

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
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**A CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF LINGUISTIC FEATURES
OF THE ADJECTIVE “BLACK” IN ENGLISH
AND “ĐEN” IN VIETNAMESE**

**Field: The English Language
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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 RATIONALE

Color is considered a very important part that nature has provided us to feed both our body and spirit. Besides, the colour nourishes our whole living style, supplying a source of energy that is an essential and wonderful part of life. As highly colorful beings, our forms are made up of ever- changing color and we respond to our color actively or passively in all that we do. In addition, the coloured rays not only affect our physical bodies but also our emotions, mood or mental faculties.

In fact, *Black* and *Đen* are associated with negative meanings: ideas of death, mourning, sorrow, depress and evil, harm or sometimes it concerns to social factors: “*black-thought*” (*tư tưởng đen tối*), “*black-market*” (*chợ đen*), “*black-Friday*” (*ngày hạ giá*)...

Theoretically, many relevant studies on *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese have been done so far. However, researches on linguistic features of and *Đen* to find out their similarities and differences between two languages have not been carried out. Therefore, it is necessary to do a research on this matter to enrich characteristics of *Black* and *Đen*. As a result, the topic “*A Contrastive Analysis of Linguistic Features of the Adjective “Black” in English and “Đen” in Vietnamese*” has been carried out according to the reasons above.

1.2. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE STUDY

With the contrastive analysis of the different features of meaning of the adjective *Black* and *Đen*, pragmatic acquisition of how to apply such an adjective in appropriate and suitable ways,

learners will be able to improve their understanding of the field, and get the final goal – communication in an effective way.

1.3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1.3.1 Aims

The study is hoped to :

- Help teachers and learners understand the semantic diversity and usage of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese.
- Help teachers and learners explore similarities and differences of cultural characteristics of each country implied through its language.

1.3.2 Objectives

The study is planned to :

- Make a contrastive analysis of semantic and pragmatic features of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese
- Find out similarities and differences of semantic and pragmatic features of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese.

1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The paper will find the answers to the following questions:

- (1) What are the semantic features of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese?
- (2) What are the semantic similarities and differences of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese?
- (3) What are the pragmatic features of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese?
- (4) What are the pragmatic similarities and differences of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese?

1.5. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study is restricted to describe, analyse and contrast the semantic and pragmatic features of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese in compound words, collocation and idiomatic phrases. The contrastive analysis is based on the source language of English in contrast to Vietnamese. The study is carried out with the essential sources on 300 adjectives *Black*, 300 adjectives *Đen* and 300 samples selected from British, American and Vietnamese stories, novels, and idioms books. Also, some educational, political, economic and health newspapers and magazines are added to.

1.6. ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

Chapter 1 – “The Introduction”

Chapter 2 – “Literature Review and Theoretical Background”

Chapter 3 – “Method and Procedure”

Chapter 4 – “Findings and Discussions”

Chapter 5 – “The Conclusion”

CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2. 1. LITERATURE REVIEW

It is necessary to pay attention to the study of words denoting color which has joint effect on semantic recognition of adjectives, especially the adjective of color. In the study by Truong Thanh Ngoc (2003), [52,p.33-60], what attracts the reader is detailed mention of semantic facets of such colors as black, white, green, red, yellow, blue, brown, grey, orange, pink and purple. However, in other study by Mai Nguyen Dieu Khoa (2005), [30,35-36], it does go far in this semantic level. She focuses her attention on the study of metaphoric meaning of such kind of adjective which includes six main colors. Taking notice of diverse and symbolized significance similarly, in her study (2005), Nguyen Thi Dieu Hao [38,p.23-60] finds that people often tend to use Idioms denoting color words in daily communication.

In fact, many authors make great use of adjectival characteristics in the hope of bringing about its semantic and pragmatic recognition profoundly. Pustejovsky's [40] demonstration of typical ambiguity and context dependence of adjective like *fast* where the adjectival interpretation varies depending on noun being modified is remarkable.

2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.2.1. Definition of Color

Color is the visual perceptual property corresponding in humans to the categories called *red*, *green*, *blue* and others. Color categories and physical specifications of color are also associated with objects, materials, light sources, etc., based on their physical

properties such as light absorption, reflection, or emission spectra. By defining a color space, colors can be identified numerically by their coordinates.

2.2.2. Basis Color Terms

According to Brent Berlin and Paul Kay, in a classic study (1969) of worldwide color naming, argued that these differences can be organized into a coherent hierarchy, and that there are a limited number of universal "basic color terms" which begin to be used by individual cultures in a relatively fixed order. Berlin and Kay based their analysis on a comparison of color words in 20 languages from around the world. To be considered a basic color term, the words had to be monolexemic ("green", but not "light green" or "forest green"), high-frequency and agreed upon by speakers of that language.

2.2.3. Words Denoting Colors (WsDC)

Color words are freely used to describe different things, such as features of the characters faces, clothes, jewellery, make-up, cars, landscapes and seascape, pieces of art etc. In fact, English has a self contained set of 11 words that can be described as "basic colour words" black, white, red, yellow, green, blue, brown, pink, orange, purple and gray (đen, trắng, đỏ, vàng, xanh lá cây, xanh lơ, nâu, hồng, cam, tím và xám). We normally mention WsDC as natural characters or in denotative meaning. However, WsDC are also used to express different ideas, thoughts, feelings, attitude in connotative and social meaning in daily communication.

2.2.4. Types of Word

2.2.4.1. Simple Words: are largely monosyllabic. For example: go, white...

2.2.4.2. Complex Words: contain one or more bound morphemes and one free morpheme: country, study...

2.2.4.3. Derivation Words: are ones containing affixes as derivatives: blackish, exhausted, peaceful...

2.2.4.4. Compound Words: are units consisting of two or more bases, in some cases, they are composite words: blackbird, blackboard, White House...

2.2.4.5. Reduplicational Words: Some compounds have two or more elements which are either identical or only slightly different. For example, good – goody means affectedly well.

2.2.5. Approaches to Collocations

This paper deals with the definition by Watson [42, p.7]: "*collocation is the placing together of words which are often associated with each other, so that they form common patterns or combinations*".

2.2.6. Idioms

An idiom is an expression, word, or phrase that has a figurative meaning that is comprehended in regard to a common use of that expression that is separate from the literal meaning or definition of the words of which it is made.

However, with limitation of data, in this paper we just consider idiomatic phrases denoting the adjective *Black* and *Den*

2.2.7. Semantic Features

Semantic features play a very important part in differentiating the match between word and meaning. We need a very large number of features to do this work. But linguists believe that a much smaller number of features would be needed in writing grammar description.

2.2.7.1. *Components of Word Meaning*

a. Denotation is a 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.

b. Connotation is the additional meanings that a word or phrase has beyond its central meaning. These meanings show people's emotions and attitudes towards what the word or phrase refers to.

2.2.7.2. *Transference of Meaning*

a. Metaphor

According to Arnold (1986), a metaphor is a transfer of name based on the association of identical features and this is actually a hidden comparison.

b. Metonymy

According to Arnold, metonymy can be defined a transfer based on the association of contiguity. In fact, it is a transfer of names between things which are known to be in some ways or others connected in reality or the substitution of the name of an attribute of a thing for the name of the thing itself.

c. Polysemy

Polysemy which is characteristic of most words in English is property of a single word, so we should talk something about polysemy. It is a semantic phenomenon in which a word has two or more similar meanings.

2.2.7.3. *Semantic Fields*

The semantic structure of vocabulary of a language can be studied in a precise and systematic way by means of componential analysis of which the theory of semantic field greatly leans.

2.2.8. **Pragmatic Features**

Pragmatics is a subfield of linguistics which studies the ways in which context contributes to meaning. Pragmatics encompasses speech act theory, conversational implicature, talk in interaction and other approaches to language behavior in philosophy, sociology, and linguistics.

2.2.9. **Culture in Language**

It is considered that features of our lifestyle are our use of things in the world around us to extend the capabilities, the complex social structure and so forth. In fact, language has become the vital means whereby we can carry out our social lives: language for learning, language for planning, language for co-operation. Speakers and writers, within the context of culture, use language in many more specific situations.

2.2.10. **Excel Statistics**

We used Excel to do some basic data analysis tasks because it is a reasonable alternative to using a statistical package for the same tasks.

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURES

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

With the purpose of making a description and contrastive analysis of linguistic features between the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese, this study is intended to follow qualitative approach and develops in different chapters containing some basic theoretical concepts related to semantic and pragmatic features of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese.

3.2. RESEARCH PROCEDURES

Many steps are employed to carry out this paper including data collection, data sorting and finally data analysis, however, the following two phrases will be specifically mentioned as follows:

3.2.1. Data Collection

I choose 300 adjectives *Black* and 300 adjectives *Đen* in different collocations randomly to be samples of the thesis. The study is also carried out with the essential sources from British, American and Vietnamese stories, novels and several educational, political, economic and health newspapers and magazines.

3.3.2. Data Analysis

- Collecting samples of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen* from the Websites and some dictionaries (English – English, English – Vietnamese, Vietnamese – English, and Vietnamese- Vietnamese).

- Classifying the meaning of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen* according to their categories of semantic features

- Describing the semantic features of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen*

- Giving contrastive analysis of *Black* and *Đen* in terms of frequency and semantic features.

- Examining the pragmatic features of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen*

- Giving contrastive analysis of *Black* and *Đen* in terms of pragmatic features.

- Drawing conclusions on semantics, pragmatic of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen*

- Putting forwards some implications for teaching, learning and translating work and further researches.

- Closing the study with References and Appendixes

3.3. RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

Analysing and contrasting semantic and pragmatic of the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese require collecting corpora of literature works and some Websites to be studied. Since the whole research work relied on the Websites, it was all-important that these works should be carefully read and that examples should be cautiously selected in order to ensure a satisfying reliability of results.

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF LINGUISTIC
FEATURES OF THE ADJECTIVE "BLACK"
IN ENGLISH AND "ĐEN" IN VIETNAMESE

4.1 SEMANTIC FEATURES OF THE ADJECTIVE "BLACK"
IN ENGLISH AND "ĐEN" IN VIETNAMESE

4.1.1. Semantic Features of the Adjective *Black* in English

4.1.1.1. *Semantic Structures of the Adjective Black in English*

According to Oxford Collocations Dictionary, the adjective *Black* denotes the following cases of meaning:

- a. Lacking hue and brightness; absorbing light without reflecting any of the rays composing it: *blackboard, black pen*
- b. Characterized by absence of light; enveloped in darkness: *black night*.
- c. Pertaining or belonging to any of the various populations characterized by dark skin pigmentation, specifically the dark-skinned peoples of Africa, Oceania, and Australia: *black musician, black President*
- d. Soiled or stained with dirt: *black hands*
- e. Gloomy; pessimistic; dismal: *black outlook*.
- f. Deliberately; harmful; inexcusable: *black lie*.
- g. Boding ill; sullen or hostile; threatening: *black words; black looks*.
- h. (of coffee or tea) without milk or cream: *black coffee, black tea*
- i. Without any moral quality or goodness; evil; wicked: *black heart, black crimes*
- j. Indicating censure, disgrace, or liability to punishment: *a black mark on one's record*.

k. Marked by disaster or misfortune: *black areas of drought; Black Friday*.

wearing black or dark clothing or armor: *the black prince*.

l. Based on the grotesque, morbid, or unpleasant aspects of life: *black comedy; black humor*.

m. done or written in black to indicate, as on a list, that which is undesirable, sub-standard, potentially dangerous: *black flag*.

n. Illegal or underground: *black economy, black market*

o. Showing a profit; not showing any losses: *the first black quarter in two years*.

p. deliberately false or intentionally misleading: *black propaganda*.

However, through collected data from British and American novels, stories, newspapers, the adjective *Black* is surveyed to contain cases of meaning as follows:

Firstly, *Black* denotes meaning of color defined as lacking hue and brightness; absorbing light without reflecting any of the rays composing it and it is used in the following phrases: black hair, black pepper, black eyes, black coal, black box, black body, black hole, etc.

Besides, from such a black color, *Black* also gets transference of meaning through two ways: metaphor and metonymy.

In fact, in the first case of metaphor, *Black* is used to mention something similar to black color and based on its outward similarities, some other things can be named such as: black face, the black people, black bean, black culture, black skin, black English, etc.

Moreover, in the case of metaphor two, *Black* also means black color but it is understood something unobvious or characterized by absence of light; enveloped in darkness seen in the following

phrases: black night, black hole, black body, black box, black-spot, black mark, blackmail...

In addition, the cases of meaning of the adjective *Black* is also semantically developed by metonymical transference.

4.1.1.2. Semantic Fields of the Adjective *Black* in English

Table 4.1: *The semantic fields of the adjective Black summarized from collected data*

Semantic Fields of "Black"	Compound	Collocation	Idiomatic Phrases	Percentage
1. Color	black coffee	black eyelash	as black as coal	51 (17%)
2. Complexion	black culture	black face	as black as soot	37 (12,33%)
3. Animals	black bird	Black swallowtail	as black as crow	27 (9%)
4.Plants	blackthorn	black bean	as black as the Sambucus	25 (8,33%)
5. Business/ Investment	black gold	black Friday	be in the black	23 (7,66%)
6. Evil	Blackmail	black-spot	black humour	21 (7%)
7. Politics/ Military	Blackball	black Power	Men in black	20 (6,66%)
8.Technology	black box	black body radiator	black - and -white	19 (6,33%)
9. Physical state	black hole	black body	go black	18 (6%)
10. Ideas/	black	black mood	black	17

thought/ feelings	outlook		thought	(5,66%)
11. Disease	black water-fever	black death		12 (4%)
12. Religion/ Belief	black Temple	black Monk	the black sheep	11 (3,66%)
13. Art/ Entertainment	black magic	black bottom		10 (3,33%)
14. Gambling	black jack	black luck	a black day	9 (3%)

4.1.2. Semantic Features of the Adjective *Đen* in Vietnamese

4.1.2.1. Semantic Structures of the Adjective *Đen* in Vietnamese

According to Vietnamese - Vietnamese Dictionary - Bui Phung (World Publisher), *Đen* contains some cases of meaning as follows:

- a. Shortage of hue and brightness; absorbing light without reflecting any of the rays composing it: *tóc đen, bút đen, bảng đen, xe đen...*
- b. Absence of light or to be enveloped in darkness: *đêm đen, mây đen, bầu trời đen kịt*
- c. Color of clothing: *quần đen, vớ đen, áo đen*
- d. Color of technological devices: *hộp đen, vật thể đen, màn hình đen, hổ đen*
- d. Something illegal or underground: *chợ đen, quĩ đen*
- e. Various populations characterized by dark skin, specifically the dark-skinned peoples around the world: *thổ dân da đen, châu lục đen*
- f. Something gloomy; pessimistic; dismal: *tương lai đen tối*
- g. Without any moral quality or goodness; evil; wicked, harmful: *đen bạc, quyền lực đen, điểm đen, tư tưởng đen tối, xã hội đen*
- h. Disaster or misfortuneness: *cái chết đen, đen đui, vận đen*

Nevertheless, based on collected data from Vietnamese novels, stories and lots of newspapers and magazines, *Đen* is recognized to contain the following cases of meaning:

First of all, *Đen* denotes meaning of black color that can be listed in some phrases: tóc đen, chó đen (chó mực), ngựa đen (ngựa ô), dưa đen (dưa mun), gà đen (gà ác), bảng đen, áo đen, etc.

In fact, similar to *Black*, *Đen* is also semantically transferred through two devices of metaphor and metonymy.

4.1.2.2. Semantic Fields of the Adjective *Đen* in Vietnamese

Table 4.2: The semantic fields of the adjective *Đen* summarized from collected data

Semantic Fields of "Đen"	Compound	Collocation	Idiomatic Phrases	Percentage
1. Màu sắc	bảng đen	răng đen	đen như đất chảo	53 (17,66%)
2. Làn da	đen bóng	mặt đen	đen như cột nhà cháy	32 (10,66%)
3. Động vật	gà ác	chó mực	đen như (chim) cuốc	27 (9%)
4. Thực vật	lục bình đen	đậu đen	đen như củ tam thất	26 (8,66%)
5. Kinh doanh	vàng đen	chợ đen	ngày thứ sáu đen tối	23 (7,66%)
6. Tội ác	Số đen	quyền lực đen	mặt sắt đen sì	22 (7,33%)
7. Chính trị	Đại Bàng đen	xã hội đen		20 (6,66%)
8. Kỹ thuật	hộp đen	hồ đen		18

công nghệ				(6%)
9. Hiện tượng lý tính	dầu hắc	đêm tối đen	đen như mực	17 (5,66%)
10. Tư tưởng/ Tình cảm	đen đui	tư tưởng đen tối	ăn ở đen bạc	16 (5,33%)
11. Bệnh tật	gan đen	Nấm mốc đen		13 (4,33%)
12. Tôn giáo/ Tín ngưỡng	giáo hội đen	Đền thờ đen		12 (4%)
13. Nghệ thuật	phim trắng đen	bôi đen		11 (3,66%)
14. Bài bạc/ Cá cược	đỏ đen	vận đen	cờ bạc canh đỏ canh đen	10 (3,33%)

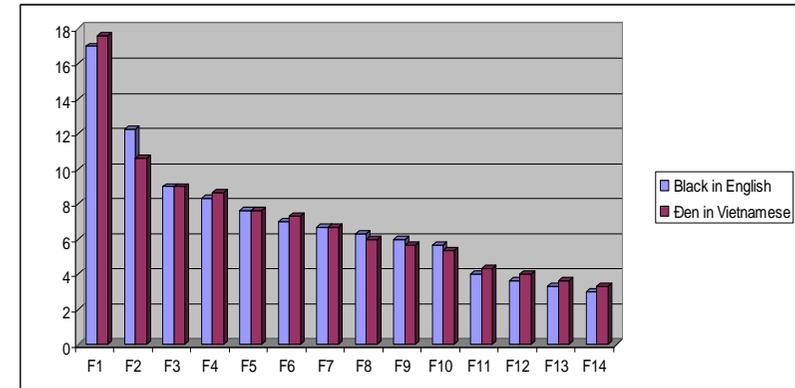
4.1.3. Similarities and Differences in the Semantic Features of the Adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese

Table 4.3: Relative frequency of *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese

Fields order(F)	<i>Black</i> in English	Percentage	<i>Đen</i> in Vietnamese	Percentage
1.	Color	51 (17%)	Màu sắc	53 (17,66%)
2.	Complexion	37 (12,33%)	Làn da	32 (10,66%)
3.	Animals	27 (9%)	Động vật	27 (9%)
4.	Plants	25 (8,33%)	Thực vật	26 (8,66%)

5.	Business/ Investment	23 (7,66%)	Kinh doanh	23 (7,66%)
6.	Evil	21 (7%)	Tội ác	22 (7,33%)
7.	Politics/ Military	20 (6,66%)	Chính trị	20 (6,66%)
8.	Technology	19 (6,33%)	Kỹ thuật công nghệ	18 (6%)
9.	Physical state	18 (6%)	Hiện tượng lý tính	17 (5,66%)
10.	Ideas/ thought/ feelings	17 (5,66%)	Tư tưởng/ Tình cảm	16 (5,33%)
11.	Disease	12 (4%)	Bệnh tật	13 (4,33%)
12.	Religion/ Belief	11 (3,66%)	Tôn giáo/ Tín ngưỡng	12 (4%)
13.	Art/ Entertainment	10 (3,33%)	Nghệ thuật	11 (3,66%)
14.	Gambling	9 (3%)	Bài bạc/ Cá cược	10 (3,33%)

Table 4.4 Comparison between *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese



4.1.3.1. Similarities:

a. Frequency:

The counted percentage shows that frequency of usage of word-groups in semantic combination with the adjective *Black* and *Đen* in most of fields is basically equivalent.

b. Semantics:

In general, the adjective *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese contains cases of meaning such as: lacking hue and brightness, absence of light or darkness, illegality, wick or harm, disaster, secret.

4.1.3.2. Differences

a. Frequency

Through description, classification and contrast, we recognize that most of the word-groups combined with *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese used in different fields hardly get greatly different frequency.

b. Semantics

In English, the adjective *Black* always stands before a head noun to form a combinative phrase such as: “black market, black jack, black mood”. However, this rule is contrastive to the adjective *Đen* in Vietnamese. In fact, it is sometimes not necessary for *Đen* to combine with or appear before a noun. Unlike *Black*, *Đen* can combine with either a noun or an adjective to form a compound adjective or compound noun, for example, “đen đủi, đen bóng, vện đen, chè đen...”

4.2 PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF THE ADJECTIVE "BLACK" IN ENGLISH AND "ĐEN" IN VIETNAMESE.

4.2.1. Pragmatic Features of the Adjective Black in English

Firstly, based on historical features, social and cultural backgrounds, the English would like to use *Black* to mention educational aspects in certain periods of society in order for people around the world to deeply understand their culture.

Secondly, *Black* used by English people implies racial discrimination with black people when they mention “*black culture or black music*”

Thirdly, in practice *Black* is also used to refer to disaster or misfortunes in business or diseases such as : *Black-Death*, *Black Tuesday* that can be defined correctly only by putting it in the right context or getting into detail of searching its true information.

Fourthly, *Black* is used to mean something illegal, unhealthy or unsuitable for the rules or moral values in economy or in society, for examples *black market*, *black budget*.

Fifthly, together with the development of science and technology, the adjective *Black* is also used to name technological

devices to show progressess, initiativeness or secrets in technology that need to be researched continuously.

Sixthly, the English also use *Black* to mean something wicked or harmful to human’s life and society that can be seen through the phrases *black hands*, *black heart*

4.2.2 Pragmatic Features of the Adjective Đen in Vietnamese

Firstly, together with effects of Estern culture, social background, and historical events, Vietnamese people tend to use *Đen* to imply something dealing with their belief.

Secondly, like *Black*, *Đen* is also used to reflect educational characteristics to explain schooling aspects in certain cultural stages.

Thirdly, in Vietnamese, *Đen* is applied to mention illegal things or wrong doings to criticize unlawful activities in some fields.

Fourthly, more distinctively, *Đen* in Vietnamese is used to refer to common people “*dân đen*, *dân ngu cu đen*” who are regarded as the lower social classes in society.

Fifthly, *Đen* in Vietnamese also implies wick, pessimism or lacking of moral quality that can rule or harm human’s life.

Seventhly, Vietnamese people tend to use *Đen* to reflect cultural aspects like “*nhuộm răng đen*”- a symbol of beauty of Vietnamese

4.2.3 Similarities and Differences of Pragmatics Features of the Adjective Black in English and Đen in Vietnamese

4.2.3.1. Similarities:

Firstly, *Black* in English and *Đen* in Vietnamese are used to mention educational aspects.

Secondly, both *Black* and *Đen* in two languages focus on reflecting something illegal or irregular in society.

Thirdly, something considered wick, pessimism, or without moral quality are also used in both languages.

Lastly, the phrases of plants “*black tea, black coffee, black bean*” and “*chè đen, đậu đen, cà phê đen*” are used in both English and Vietnamese and they focus on effects of human’s health.

4.2.3.2 Differences:

The first thing is due to cultural differences between two countries, *Black* in English tend to imply racial discrimination between black people and white ones. However, this does not occur for the case of *Đen* in Vietnamese.

The second thing is that when Vietnamese people mention *Đen*, they often think unluck, sufferings or misfortune such as “*vận đen, số đen, đen đui...*”.

The last thing is *Đen* used in Vietnamese focuses on the lower social classes such as “*dân đen, dân ngu cu đen*” that are in poverty and usually dominated. In contrast, the English use *Black* to mention black people with an implicature of racial discrimination.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION

5.1 CONCLUSION

In fact, in Chapter One, the first important thing should be done is to mention the rationale of the study, the aims and objectives the study towards. Moreover, the research questions and scope of the study are also added.

The Chapter Two of the study started with a review of related previous studies, necessary theories of the topic are carefully examined which brings a basic foundation for the data analysis as well as the content of discussion of finding in the following chapters.

Meanwhile, in Chapter Three, it is essential to give out the methods and procedures of the study. In addition, the source of data as well as data analysis are also mentioned.

And in Chapter Four the findings of the research on the semantic and pragmatic features of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen* are presented.

Semantically, the adjectives *Black* and *Đen* are regarded as ones with diverse meanings. Actually, in order to deeply understand their cases of meaning, it is important to consider them in their collocations. From such various meanings, with a desire of discovering in what fields *Black* and *Đen* refer to, they should be summarized in each field of color, complexion, business, plants, animals, art, etc...

Pragmatically, based on the outward meaning of black color, the adjectives *Black* and *Đen* focus on reflecting various aspects of human’s life. It should be noted in the last Chapter, the paper intends to provide some suggestions for translational equivalents in Vietnamese and English of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen*

5.2. IMPLICATIONS ON TEACHING, LEARNING AND TRANSLATION

5.2.1. Implications on the Language Teaching and Learning

Within the scope of this study, we have dealt with some basic knowledge of collocation, idioms, semantic structures, semantic fields as well as pragmatic features of the adjectives of *Black* and *Đen*. The finding of the study may be in one way or another beneficial to the language learners since it provides a good background of how to use the meanings of the adjective appropriately. For the language teaching, this study may be another sign implicating the need of encouraging students to exploit the diverse meanings of adjectives for the purpose of using adjectives flexibly and sufficiently.

5.2.2. Implications on Translation Work

It can be said that any of the linguistic thesis is directed to pedagogical implications. An investigation into semantic and pragmatic features of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen* leads both teachers and learners of English and Vietnamese to some shared implications. Since there are differences in perception of the adjective *Black* and *Đen*, translative complexity is inevitable. Laying stress on special attention to the contextual adjective between English and Vietnamese is an effective way to cope with what the authors mean. And it is also the requirement for both Vietnamese and English learners and translators who have ambition of getting a proper translated version.

5.3. LIMITATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCHES

This thesis has made a study of the linguistic features of the adjectives *Black* and *Đen* which include the semantic and pragmatic

features. Consequently, it is necessary to give some suggestions for the possible translational equivalents of the adjective *Black* and *Đen* in each separated sense. However, there are some aspects that have not been dealt with within this framework, calling for further investigation:

- Syntactic features and collocations of *Black* and *Đen*
- Cultural characteristics of another words denoting colors “red, blue, yellow, white...”