

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
THE UNIVERSITY OF DANANG**

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**HÀ THỊ HOÀI THANH**

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO METONYMY USED  
IN TRUYEN KIEU BY NGUYEN DU AND  
ITS TRANSLATIONAL VERSIONS IN ENGLISH  
BY HUYNH SANH THONG AND MICHAEL CONCELL**

**Field: THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Code: 60.22.15**

**M.A THESIS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES  
(A SUMMARY)**

**Danang - 2014**

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

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The thesis was orally defended at the Examining Board at the  
University of Da Nang

Time : 14<sup>th</sup>, June, 2014

Venue: The University of Danang

The original of the thesis is accessible for purpose of reference at:

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## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1. RATIONALE**

In the process of globalization, language barrier seems to be one of the greatest things preventing people from getting to know each other. In the meantime, the need for interaction is rapidly increasing with the aim of making up close relationships to exchange experience, information and cooperate in economy, science, technology and education..

Truyen Kieu is undoubtedly one of the most famous works of Nguyen Du, one of the greatest authors in Viet Nam. It has been well-known all over the world for its plot, episodes and original expressions and it comes as no surprise that it has been translated into different languages such as English, German, Chinese, Japanese, Polish and so on.

There is a fact that Vietnamese learners of English and foreigners learning Vietnamese find it difficult to grasp Truyen Kieu's ideas and moods through metonymic expressions. Therefore, understanding metonymy mechanism will help a lot in dealing with the experience, interpretation and evaluation of Truyen Kieu.

All these have aroused my interest in researching the topic “ An Investigation into Metonymy Used in Truyen Kieu by Nguyen Du and Its Translational Versions in English by Huynh Sanh Thong and Michael Counsell..

#### **1.2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

##### **1.2.1. Aims**

The study is aimed at examining metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu and how they are translated into English by Huynh

Sanh Thong and Michael Counsell.

### **1.2.2. Objectives**

This study is intended:

- To identify and to describe the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu.
- To examine how these expressions are translated into English.
- To suggest some possible solutions for the understanding, interpretation and translation of metonymic expressions .

### **1.3. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

This study provides teachers and learners of English a thorough point of view towards metonymy in Truyen Kieu by Nguyen Du and how they are translated into English by Huynh Sanh Thong and Michael Counsell.

### **1.4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

This study will observe and describe some commonly-used types of means for expressing metonymies in in Truyen Kieu and its two translational versions.

### **1.5. RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

This research questions tries to find out the answers to the following questions

1. What are the commonly-used types of metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu and its two translational versions ?
2. What are the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features of metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu?
3. How are these expressions translated into English by Michael Counsell and Huynh Sanh Thong ?
4. What is the implication of the study for the teaching, learning and translating of metonymy from Vietnamese to English?

## **1.6. ORGANIZATION OF STUDY**

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Theoretical background

Chapter 3: Research design and methodology

Chapter 4: Findings and Discussions

Chapter 5: Conclusion

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND**

##### **2.1. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDIES**

Metonymy was first described in cognitive terms by Lakoff and Johnson [23] as a process which allows us to conceptualize one thing by means of its relation to others. Metonymy is not a linguistic object, but a conceptual or cognitive organization expressed by a linguistic object.

Kovecses and Radden [21] pointed out the conceptual basis of metonymy with the term “ conceptual frame” or “ Idealized Conceptual Models”. Each metonymic mapping has its own high-level principles that shape its mechanism. This view point was developed by Mendoza and Diez [27] who clarify them term of low-level and high-level metonymy.

Trần Xuân Trường[54] had also investigated metonymy in his master thesis at Danang University. In his thesis, he studied and contrasted metonymy denoting humans in English and Vietnamese poetry. However, he limited his scope of study in only metonymy denoting humans in English and Vietnamese poetry.

Võ Thị Thu Duyên [55] studied and contrasted the use of metonymy in both English and Vietnamese. However, she paid no

attention to the translation of metonymic expressions.

## **2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.2.1. Theory of metonymy**

#### ***a. Definition of metonymy***

Lakoff and Johnson [23] were among the first cognitive linguists concerned with metaphor and metonymy. They defined metonymy as the use of one entity to stand for another which is related to it. In their view, metonymy has a primarily referential function, but it also contributes to understanding.

Radden and Kovecses [33] adopt the view that metonymy is a cognitive process in which one conceptual entity, the vehicle, provides mental access to another conceptual entity, the target, within the same idealized cognitive model. In fact they adapt Langacker's notion of "reference point" to the notion of metonymy

Our working definition is based on the definition of metonymy proposed by Kovecses and Radden [33] as the followings: Metonymy is a cognitive process in which one conceptual entity, the vehicle, provides mental access to another conceptual entity, the target, within the same domain, or ICM

#### ***b. Figure of speech***

Metonymy was traditionally regarded as a figure of speech, so an account of figures of speech is indispensable in our study.

#### ***c. Metonymy as a Referential Phenomenon***

Metonymy involves only one conceptual domain ( mapping occurs within a single domain, not across domains) and is used primarily for reference. Via metonymy, one can refer to one entity in a schema by referring to another entity in the same schema

#### ***d. Metonymy in Cognitive Linguistics***

Cognitive linguistics has dealt in depth with conceptual metaphor more than two decades, but has only recently started to pay attention to conceptual metonymy.

#### ***e. Metonymy in Poetry***

The literary technique known as metonymy is most often used in poetry to draw attention to a word or idea by slightly changing the diction that the poet uses. A slight change in word choice can cause big changes in the way that the reader perceives a concept within a poem.

#### ***f. Metonymy Versus Other Ways Of Meaning Transference***

##### *f1. Metonymy versus Metaphor*

Metonymy works by the contiguity ( association) between two concepts whereas metaphor works by the similarity between them.

##### *f2. Metonymy versus Synecdoche*

Metonymy and synecdoche are similar figures of speech used in rhetoric. Some theorists identify synecdoche as a separate trope, where a specific part of something is taken to refer to the whole, is usually understood as a specific kind of metonymy.

### **2.2.2. Theory of Translation**

#### ***a. Definition of translation***

According to Catford, J.C [8], translation is not a dangerous technique in itself provided its nature is understood, and its use is carefully controlled and translation is in itself a valuable skill to be imparted to student.

Nguyễn Hồng Côn [48] states that the activity of translation is still a language activity and language plays core and basic roles.

However, he says that together with the attention to linguistic problem, translators also need to pay attention to the problems relating to source language and target language such as social environment, culture and religion.

### ***b. Translation methods***

There are many translation methods. Among them, two methods which are used most often are communicative translation and semantic translation.

- (1). Communicative translation:
- (2). Semantic translation:
- (3). Word-for-word translation
- (4) Literal translation

### ***c. Measuring Success in Translation***

According to Wikipedia, the evaluation of translation must be based on two criteria:

- a) *Faithfulness*
- b) *Transparency*

### ***d. Literary translation***

Literary translation is a creative art, similar to performing music, drawing picture. Each translation is different, and reflects the sensibilities and style of the translator.

### ***f. Translation equivalence***

According to J.C. Catford [28], there are four types:

- (1) Linguistic equivalent
- (2) Paradigmatic equivalent
- (3) Stylistic (translational) equivalent
- (4) Textual (syntagmatic) equivalent



### **2.2.3. Theory of Literature**

#### ***a. Language and culture***

Language is more than just a means of communication. It influences our culture and even our thought processes..

#### ***b. Rhyme***

Rhyme is the quality shared by words or syllables that have or end with the same sound as each other, especially when such words or syllables are used at the end of lines of poetry

#### ***c. The Author Nguyễn Du and Truyen Kieu***

*c1. The Author Nguyễn Du ( 1765-1820)*

*c2. Truyen Kieu*

*c3. English Versions of Truyen Kieu*

### **2.3. SUMMARY**

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1. RESEARCH DESIGN**

In this study, Vietnamese is chosen as the first language and English is the second one. The main methods of the reasearch are descriptive, unilateral contrastive,quanlitative and quantitative methods.

#### **3.2. SAMPLING**

The sampling was done with selecting and collecting instances of metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu by Nguyen Du. 210 metonymic expressions in the form of noun phrase have been elicited for the study

#### **3.3. DATA COLLECTION**

The data for analysis are samples taken from Truyen Kieu by Nguyen Du and its translational versions in English by Huynh Sanh Thong and Michael Counsell

### 3.4. DATA ANALYSIS

Data collected are analyzed based on the knowledge of syntax, semantics and pragmatic. All these three domains are necessary in understanding and interpreting metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu.

### 3.5. RESEARCH PROCEDURES

### 3.6. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

The data is chosen carefully from Truyen Kieu, which is very popular from all over the world. We base on the model of ICMs to analyze metonymic expressions in terms of type, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic features. Therefore, both data and theoretical background are reliable to guarantee the reliability and validity of the research

## CHAPTER 4

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1. TYPES OF METONYMIC EXPRESSIONS IN TRUYEN KIEU

##### 4.1.1. The Part for the Whole

- (1) *Mây tân khóa kín song the*  
*Bụi hồng liêu nẻo đi về chiêm bao*  
*Tuần trăng khuyết đĩa dầu hao*  
**Mặt** *tơ tưởng mặt* lòng ngao ngán lòng

(249-252)

##### 4.1.2. Object Used for User

- (25) *Hài vãn* **lần** *bước dậm xanh*  
*Một vùng như thể cây quỳnh cành dao.*

(143-144)

- (26) *Rồi ra* **lạt phẩn phai hương,**  
*Lòng kia giữ được thường thường mãi chẳng?*

(1337-1338)

**4.1.3. A place for inhabitants**

(28) *Cũng đừng tính quẩn lo quanh,  
Tan nhà là một thiệt mình là hai*

(681-682)

**4.1.4. An institution for people**

(37) *Thấy lời sắt đá tri tri  
Sốt gan, ông mới cáo quỳ cửa công*

(1403-1404)

**4.1.5. Controlled for controller**

(40) *Vài tuần chưa cạn chén khuyên  
Mái ngoài nghỉ đã giục liền ruỗi xe*

(893-894)

**4.1.6. Product for producer**

(43) *Phong sương đậm vẻ thiên nhiên  
Mặn khen nét bút càng nhìn càng tươi*

(399-400)

**4.1.7. Material for product**

(43) *Khúc dẫu Hán Sở chiến trường  
Nghe ra tiếng sắt tiếng vàng chen nhau*

(473-474)

**4.1.8. Container for contained**

We all know that a container and things contained in it are contiguous or closely associated. The conceptual relationship which holds between a container and the thing contained in it may produce the metonymies container for contained.

*Table 4.1. Types of metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu by  
Nguyen Du*

Patterns	Occurency	%
Body parts for person	141	65%
- Face for person	34	16,1%
- Eyes for person	6	2,7%
- Head for person	6	2,7%
- Hair for person	9	4,2%
- Ear for person	33	15,7%
- Mouth for person	10	4,7%
- Bone for person	4	1,9%
- Cheeks for person	21	10%
- Other part ( soul, voice, teeth)	18	8,5%
Place for inhabitants	33	15%
Object used for user	14	7%
Institution for person	6	3%
Controlled for controller	7	3%
Material for product	5	2%
Containted for container	4	2%
Product for Producer	6	3%

#### **4.2. THE SYNTACTIC FEATURES OF METONYMIC EXPRESSIONS IN TRUYEN KIEU**

Metonymic expressions in Truyen Kieu yielded the following types concerning the constituents that come before the head noun as follows:

**PROPER NAME**

**NOUN**

**NOUN WITH POST-MODIFIERS**

**NOUN + ADJECTIVE**

**NOUN + POSSESSIVE GENITIVE**

**NOUN + VERB**

**NOUN WITH PRE-MODIFIERS**

**QUANTIFIER + NOUN**

**VERB + NOUN**

**QUANTIFIER + ADJECTIVE + NOUN**

**ADJECTIVE +NOUN**

**NOUN WITH PRE-MODIFIERS AND POST-MODIFIERS**

**QUANTIFIER + NOUN + ADJECTIVE**

**COMPOUND NOUN**

#### **4.2.2. Syntactic Function of Metonymic Expression as Noun Phrases**

The metonymic Noun Phrases functioning as Subjects

The metonymic Noun Phrases functioning as Direct Objects

***Table 4.2. Syntactic Functions of Metonymic Noun Phrases in Truyen Kieu***

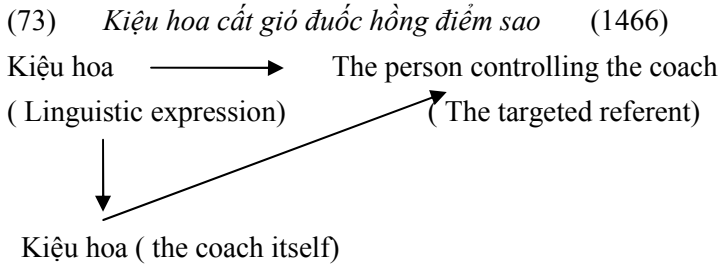
Function of Metonymic Noun Phrases (210)	Occurrence	Frequency
Subject	98	46,7 %
Direct object	112	53,3%

### **4.3. SEMANTIC FEATURES OF METONYMIC EXPRESSIONS IN VIETNAMESE POERTRY**

#### **4.3.1. The Basic Conceptual Functions of Metonymy**

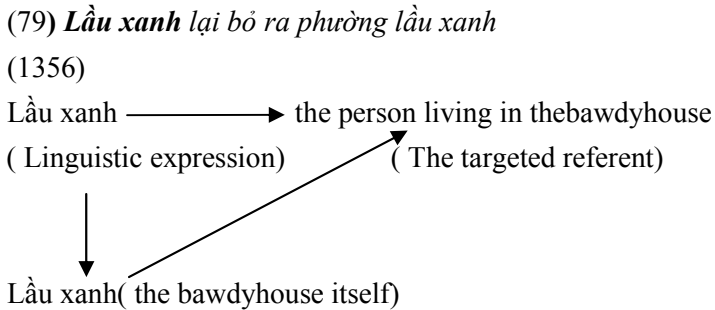
Considering the association between the controlled and the controller, we often find that it is convenient to use the thing

controlled to refer to the controller as the example below



**Figure 4.1. Controlled-For-Controller Metonymy**

#### 4.3.2. The Semantic Mechanism for the Idealized Conceptual Models Icims of Metonymy



**Figure 4.2. The representation of the conceptual relation of Place-For-Person metonymy**

#### 4.3.3. Metonymy as a Referential Phenomenon

(81) *Rằng năm Gia Tĩnh triều Minh*  
*Bốn phương phẳng lặng, hai kinh vững vàng.*  
 (9-10)

In fact, the meaning of “*bốn phương, hai kinh*” is shifted from a geographical area to the people living in it.

#### 4.3.4. Metonymy as a Polysemous Phenomenon

Metonymy plays an important part in the process of meaning elaboration that involves either expansion or reduction. Through

metonymic process, the meaning of words may extend from a small entity to a larger entity as in part-for-whole relation or vice versa.

**Table 4.2. Polysemy of “Tay”**

Metonymic expression	Metonymic relation	Examples
TAY	Decision	<i>Dẫu sao cũng ở <b>tay người</b> biết sao</i>
	Skill/talent	<i><b>Tay tiên</b> gió táp mưa sa Khoảng trên dùng bút thảo và bốn câu</i>
	Helping	<i>Đánh liều nhấn một hai lời nhờ <b>tay tế độ</b> vớt người trầm luân.</i>
	Personality	<i>Thân con chẳng kẻo mắc <b>tay bọm già</b></i>
	Occupation	<i>Cũng nhà hành viện xưa nay Cũng phường bán thịt, cũng <b>tay buôn người</b></i>
	Social status	<i>Phẩm tiên rơi đến <b>tay hèn</b> hoài công nắng giữ mưa gìn với ai.</i>
	Capability	<i>Mà chàng Thúc phải ra người <b>bó tay</b></i>
	Punishment	<i>Cho người thăm ván bán thuyền <b>biết tay</b></i>

**Table 4.3. Polysemy of “Mặt”**

Metonymic expression	Metonymic relation	Examples
MẶT	People in general	<i><b>Mặt</b> nhìn <b>mặt</b> càng thêm tươi- bén lời vạn phúc bên lời hàn huyên.</i>
	Physical appearance	<i>Trương tô giáp <b>mặt hoa đào</b></i>
	Personality	<i>Trông lên <b>mặt sắt</b> đen sì</i>
	Faithfulness	<i>Rôi ra <b>trở mặt</b> tức thì</i>

**Table 4.4. Polysemy of “Đầu”**

Metonymic Expression	Metonymic Relation	Examples
ĐẦU	People in general	<i>Uốn lưng <b>thịt</b> đở giập <b>đầu máu sa</b></i>
	Personality	<i><b>Đầu</b> trâu mặt ngựa ào ào như sóng</i>
	Age	<i>Tuyết sương nhuộm nửa <b>mái đầu hoa râm</b></i>

**4.3.5. Propositional Metonymies and Situational****Metonymies**

- (86) *Hồn còn mang nặng lời thề  
Nát thân bỏ liễu đèn nghi trúc mai*

(745-746)

It can be seen that the PART-FOR-WHOLE mapping is obvious with the use of metonymic expression “my soul” to stand for the body, in other words, the person possessing that soul. This is an instance of SOUL-FOR-PERSON mapping within the type source-in-target metonymies where the body can be regarded as a subdomain of “person” in the target domain.

- (91) *Dập dìu tài tử giai nhân  
Ngựa xe như nước áo quần như nêm.*

(47-48)

*We can find a situational metonymy where the striking image “Ngựa xe như nước áo quần như nêm, a crush of clothes, a rush of wheels and steeds, The crowds divided when each vehicle and horse would pass” stand for the whole event “There are a lot of people around here”.*



**Table 4.5. Source In Target: Part For Whole**

Type of mapping	Source	Target	Example
	Subdomain	Matrix domain	
FACE FOR PERSON	<b>mặt lòng chơi</b>	Person who possesses the face	<i>Dưới trần mấy <b>mặt lòng chơi</b> Chơi hoa đã dễ mấy người biết hoa</i>
EYES FOR PERSON	<b>nhắm mắt</b>	Person who possesses the eyes	<i>Cũng liêu <b>nhắm mắt đưa tay</b> Mà xem con tạo xoay vẫn đến đâu</i>
CHEEKS FOR PERSON	<b>má đào</b>	Person who possesses the cheeks	<i>Bấy lâu nghe tiếng <b>má đào</b> Mắt xanh chẳng để ai vào có không?</i>
HEAD FOR PERSON	<b>Đầu xanh</b>	Person who possesses the head	<i><b>Đầu xanh</b> đã tội tình gì Má hồng đến quá nửa thì chưa thôi</i>
HAND FOR PERSON	<b>tay bọm già</b>	Person who possesses the hand	<i>Xem gương trong bấy nhiêu ngày Thân con chẳng kẻ mắc <b>tay bọm già</b></i>
VOICE FOR PERSON	<b>tiếng</b>	Person who possesses the voice	<i>Sánh đường mảng tiếng đòi ngay lên hầu</i>
SOUL FOR PERSON	<b>hồn</b>	Persons who possess the soul	<i>Tôi đòi phách lạc <b>hồn</b> bay Pha càn bụi cỏ gốc cây ả mình</i>

BLOOD FOR PERSON	<b>máu</b>	Person who possesses the blood	<i>Cạn lời hồn ngắt <b>máu</b> say một hơi lặng ngắt đôi tay giá đồng</i>
HAIR FOR PERSON	<b>tóc thê</b>	Person who possesses the hair	<i><b>Tóc thê</b> đã chấm ngang vai Nào lời non nước nào lời sắt son</i>
BONES FOR PERSON	<b>xương</b>	Person who possesses the bones	<i>Chị dù thịt nát <b>xương</b> mòn Ngậm cười chín suối hãy còn thơm lây</i>
FOOT FOR PERSON	<b>gót</b>	Person who possesses the foot	<i>Sinh thì dạo <b>gót</b> sân đào bước ra</i>
EARS FOR PERSON	<b>tai</b>	Person who possesses the ears	<i>Nội lòng kín chẳng ai hay, Ngoài <b>tai</b> để mặc gió bay mái ngoài</i>
MOUTH FOR PERSON	<b>Miệng người</b>	Persons who possess the mouths	<i>Từ nghe vườn mới thêm hoa <b>Miệng người</b> đã lấm tin nhà thì không</i>

**Table 4.6. Target in Source: Place for Person**

Type of mapping	Source	Target	Example
	Matrix domain	Subdomain	
COUNTRY FOR PERSON	The country	People living in the country	<i>Một hai nghiêng <b>nước</b> nghiêng <b>thành</b> Sắc đành đòi một tài đành họa hai</i>

CAPITAL FOR PERSON	The capital	People living in the capital	<i>Rằng : Năm Gia-Tĩnh triều Minh <b>Bốn phương</b> phẳng lặng</i>
HOUSE FOR PERSON	The house	People living in the house	<i><b>Một nhà</b> sum họp trúc mai Càng sâu nghĩa bể càng dài tình sông</i>
COURT FOR PERSON	The court	People in charge in the court	<i><b>Phủ đường</b> nghe thoảng vào tai Động lòng lại gạn đến niềm riêng tây</i>

#### 4.4. PRAGMATIC FEATURES AND FUNCTIONS OF METONYMY

##### 4.4.1. The Information Status of Metonymic Expressions

###### a. When the entity in the source domain is more specific

(97) *Lạ cho cái sông khuyh thành*

*Làm cho đồ **quán** xiêu **đình** như chơi*

(1301-1302)

###### b. When the entity in the source domain is less specific

(103) ***Kiếp** hoa dâu đã đến ngoài*

*Quản huyện dâu đã giục người sinh ly*

(779-780)

#### 4.5. VIETNAMESE-ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF METONYMIC EXPRESSIONS BY HUYNH SANH THONG AND MICHAEL COUNSELL

##### 4.5.1. The Translation By Huynh Sanh Thong

###### a. Reproducing the Same Entity in the TL

(106) *Rằng Năm Gia-Tĩnh triều Minh*

*Bốn phương phẳng lặng **hai kinh** vừng vàng (9-10)*

*Under the Chia-ching when Ming held sway  
all lived at peace-both **capitals** stood strong*

[44, p.3]

**b. Replacing the entity in The SL with a Standard TL entity**

(112) *Thời trân thức thức sẵn bày*

**Gót sen thoãn thoắt** dạo ngay mái tường (377-378)

*She set out fare in season, treats galore*

*Then toward the wall she bent **her nimble steps***

[44, p.21]

**c. Using the referent that the entity in the SL refers to**

(119) *Rằng Năm Gia-Tĩnh triều Minh*

**Bốn phương** phẳng lặng hai kinh vững vàng

(9-10)

*Under the Chia-ching when Ming held sway*

**all** lived at peace-both capitals stood strong.

[44, p.3]

**d. Deletion part of the entity in SL**

(123) *Lạ gì bí sắc tư phong*

*Trời xanh quen thói **má hồng** đánh ghen*

(6-7)

*It is so strange that losses balance gains?*

*Blue Heaven's wont to strike **a rose** from spite*

[44, p.3]

**e. Converting into Sense in The TL**

(125) **Tóc tơ căn vụn tấc lòng**

*Trăm năm tạc một chữ đồng đến xương*

(451-452)

*Their hearts' recesses they explored and probed  
etching their vow of union in their bones*

[44, p.25]

**f. Converting into Idiom in The TL**

Let's take a look at the following examples:

(125) *Trăng thề còn đó trợ trợ*

*Dám xa xôi mặt mà thưa thớt lòng*

(541-542)

*But it's still there, the moon that we swore by*

*not face to face, we shall stay heart to heart*

[44, p.29]

**4.5.2. The Translation by Michael Counsell**

**a. Reproducing the same image in the TL**

(126) *Phũ phàng chi bấy hoá công*

*Ngày xanh mòn mỗi má hồng phơi pha*

(85-86)

*Creator, why so cruel and hard?*

*Her rosy cheeks you marred*

*while she was but a child*

[28, p.31]

**b. Replacing the entity in the SL with a standard TL image**

(133) *Mặt nhìn mặt càng thêm tươi*

*Bên lời vạn phúc bên lời hàn huyên*

(393-394)

*Each looked into the eyes*

*of each, and saw them overjoyed.*

*Politely they employed*

*the greetings old convention bade;*

[28, p.75]

**c. Using the targeted referent in TL in place of the metonymic expressions in the SL**

- (134) **Hồn** còn mang nặng lời thề  
 Nát thân bỏ liễu đèn nghi trúc mai (745-746)  
*Oh, what a weight I bear!*  
*I'd give my life to repay his love*

[28, p.145]

**d. Deletion part of the entity in SL**

Let's take a look at the following examples for this type of translation:

- (137) *Dập dìu tài tử giai nhân*  
*Ngựa xe như nước áo quần như nêm* (47-48)  
*Fair ladies passed along,*  
*and noble, well-dressed gentlemen*  
*The crowds divided when*  
*each vehicle and horse would pass*

[28, p.25]

**e. Converting into Sense in The TL**

- (138) *Chập chờn cơn tỉnh cơn mê*  
*Rón ngời chẳng tiện dứt về chĩn khôn* (165-166)  
*They thought it was a dream*  
*It was improper, though, to stay;*  
*painful to go away*

[28, p.41]

**f. Converting image into idiom in the TL**

Although this type of translation accounts for a small percentage, it is

worth mentioning:

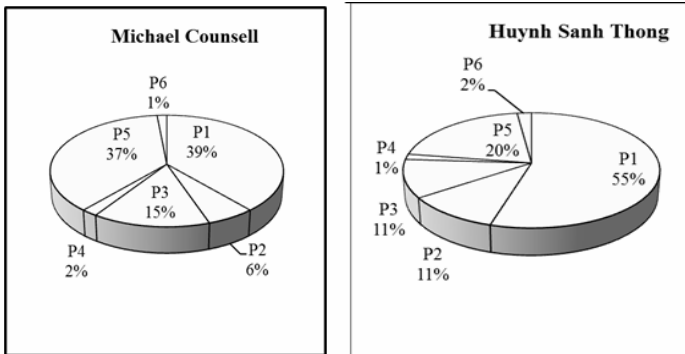
(141) *Trăng thê còn đó trợ trợ*  
*Dám xa xôi mặt mà thua thốt lòng*

(541-542)

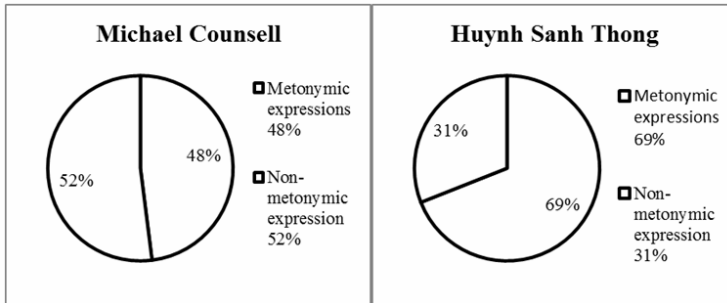
*The moon is still above*  
*that witnessed our betrothal vows*  
*Our heart shall stay epoused*  
*forever, though we are **out of sight***

[28, p.99]

#### 4.5.3. Some Remarks from the Analysis of Translating Metonymic Expressions in *Truyen Kieu* by Michael Counsell and Huynh Sanh Thong



*Chart 4.1. Comparison on procedures of translating metonymic expressions in English versions by Michael Counsell and Huynh Sanh Thong*



***Chart 4.2. Comparison on numbers of metonymic expressions in English versions by Michael Counsell and Huynh Sanh Thong***

#### **4.6. SUMMARY**

### **CHAPTER 5**

#### **CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS**

##### **5.1. A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE STUDY OF METONYMIC EXPRESSIONS IN TRUYEN KIEU AND ITS ENGLISH TRANSLATIONAL VERSIONS**

Metonymy is more pervasive and important, cognitively and rhetorically than has usually been noted

Syntactically, we have showed that the major function of metonymy is referential which is fulfilled typically by noun phrase structures. In this syntactic structure, the modifier-head relations are a high precision feature for recognition of metonymic expressions

Sematically, metonymic expressions can make use of nearly all types of idealized conceptual models with relations between the source domain and target domain. We can see that Nguyen Du uses a place-for-inhabitants metonymy most often when he comes to describing people living in cities, towns or villages.



## **5.2. THE INFLUENCES OF CULTURAL FEATURES ON METONYMY**

*Đầu xanh đã tội tình gì*

*Má hồng đến quá nửa thì chưa thôi*

It is customary of Vietnamese people to consider “hair” as an important feature of the appearance. The concept of aging is closed to the color of the hair, black hair for young people and grey hair for old one

## **5.3. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ENGLISH TEACHING AND LEARNING CONCERNING THE USE OF METONYMIC EXPRESSIONS AND TRANSLATION**

Metonymy can present interesting challenges to all poem readers. The comprehension process involves not only identifying the possible interpretation allowed by the grammar, but also using contextual clues to eliminate some interpretations. Metonymy is also used to make sense of reference by association, so it forces the reader to work harder at making meaning in a text as well as in poetry

## **5.4. IMPLICATION FOR LANGUAGE TEACHING AND LEARNING**

Through the analysis and translation of metonymies above we found out that both Vietnamese and English have much common in the ICMs as the universals both in the representation of the conceptual structures as well as the representation of these ICMs in the language.

## **5.4. LIMITATION OF THE THESIS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES**

For a thorough insight into metonymy in Truyen Kieu, the following issues should be further concentrated:

- Cultural reflections from the conceptual structure of ICMS
- Cultural explanation for the difference choice of procedures in translating metonymic expressions from Vietnamese to English.