

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
UNIVERSITY OF DANANG

PHAM THI DINH

**A STUDY ON LINGUISTIC
 FEATURES OF ENGLISH WORD GROUPS
 CONTAINING THE WORD “HEART” AND THE
 VIETNAMESE ONES CONTAINING THE WORD
 “TIM”**

Field: The English Language

Code: 60.22.15

**MASTER THESIS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
 (A SUMMARY)**

DANANG – 2011

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

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. LUU QUY KHUONG

Examiner 1: Dr. Ngu Thien Hung

Examiner 2: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Truong Vien

The thesis will be orally defended at the Examining Committee

Time: July 21th, 2011

Venue: University of Danang

The original of the thesis is accessible for the purpose of
 reference at the College of Foreign Languages Library, and the
 Information Resources Center, Danang University

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RATIONALE

Language is a principal means used by human beings to exchange information and communicate with each other, which distinguishes us from animals. We use it to convey our ideas, our thoughts and our emotions and reflect the world around us with our own subjective eyes.

In life, the parts of the human body such as *heads, eyes, hearts, hands, chests*, and so on have created inspiration for many writers, poets and composers. Among them, the “*heart*” is more easily recognizable to be a very valuable and important organ and essential to life, because of the incontrovertible fact that when it stops beating, life itself ceases. Thanks to languages, the connection between heart and central/ vital part and other understandings could arise and flourish. Especially, *English word groups containing the word “Heart” (EWGH)* and *Vietnamese word groups containing the word “Tim” (VWGT)* with various common and different language characteristics have made the language become more and more plentiful, flexible and interesting.

The above facts give the inspiration for the thesis entitled “*A Study on Linguistic Features of English Word Groups Containing the Word “Heart” and the Vietnamese Ones Containing the Word “Tim”*” to be conducted. This study is carried out with the hope to raise users’ awareness of the subtle similarities and differences between the **EWGH** and **VWGT** in terms of their syntactic and semantic features so that they can use these **WGs** more effectively in communication and translation.

1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.2.1. Aims

This thesis aims to investigate syntactic and semantic features of these **EWGH** and **VWGT** to help Vietnamese and English learners have a deeper and better understanding, provide them with the knowledge of the significant similarities and differences on linguistic features of **WG** to avoid unnecessary mistakes in use and enhance their abilities to use them appropriately and effectively in communication and translation.

1.2.2. Objectives

To reach above aims, this research is designed according to the following objectives

- a. To present, describe and analyze the syntactic and semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**.
- b. To make a comparison and indicate the similarities and differences on linguistic features between **EWGH** and **VWGT** with reference to syntax and semantics.
- c. To give suggestions for the problems learners may encounter in the process of teaching and learning **EWGH** and **VWGT**.

1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

In order to achieve the aims and objectives of the study, the following research questions will be addressed

- a. What are syntactic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**?
- b. What are semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**?
- c. What are the main similarities and differences between **EWGH** and **VWGT** in terms of syntactic and semantic features?

1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

There are many parts of speech in both Vietnamese and English such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and so on. In this thesis, we just focus on the nouns. Among the nouns, we only focus on the word “*heart*” in English and the word “*tim*” in Vietnamese. Nevertheless, we study them not only in WG but also as single words in terms of their syntactic and semantic features.

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study is intended to:

- widen learners’ a deeper and better understanding of **WG**
- help to increase learners' awareness about significant similarities and differences.
- avoid unnecessary mistakes caused by interlingual interferences in their learning and translation.
- enhance their abilities to use them appropriately and communicatively in different circumstances.
- contribute to language learning and teaching, translation and cross-cultural communication.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The thesis is divided into five main chapters.

Chapter 1: The introduction

Chapter 2: The literature review and the theoretical background

Chapter 3: Methods and procedures.

Chapter 4: Findings and discussion

Chapter 5: The conclusion and implications

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. A REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDIES RELATED TO THE THESIS

There have been many researchers and linguists studying words or **WG** denoting the organs of the human body in the medical field as well as in language.

In English, Matisoff [22] investigates *hearts* and *minds* in terms of lexical semantics in comparison with South-East Asian languages and English. Kovecses [18] studies metaphorical aspects of emotion concepts and the relationship between language, culture and body in human feelings. Neimeier [25] gives metonymic and metaphorical explorations of the *heart* with her own look. In her study, the heart concepts are conceptualized as various folk- models and sub-folk models.

In Vietnamese, the organs of the human body and **WG** containing words related to them have been the inspiration of many researchers. Nguyen Huu Tam Thu [57] does a research on syntactic and semantic characteristics and methods of interpretation into French of the word “*bowel*”. Tran Thi Tu Oanh [67] investigates the semantic features of the word “heart” and the interpretation into Vietnamese and so on.

However, the comparison and contrast on syntactic and semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT** have not been paid much attention to by linguists. Therefore, this study is carried out in an attempt that the research may help Vietnamese and English learners have a better understanding of syntactic and semantic features of these **WG** so as to use correctly and effectively in teaching and

learning, in communication and in reality.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Word Structure

2.2.1.1. The Morpheme

a. Definition

There have been many different points of view of giving the definitions of morphemes. According to Rodman and Blair [44, p.124], “A morpheme may be defined as the minimal linguistic sign, a grammatical unit that is an arbitrary union of a sound and a meaning and that cannot be further analysed”. From this definition, we can state that elements that have a semantic or grammatical function and cannot be divided any further into smaller parts are known as morphemes.

b. Classification of Morphemes

There are some main types of morphemes according to the points of view of linguists mentioned above.

- Free morphemes
- Bound morphemes
- Inflectional morphemes
- Derivational morphemes
- Allomorphs

2.2.1.2. The Definition of Words

2.2.1.3. Classification of Words

In English grammar, the common point of Rodman and Blair [44, p. 132], Parker and Riley [49, p. 103], Flag [33, p. 10] is that according to the number of morphemes, words can be classified into *single words* and *complex words*.

- Single words

- Complex words

Complex words consist of *derived words* and *compound words*.

- Derived words

- Compound words

In Vietnamese grammar, according to Vietnamese linguists, in general, the word is classified into three kinds: *single words*, *complex words* and *reduplicative words*.

- Single words

- Complex words

- Reduplicative words

2.2.2. Word Groups

2.2.2.1. In English Grammar

a. Definition

According to Arnold (1986), [1, p. 165] a **WG** consists of two or more words whose combination is integrated as a unit with a specialized meaning of the whole. **WGs** (or expressions) may include words, groups of words or sentences.

A Free Phrase

Semi-fixed Combinations

Set Expressions

b. Formation of Word Groups

According to Downing and Locke (1992) and Quirk and Greenbaum (1987), **WGs** can be classified into the following groups.

Norminal groups, verbal groups, adjectival groups, prepositional groups.

2.2.2.2. In Vietnamese Grammar

a. Definition

According to Diep Quang Ban, [57, p.5], words organizationally and meaningfully combined together are **WGs**. Each word in **WG** is an element. **WG** may be a meaningful phrase in a sentence, a structure equivalent to a sentence, or a sentence.

In the study of Mai Ngoc Chu, Vu Duc Nghieu and Hoang Trong Phien [69, p. 275], a **WG** is a group of words which have the direct association in the sentence.

b. Classification

The common point among Vietnamese linguists is that they divide **WG** into three kinds. Those are *free phrases, fixed expressions and semi-fixed expressions*.

Free phrases

Fixed expressions

Semi-fixed expressions principle

c. Formation of Word Groups

Noun phrases, verbal phrases, adjective phrases, adverbial phrases.

2.2.3. Semantics - The Study of Meaning

Semantics is the study of meaning. In other words, it is the study of how language organizes and expresses meaning. Semantics is the study of meaning that is derived from the intentions of speakers, their psychological states and socio-cultural aspects of the context in which their utterances are made.

2.2.3.1. Lexical Semantics and Components of Word-Meaning

According to Leech [23, p. 26], Nguyen Hoa [31, p. 51-54], Vo Dai Quang [52, p. 27], there are four main components of word-meaning.

a. Denotative Meaning

b. Connotative Meaning (or social, affective)

c. Structural/ Associative Meanings

This kind of meaning includes *reflected, collocative, associative and thematic meaning*.

d. Categorical Meaning

2.2.3.2. Types of Word-Meanings

There are two main types: direct meaning and indirect meaning.

2.2.3.3. Semantic Field

The vocabulary of a language is viewed as an integrated system of lexemes interrelated in sense. A semantic field is a set of interrelated senses based on a conceptual field or spectrum. Words can be grouped either thematically or ideographically.

2.2.4. Semantic Features of the Word “Heart” and the Word “Tim” in Dictionaries

2.2.4.1. Semantic Features of the Word “Heart” in English Dictionaries

According to dictionaries in [11], [12], [13], [18] [47], [48], [95], the word “*heart*” has 14 basic semantic features.

2.2.4.2. Semantic Features of the Word “Tim” in Vietnamese Dictionaries

According to Vietnamese dictionaries in [84], [85], 7 semantic features of the word “tim” are presented in Vietnamese dictionaries

CHAPTER 3

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

3.1. METHOD OF THE STUDY

The main method for the contrastive analysis between **EWGH** and **VWGT** in terms of syntactic and semantic features is descriptive. The contrastive and comparative method is also used for finding out the similarities and differences in syntactic and semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**. The quantitative and qualitative analysis of the data are the supporting methods to help to analyze the data exactly, effectively and reliably.

3.2. DESCRIPTION OF POPULATION AND SAMPLES

3.3. DATA COLLECTION

3.4. DATA ANALYSIS

3.5. RESEARCH PROCEDURES

To do the research, the following steps are carried out.

- Reviewing the relevant literature, publications and studies to get through in-depth information and understanding of the combinations, choosing the approaches to the problem and the theoretical background, collecting documents related to the research, choosing and classifying **EWGH** and **VWGT** as single words and **WG**, analyzing the data to find out the syntactic and semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**, comparing and contrasting to discover similarities and differences in the syntactic and semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**, giving comments and conclusions based on data collected, description and analysis of the collected data and personal observation, suggesting some implications for teaching and learning English and Vietnamese as foreign languages.

3.6. REALIABILITY AND VALIDITY

Two most important and necessary criteria to guarantee the value of the thesis are reliability and validity. Therefore, the researcher always considers these criteria carefully and thoroughly during the process of doing the research.

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF EWGH AND VWGT AS A SINGLE WORD

4.1.1. Syntactic Features of EWGH and VWGT as a Single Word

It can be recognized that when **EWGH** appears without preceded elements (pre-modifiers) or followed ones (post-modifiers), **EWGH** is considered as the single word. Moreover, thanks to inflectional morphemes, suffixes can be added to “*heart*” to modify its number and aspect without changing its grammatical category.

Derivational morphemes can also be added to “*heart*” to create another word to change either the meaning of the word or the part of speech or both.

4.1.2. Syntactic Features of VWGT as a Single Word

In Vietnamese, the word “*tim*” can stand by itself when premodifiers and postmodifiers do not appear right in front of or behind the word “*tim*”. In this case, “*tim*” is regarded as a simple word. The number of the simple word is used in the data with a low frequency. There are 13 words “*tim*” approximately 2.6% found in the data. “*Tim*” rarely stands alone but in the combination with preceding elements such as “*trái*”, “*quả*” and “*con*” in order to create the word group as “*trái tim*”, “*con tim*”, “*quả tim*”.

Moreover, there are no phenomena of either inflectional morphemes or derivational morphemes in Vietnamese, which accounts for the reason why “*tim*” as the simple word is used with a few number and the low frequency.

4.2. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF EWGH AND VWGT AS A SINGLE WORD

4.2.1. Semantic Features of EWGH as a Single Word

4.2.1.1. EWGH as a Single Word Denoting a Human Body Organ

According to *The American Heritage Science Dictionary* [48], “*heart*” is “*the hollow, muscular organ that pumps blood through the body of a vertebrate animal by contracting and relaxing*”.

4.2.1.2. EWGH as a Single Word Used as an Addressing Form

As a single word, **EWGH** is used as an addressing form to express the caress, attention and interest to the hearer.

4.2.1.3. EWGH as the Single Word Denoting a Living Organism

EWGH as a single word like “*sweetheart*” or “*heartthrob*” is used to mention the beloved person or the lover when they fall in love each other.

4.2.1.4. EWGH as a Single Word Expressing Emotions

The “*heart*” is one of the most important parts of human body. It is a place where a lot of mysteries, happiness and sorrow are buried and hidden.

4.2.1.5. EWGH as the Single Word Expressing Human Characters.

A lot of adjectives formed from the derivation of “*heart*” are

used to describe the changes, degrees of human characters. They may have the positive or negative meanings.

4.2.2. Semantic Features of VWGT as a Single Word

4.2.2.1. VWGT as a Single Word Denoting the Human Body Organ

When the word “*tim*” stands alone as a single word, it denotes the central part of the circulatory system and has the function of rotating the blood in the body. “*Tim*” appears with higher frequency in poetry.

4.2.2.2. VWGT as a Single Word Expressing Emotions

The Vietnamese often consider the belly as the seat of emotions. However, in many cases, “*heart*” also has the same function. Emotions such as *anger*, *sadness* and *happiness* are expressed so clearly, delicately and effectively in **VWGT** that the readers seem to feel these feelings

4.2.2.3. VWGT as a Single Word as a Living Organism

“*Tim*” is personalized as a person who has feelings of happiness or sorrow, and knows how to share with people around him and experiences what happens in our life.

4.3. SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF EWGH AND VWGT

4.3.1. Syntactic Features of EWGH

4.3.1.1. Syntactic Features of EWGH in Noun Phrases

a. Pre-modifiers + Heart

b. Heart + Post-modifiers

c. Pre-modifiers + Heart + Post-modifiers

4.3.1.2. Syntactic Features of EWGH in Prepositional Phrases

4.3.1.3. Syntactic Features of EWGH in Adjective Phrases

4.3.1.4. Syntactic Features of EWGH in Verbal Phrases

4.3.2. Syntactic Features of VWGT

4.3.2.1. Syntactic Features of VWGT in Noun Phrases

- a. Pre-modifiers + (Trái-, Con-, Quả-) Tim
- b. (Trái-, Con-, Quả-) Tim + Post-modifiers
- c. Pre-modifiers + (Trái-, Con-, Quả-) Tim + Post-modifiers

4.3.2.2. Syntactic Features of VWGT in Verbal Phrases

4.3.2.3. Syntactic Features of VWGT in Adverbial Phrases

4.4. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF EWGH AND VWGT

Semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT** investigated and discovered in the thesis are based on semantic features of the word “**heart**” in English dictionaries and the word “**tim**” in Vietnamese ones, the denotation, connotation with the change of meanings through the use of metaphors and metonymies, the associative relationships in the semantic field.

4.4.1. Semantic Features of EWGH

4.4.1.1. EWGH Denoting a Human Body Organ

From the definition of the “**heart**”, we can see that the circulation of blood, by the action of the “**heart**”, is basic to life. In poetry, literature and songs, the heart also appears with literal meanings.

4.4.1.2. EWGH Denoting the Seat of Emotions

The word “**heart**” plays an important role in expressing human emotions, especially in written text when characterizing people’s mental activities. The heart is the seat of the totality of all our feelings, emotions and our desires.

- a. EWGH Denoting Aspects of Love
- a1. EWGH Denoting the Unity of Two People
- a2. EWGH Denoting the Separation

a3. EWGH Denoting the Warmth

a4. EWGH Denoting Opponents

a5. EWGH Denoting a Bearer

- b. EWGH Expressing Sincerity
- c. EWGH Denoting Happiness
- d. EWGH Denoting Sadness
- e. EWGH Denoting Desire
- f. EWGH Expressing Fear

4.4.1.3. EWGH Denoting a Space

It seems to have an endless space with no width, no depth and no height. It may be an empty space which is often used to express the feelings of emptiness, lonesomeness and disappointment

4.4.1.4. EWGH Denoting a Container

EWGH denoting a container are described in the clear and specific ways so that the reader can imagine it with various aspects from the outer qualities via its inner ones to its internal structure.

- a. EWGH Denoting a House
- b. EWGH Denoting a Container with Great Depth

4.4.1.5. EWGH Denoting a Valuable Commodity

Considered as an object of value, the heart in its totality is seen as a treasure chest. Because of its value, it is often coddled and kept carefully as a reserve. It is only seen or used with the most beloved people. Its value is measured with the different degrees. The heart is sometimes considered as a gift, a prize, a possession and so on.

- a. EWGH Denoting a Prize
- b. EWGH Denoting a Gift
- c. EWGH Denoting a Booty
- d. EWGH Denoting a Fragile Object

4.4.1.6. EWGH Denoting a Living Organism

As an organ of the human body, the “*heart*” is seen as a metonymy for the whole body and thus stands for the whole person or a complete person who may have experiences as a normal person. The “*heart*” may be experienced as an autonomous entity. The heart acts as a focalized centre of a large entity, eg in the inference to a person.

4.4.1.7. EWGH Denoting a Seat of Intellect

In English, the head is often conceptualized as the seat of reasons that are related to the memory. However, not only emotions but knowledge and intellect are also expressed in the **EWGH**. The **EWGH** is conceptualized as the container of memory, where we place information to make use of it when we need it.

4.4.1.8. EWGH Denoting a Center/ Core

The heart is an organ located in the chest and almost in the middle of the body. Besides, the function it carries out is vital for the human survival. That is the reason why we refer to a central place as its heart, especially if that place is very important or has a lot of activities. A central role may be described in the case of a person as being the “*heart*” of the group because of his/ her attraction, interest or importance. Sometimes, the **EWGH** is used to express the most important point of a problem.

4.4.1.9. EWGH Denoting Courage and Enthusiasm

The word “*heart*” is used in expressions to indicate courage and enthusiasm. “*Courage*” was placed in the heart, symbol of warlike virtue. Enthusiasm is expressed in **EWGH** when one would like to make great efforts in order to be able to finish some task.

4.4.1.10. EWGH Describing Characters

EWGH which consists of the words of colour is often related

to describe negative characters.

4.4.1.11. EWGH Denoting the Breast

In this case, **EWGH** is used to show the area that is the approximate location of the heart in the body.

4.4.1.12. EWGH Describing Shape

Literally, **EWGH** is used to describe something having outside shade like a heart. Figuratively, by drawing the shape of the heart, the authors would like to show his/her the most innermost and sincere feelings to others.

4.4.2. Semantic Features of VWGT

4.4.2.1. VWGT Denoting the Human Body Organ

It is recognizable that **VWGT** denoting the human body organ appear with a high frequency in the medical field when **VWGT** relates to the heart diseases, one of diseases causing the leading death in the world nowadays.

4.4.2.2. VWGT Denoting the Seat of Emotions

VWGT is rarely used in the literary works, poems or songs with the literal meanings but figurative ones. With the use of metaphors and metonymies, the heart is used as a means to express human emotions.

a. VWGT Denoting Aspects of Love

a1. VWGT Denoting the Unity of Two People

a2. VWGT Denoting a Separation

a3. VWGT Denoting a Fire

a4. VWGT Denoting Opponents

a5. VWGT Denoting a Departure or a Destination

a6. VWGT Denoting the Sun

a7. VWGT Denoting a Weapon

a8. VWGT Denoting a Disease or a Wound

b. VWGT Denoting Sincerity

c. VWGT Denoting Happiness

d. VWGT Denoting Sadness

e. VWGT Denoting Desire

f. VWGT Denoting Immortality

4.5.2.3. VWGT Denoting a Space

We can say that **VWGT** is considered as an endless space. **VWGT** expresses an immense place with three dimensions where there are enough areas for the combination between emotions and the intellect.

4.4.2.4. VWGT Denoting a Container

a. VWGT Denoting a House

b. VWGT Denoting a Container for Fluid

c. VWGT denoting a Container for Solid

d. VWGT Denoting a Shelter

e. VWGT Denoting a Compartmentalized Container

4.4.2.5. VWGT Denoting a Valuable Commodity

a. VWGT Denoting a Gift

b. VWGT denoting a Fragile Object

4.4.2.6. VWGT Denoting a Living Organism

Here, in a poem, literally, **VWGT** denotes a plant that grows and develops day by day or it still keeps beating or existing.

4.4.2.7. VWGT Denoting the Center/ Core

Because the heart is situated in the middle of the body and is one of the most vital and important organ of our body, **VWGT** expresses the center or the core of something or some places.

4.4.2.8. VWGT Denoting Courage / Enthusiasm

Here, courage and enthusiasm in **VWGT** is used to praise heroes who are readily fight bravely for the noble ideal and win the fear of the death eventhough he may have to sacrifice his beautiful youth for his nation.

4.4.2.9. VWGT Describing Characters

In Vietnamese, **VWGT** is popularly used to describe different characters of human such as “*firmness, unchangeability, coldness*” and “*constancy, loyalty, immorality*”.

4.4.2.10. VWGT Describing Shape

In Vietnam, the symbol of the heart shade has become familiar and popular nowadays. It is used a lot in means of communication and especially by the young generation as a symbol of love.

4.5. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EWGH AND VWGT

4.5.1. Syntactic Features of EWGH and VWGT as a Single Word

4.5.1.1. Similarities

As a single word, **EWGH** and **VWGT** share some common points. Syntactically, the word “*heart*” and “*tim*” are considered as single words which can not be broken down into smaller meaningful units and are words denoting a human body organ and they both are nouns which are popularly used not only in the medical field but in poetry, literary works and songs.

4.5.1.2. Differences

In English, the word “*heart*” appears with more frequency and higher quantity than the word “*tim*” in Vietnamese. There are only 13 words “*tim*” found in 500 **VWGT** whereas there are 90 words “*heart*” found in 500 **EWGH** as a single word.

4.5.2. Semantic Features of EGWH and VGWT as a Single Word

4.5.2.1. *Similarities*

There are some similarities in semantic features of **EGWH** and **VGWT** as a single word such as denoting the human body organ, expressing emotions and denoting a living organism.

4.5.2.2. *Differences*

In English, **EGWH** as a single word is also used as an addressing form and to express human characters while in Vietnamese, **VGWT** does not have these semantic features.

4.5.3. Syntactic Features of **EGWH** and **VGWT**

4.5.3.1. *Similarities*

Syntactically, **EGWH** and **VGWT** are also used in noun phrases, verbal phrases. In verbal phrases, they start by a verb.

4.5.3.2. *Differences*

In English, **EGWH** is also formed by adjective phrases, beginning with an adjective and prepositional phrases, beginning with a preposition. In noun phrases, an adjective often stands in front of a noun to modify the noun.

4.5.4. Similarities and Differences in Semantic Features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**

There is one semantic feature that is in English but it does not appear in Vietnamese. That is **EWGH** denoting the chest. Moreover, in some semantic features, there are some features in English but not in Vietnamese and vice versa. In some specific aspects, the points of view of each country are also different. The table below shows the similarities and differences in semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. CONCLUSION

EWGH and **VWGT** are popularly used with the high frequency and with the meaningful and sensitive associations in both languages. Therefore, on the basis of succeeding and developing the previous studied results of the literature review and on the basis of theoretical background of the word formation, **WG** and semantics- the study of meaning, the study is conducted to reach a better use and thorough understanding of **EWGH** and **VWGT** in the data taken from English and Vietnamese poems, literary works, songs and famous sayings. The thesis has so far dealt with the syntactic and semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT** in the hope that similarities and differences have been discovered so that some problems on language teaching and learning are solved and some suggestions are also proposed.

To achieve objectives mentioned above, the descriptive and contrastive methods are selected as the main ones with the support of quantitative and qualitative approaches in the process of investigating the study. Thanks to these methods, the data are presented, grouped, described and analyzed to find out linguistic features in the view of syntactics and semantics based on the similarities and differences.

The study is developed on the basis of many linguists' concepts which consist of word structures such as the morpheme, definitions of words and classifications of words, of **WG**, of the study of meaning such as lexical semantics and components of word-meaning, types of word-meaning, sense relations, and semantic field according to the pointviews of English grammarians such as Rodman and Blair, Parker and Riley, Mills, Poole, Hockett, Hobbes, Arnold,

Pavlov and so on and Vietnamese ones such as Nguyen Tai Can, Do Huu Chau, Hoang Van Thung, Diep Quang Ban, Mai Ngoc Chu, Vu Duc Nghieu and so on. The followings are what the study has reached in the course of investigating:

5.1.1. There are many words or **WG** that are popularly used in language but words or **WG** denoting the human body organs appear with higher frequency, especially **EWGH** and **VWGT** have become the interesting topic and creative inspiration for a great number of writers, poets and composers. Thanks to **EWGH** and **VWGT**, a lot of ideas, thoughts, feelings and sensitive associations are expressed plentifully, variously and effectively. Different authors with different cultures have different choices of choosing words to form **EWGH** and **VWGT** provided that they can manifest their intention and reach their purposes and effects in using language as an effective means.

5.1.2. In order to investigate the thesis completely, we would like to present, group, describe and analyze the word “*heart*” and the word “*tim*” as the single word and **WG** as in **EWGH** and **VWGT**. From this classification, the data is studied in the view of syntactic and semantic features to discover similarities and differences.

5.1.3. Syntactically, as the single word, **EWGH** and **VWGT** are used in both languages but the word “*tim*” appears with lower frequency in Vietnamese. That is because the word “*tim*” rarely stands alone as a head noun in Vietnamese but it is often used with the combination with other words such as “*trái, con, quả*” to create **EWGH** and **VWGT**. Moreover, we do not find inflectional morpheme in Vietnamese grammar. That is the reason why fewer words are inflected from the word “*tim*”. Opposite to Vietnamese,

inflectional morphemes in English make other words formed from the word “*heart*” become more abundant with the higher quantity. In short, the independence and no inflectional morpheme of the word “*tim*” in Vietnamese account for this comment.

5.1.4. Syntactically, when we study **EWGH** and **VWGT**, both of them are classified according to noun phrases, verbal phrases. They share some common points. In noun phrases, the preceded or followed words or **WG** in **EWGH** and **VWGT** are analyzed according to Pre-modifiers and Post-modifiers. In verbal phrases, the main verbs often begin each verbal phrase. However, there are some differences between them. Syntactic features of **EWGH** are also classified according to prepositional phrases, beginning with a preposition and adjective phrases beginning with an adjective while syntactic features of **VWGT** are also classified according to adverbial phrases, beginning with a preposition. In addition, in noun phrases, in English, adjectives always stand before a noun to modify it whereas in Vietnamese, adjectives always stand behind a noun to modify it.

Semantically, as the single word, **EWGH** and **VWGT** have some similar features. Nevertheless, due to the smaller quantity of **VWGT**, there are fewer semantic features in **VWGT** than in **EWGH**. When we study **EWGH** and **VWGT**, there are a lot of similarities in **EWGH** and **VWGT** such as denoting a human body organ, the seat of emotions, a space, a container, a valuable commodity, a living organism, a seat of intellect, a center/ core, courage and enthusiasm, describing characters and shape although there are a few differences in each semantic feature. Denoting the breast is the only semantic feature that we can find in **EWGH**. The choice of words in **WG** depends on different genres, cases, topics, cultural beauty and influences of each

nation. It is recognizable that **EWGH** and **VWGT** are often used in poems, songs or literary works on the topic of love of romantic lovers, admired people such as famous leaders, heroes or mothers, love for the country, hometown and nature.

In sum, the study has provided learners with the detailed description on **EWGH** in comparison with **VWGT** to fulfill the suggested objectives, including syntactic and semantic features. Though the results are still relative and unsatisfactory as expected, we hope to help the learners have sufficient views and detailed understandings to enable them to overcome problems they may encounter in the process of learning and teaching languages.

5.2. IMPLICATIONS

5.2.1. In the study of the word “*heart*” in English and the word “*tim*” in Vietnamese, we should be aware that they are not simply words denoting a human body organ as we have ever known them in the medical field but they are also used broadly in language as an effective means to express thoughts, feelings, aims and intention of the users.

5.2.2. The word “*heart*” in English and the word “*tim*” in Vietnamese are able to not only stand by itself but also combine with other words or **WGs** to form **EWGH** and **VWGT**, which creates the diversity in syntactics and riches in semantics of these words in both languages.

5.2.3. Studying **EWGH** and **VWGT** means that we should study them in the combination of the word “*heart*” and the word “*tim*” with other words. Therefore; students should be supplied with adequate knowledge of how they are combined and how they are used correctly and appropriately in each language.

5.2.4. From the similarities and differences in **EWGH** and **VWGT**, teachers should equip students with contrastive and comparative knowledge so that students can avoid errors they can make or some problems they can encounter in learning and studying.

5.2.5. Because of the richness in semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**, students should be encouraged to have a rather complete knowledge of **EWGH** and **VWGT** in the view of semantics in order to use them effectively, to have a quicker and better understanding and to catch exactly the writers’ ideas and purposes depending on different situations and genres.

5.3. LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

Although we have done our best to perfect the thesis, we can’t help avoiding shortages and limitations. Firstly, due to the limitations of time and the lack of material sources, we can not investigate all syntactic and semantic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**. Secondly, in some cases, the data has not been analyzed completely and deeply to highlight the writer’s intentions. Thirdly, the thesis only focuses on written language, so spoken language such as language from everyday conversations, tapes or films has not been studied sufficiently in this research.

5.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

The thesis can continue to be studied in the following ways;

- Pragmatic and stylistic features of **EWGH** and **VWGT**.
- **EWGH** and **VWGT** in the combination with other human body organs such as “*heart and mind, heart and soul, head and heart*” in English and “*tim óc, tim gan, trái tim và tâm hồn*” in Vietnamese.
- Fixed expressions in **EWGH** and **VWGT**.