex words: compound words

c. Complex words: reduplicative words such as *lai rai, etc*

4.1.2.2 Word classes

Vietnamese WsDMC belong to Nouns, Verbs and Adjectives

a. Nouns

b. Verbs

c. Adjectives

4.1.2.3 Syntactic functions of Vietnamese WsDMC

a. Syntactic functions of Vietnamese Nouns

a.1 Nouns as Subjects:

a.2 Noun as Predicate Nominatives

a.3 Nouns as Direct Objects

a.4 Nouns as Object Complements

a.5 Nouns as Indirect Objects

a.6 Nouns as Prepositional Complements

a.7 Nouns as Noun Phrase Modifiers

a.8 Nouns as Possessive Modifiers

a.9 Nouns as Appositives

b. Syntactic functions of Verbs

b.1 Verb Phrase Head

b.2 Predicate

b.3 Noun Phrase Modifier

b.4 Adjective Phrase Complement

b.5 Verb Phrase Complement

b.6 Adverbial

b.7 Subject

c. Syntactic functions of Adjectives

c.1 Attributive Adjective

c.2 Predicative Adjective

c.3 Noun Post-Modifiers

4.1.3 The Similarities and Differences between the Grammatical Features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese

4.1.3.1 The Similarities between the Grammatical Features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese

a. Word structures: English and Vietnamese WsDMC can be free morphemes which can stand alone such as *man, boy, father, ông, cha, etc*

b. Types of word: Both English and Vietnamese WsDMC are classified into simple and complex words (compound words) like *man, boy, gentleman, chairman, anh, hấn, tân tình, etc*

c. Word classes: English and Vietnamese WsDMC belong to Nouns, Verbs and adjectives such as *businessman, rape, handsome, hoàng tử, đẹp trai, hiệp dân, etc*

d. Syntactic functions: English and Vietnamese nouns denoting male characteristics can be subjects, predicate nominatives, direct objects, object complements, indirect objects, prepositional complements, noun phrase modifiers, possessive modifiers, appositives.

4.1.3.2 The differences between the Grammatical Features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese

a. Types of word

English WsDMC are classified into complex words (derived words) such as *actor, rapist, manly, etc* whereas there are no Vietnamese derived words.

Vietnamese WsDMC are classified into complex words (reduplicative words) connoting emotive, evaluative, attitudinal hues of meaning but there are no English reduplicative words.

b. Syntactic functions: Both English and Vietnamese adjectives have the same syntactic functions. These functions are attributive

adjective, predicative adjective, noun pre-modifiers, noun post-modifiers.

c. Adverbs: English WsDMC belong to adverbs and they have the syntactic functions as adverbial, predicative, attributive whereas Vietnamese WsDMC do not have adverbs. However, Vietnamese WsDMC make use of adjective phrases containing *một cách + adj.* to express instead.

d. Verbs: English WsDMC under the form of non-finite verbs (to-infinitive verbs, ing-verbs) can function as subjects, objects but Vietnamese WsDMC have no form of non-finite verbs but use verbs or verb phrases or their nominalizations as equivalents.

4.2 THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SEMANTIC FEATURES OF WSDMC IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

4.2.1 The Semantic features of WsDMC in English

4.2.1.1. Components of meanings

All WsDMC contain the common marker [male], the semantic feature shared by them. For examples, the inherent semantic property [male] is found in **boy** [human] [male] [young][unmarried], the gender-discrimination or socio-cultural semantic property [male] is also found in **doctor** [human][male][job][examining patients]

4.2.1.2. Denotative and Connotative meanings

WsDMC in English can denote *man in general*, *man in particular*, *VIPs* (very important people), *man's characteristics* (under the form of adjectives, nouns), *kinships* (under the form of pronouns, nouns), *man's actions*, *man's ways of performing actions* (under the form of adverbs, verbs) sometimes accompanied with connotative meanings as follows:

a. Man in general

The nouns “*mankind*”, “*man-race*”, “*human*”, “*humanity*” denote men in general.

b. Man in particular

The nouns denoting parts of the man body such as “*beard*”, “*moustache*”,...with the article THE standing before them refer to men themselves due to the transference of denotative meaning through metonymy.

c. VIPs (very important people)

The nouns denote men who play different decisive roles in society, in their organizations even religious institutions, in their families due to educational background, political status or social positions.

d. Kinships

The nouns (kinterms) denoting kinships in English contain inherent meanings of [male]. The words reflect (1) blood and (2) marriage relationships in the family and even in society and in some social and religious relations.

e. Occupations

WsDMC in English have many words containing inherent and socio-cultural meanings of [male] through (1) simple words due to word-choices and (2) word-forming morphemes in derived words or compound words.

f. Man's characteristics

WsDMC make uses of many proper, concrete, abstract nouns or qualitative, evaluative, emotive adjectives to convey man characteristics through metaphor or metonymy. Man qualities can be classified into:

f.1 Man's positive and negative conduct

f.2 Man's positive and negative health

- f.3 Man's positive and negative attitudes
- f.4 Man's positive and negative knowledge
- f.5 Man's positive and negative emotions
- f.6 Man's positive and negative beauty
- f.7 Man's positive and negative mental and physical state
- g. *Man's actions*
- h. *Man's ways of performing actions*

4.2.2 The Semantic features of WsDMC in Vietnamese

4.2.2.1. Components of meanings

All WsDMC contain the common marker [nam giới], the semantic feature shared by them. For examples, the inherent semantic property [nam giới] is found in **Con trai**: [người] [nam giới][trẻ] [chưa có gia đình], the gender-discrimination or socio-cultural semantic property [male] is also found in **bác sỹ** [người][nam giới][nghề nghiệp][khám sức khoẻ cho bệnh nhân].

4.2.2.2. Dennotative and Connotative meanings

WsDMC in Vietnam can denote *man in particular*, *VIPs* (very important people), *man's characteristics* (under the form of adjectives, nouns), *kinships* (under the form of pronouns, nouns), *man's actions*, *man's ways of performing actions* (under the form of adverbs, verbs) sometimes accompanied with connotative meanings as follows:

a. Man in particular

The nouns denoting parts of the man body such as “*mày*”, “*râu*”, “*riạ*”, “*bộ xương*”, “*lưng*”,...refer to men themselves due to the transference of denotative meaning through metonymy.

b. VIPs (very important people)

The nouns denote men who play different decisive roles in society, in their organizations even religious institutions, in their

families due to educational background, political status or social positions.

c. Kinships

The nouns (kinterms) denoting kinships in Vietnamese contain inherent meanings of [nam giới]. The words reflect (1) blood and (2) marriage relationships in the family and in some social and religious relations.

d. Occupations

WsDMC in Vietnamese have many words containing inherent and socio-cultural meanings of [nam giới] through simple words due to word-choices and word-forming morphemes in derived words or compound words. Vietnamese people use some words such as [sĩ] [bò] [thợ] [thầy] [sư] to form words denoting men's occupations.

e. Man's characteristics

- e.1 Man's positive and negative conduct
- e.2 Man's positive and negative health
- e.3 Man's positive and negative attitudes
- e.4 Man's positive and negative knowledge
- e.5 Man's positive and negative emotions
- e.6 Man's positive and negative beauty
- e.7 Man's positive and negative mental and physical state

f. Man actions

4.2.3 The similarities and differences between the semantic features of WsDMC in English and Vietnamese

4.2.3.1 The similarities

Both English and Vietnamese WsDMC contain the common marker [male], the semantic feature shared by them. We can find the inherent semantic property and the gender-discrimination or socio-cultural semantic property in English and Vietnamese WsDMC.

Both English and Vietnamese WsDMC can denote *man in particular*, *VIPs* (very important people), *man's characteristics* (under the form of adjectives, nouns), kinships (under the form of pronouns, nouns), *man's actions*, *man's ways of performing actions* (under the form of adverbs, verbs). The denotative hues are sometimes accompanied with connotative meanings.

4.2.3.2 The differences

a. *Man in general* English have the connotative meanings of men in general. The word “*man*” denotes man in particular. Vietnamese people use Sino – Vietnamese word “*nhân*” in Vietnamese means “*người*” to form words denoting men in general.

b. *Man in particular*: In English, the word “*beard*”, “*moustache*” can stand independently. In Vietnamese, the words “*mày*” “*râu*” can combine with each other in “*cánh mày râu*” “*đáng mày râu*” or these words can combine with other words to form phrase to describe men. *Râu hùm*, *râu kẽm*, *râu xanh*, *mày ngài*. Besides, Vietnamese use the body part “*lưng*” in “*dài lưng*” to describe a lazy man.

c. *VIPs*: The words such as *batman*, *spider man* have Vietnamese's equivalents as *người dơi*, *người nhện* to refer to strong willed man or hero, However, Vietnamese people often use *Thánh Gióng*, *Phù Đổng*, *Kim Đồng* to refer to these men. Besides, Vietnamese has the word “*Bụt*”. The English doesn't use this word regularly.

d. *Kinships*: The nouns (kinterms) denoting kinships in English and Vietnamese contain inherent meanings of [male]. The words reflect (1) blood and (2) marriage relationships in the family and even in society. However, Vietnamese is more diverse in term of kinterms.

e. *Occupations*

Both English and Vietnamese people use some words denoting men's occupation. English words have compound words and verb+ suffixes to form words. *Vietnamese have words combine with* [sĩ] [bồi] [thợ] [thầy] [sur] [nhân] [gia] to form words denoting men's occupations.

f. *Man's characteristics*

About man's characteristics, English has the word “*Don Juan*”. Vietnamese has the word *Chí phèo*, *Mã giám sinh*. *Lại thêm một thằng Chí Phèo ra đời*. [135]. *Chi phèo* doesn't mean that He is ***Chi Phèo*** in the work “*Chi Phèo*” written by Nam Cao but he has *Chi Phèo's* features: *drunkard, rude, violent and rash*.

g. *Man's actions*

The Vietnamese verb “*cầu hôn*” denoting male characteristics must be translated into English in the form of verb phrase as “*Ask for somebody's hand/ propose marriage to someone*”

h. *Man's ways of performing actions*

English uses adverbs such as *bravely*, *determinedly* to describe man's ways of performing actions. Vietnamese doesn't have adverbs to describe men's manner. This feature makes Vietnamese different from English. Vietnamese WsDMC make use of adjective phrases containing ***một cách + adj.*** to express instead.

4.3 THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SOCIOCULTURAL FEATURES OF WsDMC IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

4.3.1 The sociocultural features of Britain

English belongs to individualist cultures. Therefore, individual uniqueness, self-determination is valued. A person is all the more admirable if they are a “*self-made man*” or “*makes up their own mind*”, show initiative, or work well independently.

4.3.2 The sociocultural features of Vietnam

For centuries, Vietnamese society was close-knit together by Confucian norms based on five relationships: the subordination of subject to ruler, son to father, wife to husband, and younger brother to elder brother, and the mutual respect between friends. These severe rules showed the important role of men in Vietnam and influenced the evolution of Vietnam as a hierarchic, authoritarian society in which Confucian scholarship, monarchical absolutism; filial piety, the subordinate role of women.

4.3.3 The similarities and differences between the sociocultural features of English and Vietnamese WsDMC

4.3.3.1 The similarities

Men are inborn more strong and ambitious. Although, each country has different level of discrimination, the discrimination of gender in the any society is still “respect man and despise women”. The similarities in term of sociocultural features of English and Vietnamese WsDMC are as follow:

a. *Man in particular*

People in English and Vietnamese cultures both use the particular to replace the whole.

b. *VIPs (very important people)*

Both English and Vietnamese have the nouns denote men who play different decisive roles in society, in their organizations even religious institutions, in their families due to educational background, political status or social positions.

c. *Kinships*

Family and relatives relationships are important to the English and the Vietnamese. Therefore, both English and Vietnamese have

WsDMC reflect blood and marriage relationships in the family and even in society.

d. *Occupations*

Careers may be equally important to males and females but each is affected by different things. Careers are affected by occupational success in males. Occupational success reveals in status and in how much they earn. Men’s self-esteem is more careers related. Men are in born physically stronger than women so they can do the jobs that require labor, dangerous jobs, jobs requires professional skills.

e. *Man’s characteristics*

Man’s dominant behavior, which has been characterized as controlling, threatening, forceful, and agonistic, involves negative forms of influence. Man’s characteristics can be classified into:

e.1 Man’s positive and negative conduct

Gender norms in many societies tend to make men macho, women passive. Men control family life and social activities. Men are decisive and are able to do what they like.

e.2 Man’s positive and negative health

Men tend to be physically stronger overall. Men are more robust, bursting with energy: more attachment sites of exercises also stimulate muscle enlargement. English and Vietnamese have words such as *strong, sturdy, vạm vỡ, cường tráng*. Weak men will be criticized by words such as *effeminate, lạt cái*.

e.3 Man’s positive and negative attitudes

Men are more aggressive than women are. Besides, men are much more self-confident than women that they will be able do job/task. In society, successful men want to marry nonworking housewives than professional women. This feature explains why the

English and the Vietnamese use words for example: *gallant, rude, determined...*

e.4 Man's positive and negative knowledge

People assume that men are more competent and knowledgeable than women are. Men have more rights to act as authorities than women do. Nouns like *mind, intelligence*, adjectives like *intelligent, smart, thông minh, trí tuệ* almost refer to men...

e.5 Man's positive and negative emotions

Men use rapid, unhesitating, and strong language. The adjective "*outspoken*" is used to refer to men. Men are not patient, they can't ignore unfair things. Sometimes, this feature makes men more *fierce and violent, gây sự, hung hăng*.

e.6 Man's positive and negative beauty

Appearance does have a role to play to men and women may choose not to date a man if they really don't like the way he looks. One of the most important factors to decide man's appearance is the man's healthy. With this view point of men's appearance English and Vietnamese society have words denote men's appearance such as *handsome, sturdy, rugged, gân guốt, đẹp trai, đẹp mã, bảnh trai,...*

e.7 Man's positive and negative mental and physical state

Males are concerned with independence and mastery. They are not more concerned with interdependent bonding and the development of close relationships. There are a number of words connote men's mental and physical state for instance: *manly, gan dạ...*

f. Man's actions

The image of masculinity is often referred to such actions as concern for personal honor, virility, physical strength, heavy drinking, toughness, aggression, risk-taking, authoritarianism, and

self-centeredness. Both English and Vietnamese have words such as *rape, flirt, booze, tán tỉnh, hiếp dâm,...*

4.3.3.2 The differences

a. Man in general

The English attaches the role of men in the society through using the word "he", "himself" "his" in the law, the constitution, even in their proverbs, idioms and sayings. In their proverbs, Men stand for humankind. The word "nhân" has no meaning of men. People also use the word "người" in the law or the constitution of Vietnam.

b. *Man in particular*: the words "beard", "moustache", "mày" and "râu" are used to identify men. In English, the word "beard", "moustache" can stand independently. In Vietnamese, the words "mày" "râu" can combine with each other in "*cánh mày râu*" "*đáng mày râu*" or these words can combine with other words to form phrase to describe men.

c. *VIPs*: Men must first have a career and second be a father. Men are associated with the outside world and economic, politic activities. Batman and spiderman are unfamiliar with the Vietnamese culture. Therefore, they have been altered with words such as Thánh Gióng, Phù Đổng, Kim Đồng are close to Vietnamese people's daily life.

d. *Kinships*: The nouns (kinterms) denoting kinships in English and Vietnamese contain inherent meanings of [male]. The words reflect (1) blood and (2) marriage relationships in the family and even in society. Family and Relative relationships are important to Vietnamese people. Therefore, Vietnamese is more diverse in terms of kinterms.

e. Occupations

In English, we also normally make a difference between male/female with *waiter/ waitress* and the other example with “*ess*” above. But some other words with “*ess*” are less usual and are now seen as sexist.

Vietnamese has words combining with words [sĩ] [bồi] [thợ] [thầy] [sư] to form compound words denoting men’s occupations. Vietnamese was affected by the feudal society therefore in the past, only men had the right to study. Women are not allowed to take part in the examination or to become a bonze.

f. Man’s characteristics

The Vietnamese attaches important to men’s strong will and self –esteem to assert themselves in the society. Their strong will and self-esteem are described by the words such as *quân tử, hiệp sĩ*, etc. Men who used their power to perform acts of violence will be criticized by the society by some words as follow: *vũ phu, du côn*, etc. In English, the words *strong, gallant, brave* refer to men only because the society appoints men to be a shelter for women.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSION

The purpose of the thesis is descriptive and contrastive analysis of the WsDMC in both languages- English and Vietnamese- on grammatical, semantic and social cultural aspects. To begin with, the study presents the introduction with an overview of the problem under investigation. Then, the review of previous studies related to WsDMC and theoretical background.

The words shown in the Vietnamese against the English have quite rich and diverse means.

The study is quite small because it just covers WsDMC.

Therefore, the result of this study is still modest.

5.2 IMPLICATIONS

5.2.1 Implications for Language Teaching And Learning

Teachers should also point out the differences and the similarities in grammatical, semantics and social-cultural features between English WsDMC and their Vietnamese equivalents. This will help the learners avoid committing intra-lingual errors in translating from English to Vietnamese and vice versa and become aware of how these words used in different situations.

5.2.2 Implications for Translation

It is crucial for translators to be aware of all linguistic aspects and even many cultural and social aspects.

It is crucial for a translator to fully understand all the denotations and connotations of a word so that he can avoid making any loss of connotative meanings.

5.3 LIMITATIONS

As the study is done in a short time and due to the shortage of reference material and researcher’s knowledge, the researcher cannot investigate the linguistics and sociocultural features of words denoting male characteristics fully.

5.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

There are some interesting points that need deeper research:

- Exploit more about the grammatical, semantic, pragmatic and sociocultural features of each subtype of words: noun, verb, adjective, and adverb.
- The grammatical, semantic, pragmatics and sociocultural features of words denoting female characteristics.
- The grammatical, semantic, pragmatics and sociocultural features of expressions denoting male and female characteristics.