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TRƯỜNG ĐẠI HỌC DÂN LẬP HẢI PHÒNG

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GRADUATION PAPER

A STUDY ON WORDS FROM NAMES IN NGUYEN NHAT ANH' S STORIES AND THEIR ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS

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NA1002

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HAI PHONG – JUNE 2010

Nhiệm vụ đề tài tốt nghiệp

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Nhiệm vụ đề tài

1. Nội dung và các yêu cầu cần giải quyết trong nhiệm vụ đề tài tốt nghiệp

   (về lý luận, thực tiễn, các số liệu cần tính toán và các bản vẽ).

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2. Các số liệu cần thiết để thiết kế, tính toán.

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3. Địa điểm thực tập tốt nghiệp.

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CÁN BỘ HƯỚNG DẪN ĐỀ TÀI

Người hướng dẫn thứ nhất:

Họ và tên: ....

Học hàm, học vị: ....

Cơ quan công tác: ....

Nội dung hướng dẫn: ....

Người hướng dẫn thứ hai:

Họ và tên:..

Học hàm, học vị:...

Cơ quan công tác:..

Nội dung hướng dẫn:..

Đề tài tốt nghiệp được giao ngày 12 tháng 04 năm 2010

Yêu cầu phải hoàn thành xong trước ngày 10 tháng 07 năm 2010

Đã nhận nhiệm vụ ĐTTN   Đã giao nhiệm vụ ĐTTN

Sinh viên   *Người hướng dẫn*

Hải Phòng, ngày   tháng   năm 2010

HIỆU TRƯỞNG

GS.TS.NGƯT *Trần Hữu Nghị*

PHẦN NHẬN XÉT TÓM TẮT CỦA CÁN BỘ HƯỚNG DẪN

1. **Tinh thần thái độ của sinh viên trong quá trình làm đề tài tốt nghiệp:**

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2. **Đánh giá chất lượng của khóa luận (so với nội dung yêu cầu đã đề ra trong nhiệm vụ Đ.T. T.N trên các mặt lý luận, thực tiễn, tính toán số liệu…):**

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3. **Cho điểm của cán bộ hướng dẫn (ghi bằng cả số và chữ):**

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Hải Phòng, ngày ..... tháng ..... năm 2010
Cán bộ hướng dẫn
(họ tên và chữ ký)

NHẬN XÉT ĐÁNH GIÁ
CỦA NGƯỜI CHẤM PHẢN BIỆN ĐỀ TÀI TỐT NGHIỆP

1. Đánh giá chất lượng đề tài tốt nghiệp về các mặt thu thập và phân tích tài liệu, số liệu ban đầu, giá trị lí luận và thực tiễn của đề tài.

2. Cho điểm của người chấm phản biện :

    (Điểm ghi bằng số và chữ)

Ngày.......... tháng......... năm 2010
Người chấm phản biện

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I know my graduation paper still keeping mistakes for my shortcomings. I would like to receive your comments, suggestions and corrections for the perfect of my own graduation paper.

Hai Phong, June 2010

Pham Thi Nga

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PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

1. Rationale of the study

No one can deny the importance of language. Without language, people cannot communicate with each other. Language is considered to be a system of communicating with other people, which uses sounds, symbols and words in expressing meaning, idea or thought and can be used in many forms.

English is one of the most important languages in the world and it is considered the most widely used language with more than sixty percent of the world population speaking. English is regarded as the key language in trading, banking, educating and information technology. People who can use English in communicating and working can have many chances in finding a good job.

Moreover, it is important to note that, being a social phenomenon, language develops together with society. The vocabulary of a language is always in a state of constant development. As human society develops, a great deal of new words is needed to express new ideas, new conception, and new wants. The vocabulary can be said to be a mirror that reflects man's character, mentality, and activity. In the process of learning English, I take account into words from names one of the basic processes of word formation. From the awareness of the crucial role of English in the age and with the knowledge after four years in university, I determine to choose this field as the Graduation Paper to study more on lexicology in English specific purposes and to improve knowledge about words from names. I hope that from the comparative study between English and Vietnamese words from names in Nguyen Nhat Anh' stories, we can find similarities and as well as differences.

Therefore, the following study shows English learners not only the characteristics but also the usage of words from names in Anh's stories.

2. Aims of the study

My research is aimed at:

- Providing English learners some characteristics, classifications of words from names in order to facilitate the effective use of these words.

- Analyzing the usage of English and Vietnamese names in Nguyen Nhat Anh's stories basing on the metaphor and simile.

- Helping the learners avoid dogmatic and misunderstanding in communication and translation, particularly with those in relation to the name usage.

3. Methods of the study

In order to help learners of English enrich their vocabulary and have a comprehensive understanding about words from names, I have been trying my best to develop the graduation paper through a descriptive and comparative analysis, and gave out many different notions and information about words from names which I collected from Anh's stories. All the illustrated examples are quoted from vocabulary books, semantic books, linguistic books, newspaper, magazine, and from internet which have useful information for my research.

Furthermore, my graduation paper also bases on myself experience and my knowledge during the process of learning English.

4. Scope of the study

In the process of learning English, learners often pay too much attention on grammatical structure and only focus on the meaning of new words without paying much attention to their origins.

Furthermore, due to the limitation of the knowledge and time, I only study words from names basing on metaphor and simile, of which I focus on

the names of characters in literature and names of famous people mentioned in Nguyen Nhat Anh' stories.

Hopefully, my study will partly help us have a general overview on words from names and their effective use in such kind of works.

5. Design of the study

The study composes three parts in which the second part is the most important one.

Part I, INTRODUCTION, presents about rationale, aims, methods, scope and design of the study.

Part II, DEVELOPMENT, consists three following chapters:

- Chapter one provides an overview of some theoretical concepts such as definition of word, word – meaning, lexical meaning, grammatical meaning, components of word-meaning.
- Chapter two presents an investigation on words from names in English.
- Chapter three highlights an analysis on words from names in Nguyen Nhat Anh's stories and their equivalents.

Part III, CONCLUSION, summaries all things, mentioned previous parts of the study.

PART TWO: DEVELOPMENT
CHAPTER ONE: THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

1. Semantic - Word meaning

1.1 Word

1.1.1 Definition

Words as meaningful units

It is generally agreed that the words, phrases and sentences of language have meanings and sentences are make up of words (phrases) and that the meaning of a sentence is the function of the meanings of the words (and phrases) of which it is made up. Since there are quite a whole lot of definitions of the term "word", what I try to do is not to redefine something which has become some sort of a "nightmare" for linguists. Instead, I will offer a working definition off what the word is, fully aware of the inherent traps.

"Words are regarded as the smallest indivisible meaningful units of a language which can operate independently"

(Nguyen Hoa: 67)

In this definition, one may ask what we mean by "independently", for example. At least, we know that even a sentence is not "independent" since it has to combine with other sentences to create a communicatively meaningful whole. Words, on the other hand, may be considered purely as forms, whether written or spoken, or alternatively, as *composite expressions*, which combine forms and meanings.

1.1.2 Word meaning

"*Word meaning can be more or less described as a component of the word through which a concept is communicated.*"

(Nguyen Hoa: 1993)`

An influential position was advanced by Ogden and Richards as far back as 1923. In that work, these two scholars characterize meaning in terms of a semantic triangle, a relation between a symbol/sign (actually the word) and referent, mediated by concept. This triangle is presented below.

THOUGHT
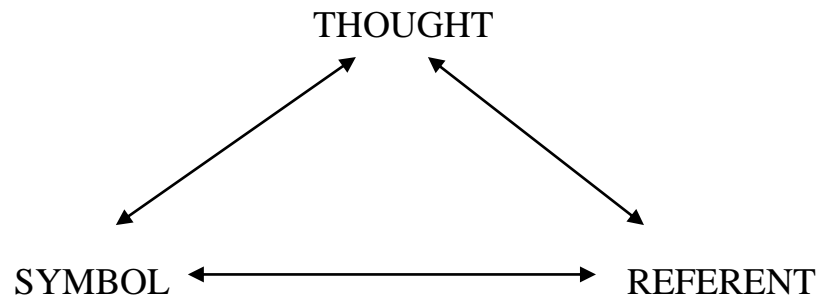
SYMBOL ←————————→ REFERENT

In the conceptual view, meaning is seen as an indirect association between the symbol and the referent. However, there are problems with the conceptual approach which can be summarized as follow:

- Mental concepts are elusive things which are not directly available to introspection.

- Assuming that meaning is language-based (e.g., belonging in the semantics domain), and that concepts reside outside language (e.g., in the domain of thought), can meaning still be identified with a concept?

- How are concepts acquires and do they evolve? That is, how do children "learn" concepts and, once learned, do concepts change or stay the same?

- If concepts change in the process as children mature, does meaning then evolve parallel to the evolution of the concept which the expression is related to?

Also, identifying the meaning of a word with a concept may encounter serious problems such as:

a. A word may have a notion for its referent, and every word may evoke a general idea, a notion without directly referring to any particular element of reality.

b. Notions are always emotionally neutral while meanings are not.

c. The absence of regular one-to-one correspondence between meaning and notion is clearly seen in words belonging to some specific stylistic layer.

1.2 Meaning and sense

The reference of a word is the object that the word refers to and the sense of a word is the additional meaning of the word. In talking of reference, we deal with relationship between language and the word, in talking of sense; we deal with the relationship inside the language. In the sentence: "*My wife is in the kitchen"*, the word my wife identifies person and kitchen identifies thing. But in the sentence *I met him on last Sunday* the word Sunday identifies nothing at all.

Sense is sometimes distinguished from meaning. The meaning of a word is seen as a part of the language system whereas sense is the realization of this meaning in speech. In the sentence: *"Men's words are **bullets** that their enemies take up and make use of against them."* (3) the word **bullets** refer to **strong feeling**.

1.3 Types of meaning

1.3.1 Grammatical meaning

"*Grammatical meaning is what unites words with different lexical meaning. It is the meaning recurrent in identical sets of different words.*"

(Hoang Tat Truong: 53)

E.g.:

*All the **teachers** and **students** are in the class.*

Mentioning about two words teachers, students, all of them are nouns that they have the same grammatical meaning. Take another example:

E.g.;

*You are a **beautiful** and **talent** girl.*

All the words **beautiful** and **talent** are adjectives. They have the grammatical meaning in common but they differ from each other in the lexical meaning.

1.3.2 Lexical meaning

"Lexical meaning is the individual meaning each word has in system of language. It is the realization of concept, emotion and brings together the different forms of one and the same word."

(Hoang Tat Truong: 53)

In the above sentence words: **teachers, students** have their own lexical meaning. Through both of **teachers** and **students** remind us to school, universities or colleges. In general, in spite of the same grammatical meaning, they have the individual lexical meaning. However, both of these meanings always go together, existing parallel in each word. A word could not have either grammatical or lexical meaning. So their existence makes a significant contribution to the existence of words in the language system.

Lexical meaning is divided into two types. They are direct meaning and indirect meaning:

1.3.2.1 Direct meaning

"Direct meaning is the meaning that directly denotes something without comparing it or associating with other thing i.e. we do not need a context. Direct meaning is also called literal meaning"

(Hoang Tat Truong: 57)

E.g.:

Shakespeare is a famous writer.

Shakespeare in this sentence is the name of a very famous play writer and it refers to himself. There is no comparison that exists between it and any others.

1.3.2.2 Indirect meaning

"Indirect meaning is the meaning that indirectly denotes something in the association with the other things i.e. we need contexts. Indirect meaning is also called figurative meaning"

(Hoang Tat Truong: 57)

E.g.:

Have you ever watched **Shakespeare**?

Shakespeare is a well – known play writer and he is famous for many valuable plays such as Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, Othello, etc. So in this example, the word Shakespeare refers to plays written by Shakespeare not himself. Take another example:

E.g.:

*He is the **head** of the class.*

The word "head" means a part of the body. This is the direct meaning of "head". However, in the sentence, it means "leader", it is the indirect meaning of "head". Therefore, we can understand the meaning of the word "head" as the best student in his class.

1.4 Components of word-meaning

We distinguish two major components of word-meaning:

(a).   Denotation, which includes: conceptual and referential meanings; denotation exists by virtue of what it refers to.

(b).   Connotation, including stylistic, affective, evaluative, and intensifying, is the pragmatic communicative value the words acquires by virtue of where, when, how, and by whom, for what purpose and in what context it is or may be used.

1.4.1 The denotational meaning (denotation)

The denotational meaning indicates (denotes) or points out things, concepts, etc. For example: "bird" denotes an animal that can fly. "Father,

dad, daddy" denote the male parent. "Rain, shine" denote phenomena of nature.

When the referent is a concept, an abstract thing, we have significative denotation and when it is an individual object we have demonstrative denotation.

1.4.2 *The connotational meaning (connotation)*

The connotational meaning shows us how things, concepts etc are indicated (denoted). It conveys the speaker's attitude, emotions and so on. "Father, dad, daddy" as mentioned above, have the same connotational meaning, and so do "face, mug, muzzle" and so on.

Connotation may consist of emotive charge (emotion), evaluation, intensity, and stylistic coluoring. Stylistic coluoring means that a word may be colloquial, bookish, slangy, etc.

Connotation plays an important role in such spheres of life as advertising, politics, and literature. Many synonyms differ greatly due to their favorable and unfavorable connotations. Advertisers are "afraid" to used the word "cheap" and refer to "inexpensive" instead because the former has some connotation of poor quality.

Similarly some girls do not like to be called "*birds*". In Vietnamese colleges nowadays, students of the "irregular system" prefer the word "open" to "irregular" also because of their connotation.

So, connotation can be considered as an additional meaning to denotation.

CHAPTER TWO: AN INVESTIGATION ON WORDS FROM NAMES IN ENGLISH

Words are used literally and figuratively. Figures of speech are deviation from literal or common forms of statement. They are picturesque, vivid language appealing to imagination, making for clearness and easy comprehension.

The basic principles on which the most popular figures of speech are based are similarity and association. These figures of speech are: metaphor, metonymy and so on.

The development of meaning in the figures of speech is called "transference". It is not accurate to say "transference of meaning" because the meaning is not transferred but the word is transferred from one referent to another. (Hoang Tat Truong)

2.1 Metaphor

2.1.1 Definition

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

(Hoang Tat Truong: 79)

Metaphor, from the Greek for "transference", is the transference of meaning (name) from one object to another based on similarity between these two objects. Metaphors have traditionally been viewed as implicit comparisons.

(Nguyen Hoa: 105)

E.g.:

It is raining cats and dogs.

In the Middle Ages when it rained hard, the cats and dogs got caught in the drainage system. So it appeared to be "*raining cats and dogs.*"

We call one object by the name of another because we compare these objects and find some common features between them. Metaphors have traditionally been viewed as implicit comparisons. What happens is that the meaning of word is extended on the basis of similarity. In cognitive linguistic, metaphor is the cognitive mechanism whereby one experiential domain is partially mapped or projected onto a different experiential domain so that the second domain is partially understood in terms of the first one. Metaphor, as we shall see below, is a conceptual projection whereby one experiential domain is partially understood in terms of another experiential domain (the source) included in the same common experiential domain.

E.g.:

A cunning person is commonly referred to *as a fox.*

(Nguyen Hoa: 106)

The figure illustrates the process.

FOX ——————————————— CUNNING PERSON

 FOX
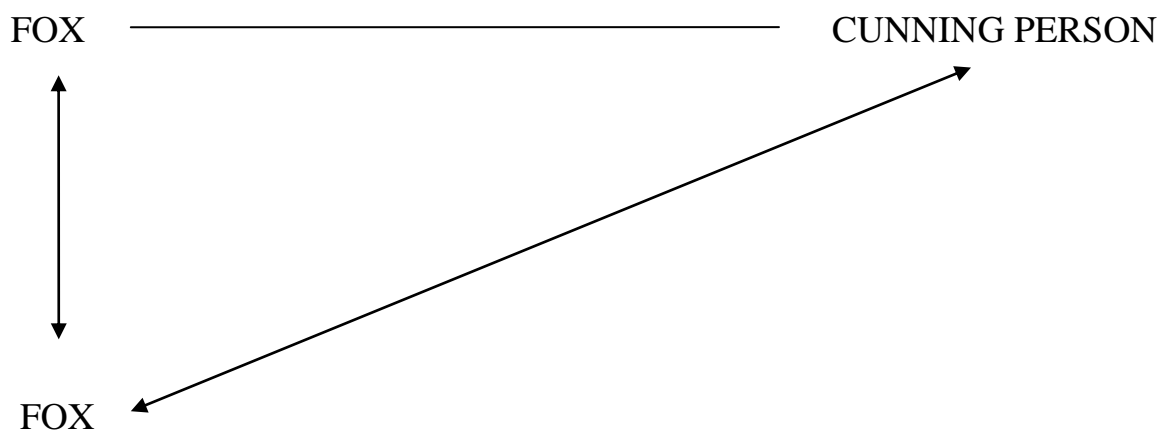
Or the quick passage of time is expressed, though not a fresh metaphor, by the verb "fly". Consider:

- *We should **tie** pay to performance.*

"Tie" obviously acquires a new meaning, i.e. "link".

- *Long distance: long speech*
- *A rainy day* (in *save for a rainy day*)
- *Court* (in *court business*)
- *Highlight* (in *highlight the need for something*)
- *Caste* (in *a case of procurement staffers*)

- *Patient* (in *love is a patient*)
- *Money* (in *time is money*)

E.g.:

John is a snake.

When one says "*John is a snake*" one does not mean a snake is named "John" or literally John is a snake. What he means is a dangerous and hidden comparison. In the course of time, many an English word has been extended to acquire metaphorical meanings.

2.1.2. Types of similarity

Basing on the definition by Hoang Tat Truong, metaphor which is the transference may be based on similarity of:

i. Shape. E.g.: head of cabbage, crane bulb, the teeth of a saw.

ii. Position. E.g.: the tail of procession, the foot of mountain.

iii. Movement. E.g.: caterpillar of a tank, to worm.

iv. Function. E.g.: finger of instrument, the key of the mystery.

v. Colour. E.g.: orange, rose.

vi. Size. E.g.: midget, elephantine.

Especially widely used is the metaphoric meaning of word denoting parts of human body, i.e. the names of the parts of human body are transferred to other objects (*the nose of a plane, the head of the school, the leg of the table*).

It is clear that the human beings first of all got to know their own body and gave names to its parts. Later in the process of cognition of the world they began comparing the surrounding objects with their own body and finding common features. That is why parts of our body are used as metaphors.

The names of animals are also often transferred to the human beings.

E.g.:

*A cunning person is a **fox***

*A spiteful person is a **snake***

*A rude person is a **bear***

*A hard working person is a **bee** or a **beaver**.*

There are many expressions based on names of animals.

E.g.:

***bird**'s view*

***crocodile** tears*

Another subgroup of metaphor comprises proper names transferred to common ones.

E.g.:

*A jealous person is called **Othello**.*

*An eloquent speaker is a **Cicero**.*

2.1.3 Classification of metaphor

Metaphors may be:

i. **Living** (poetic, individual) when a word has an unusual metaphorical sense or the metaphor is created and used by an individual.

E.g.:

Peace is our fortress.

Beauty is a flower which wrinkles will devour.

ii. **Faded (trite) metaphor**, i.e. metaphor which lost its freshness because of long use and became habitual.

E.g.:

Dying capitalism

Fruitful effort

Golden youth

iii. **Dead metaphor** - where metaphoric sense is not felt. Dead metaphors are words which have lost their direct meaning and are used only figuratively.

E.g.:

To ponder

Capital

Sarcasm

To ponder, for instance, originally meant "to weight", but it is used now only in the meaning "to mediate, to consider thoughtfully". There is a theory that all our words are dead metaphors.

2.1.4 Metaphor vs. simile

Metaphor and simile are two of the best known tropes and often mentioned together as examples of rhetorical figures. Simile is figure of speech involving a comparison between two unlike entities. In the simile, unlike the metaphor, the resemblance is explicitly indicated by the words "like", "as" or "resembles". The common heritage of similes in everyday speech usually reflects simple comparisons basing on the natural world or familiar domestic objects, as in "*You are as pretty as a picture*", "*As cold as a dog's nose*", or "*He was slow like a snail.*" Both metaphor and simile are forms of comparison. The former is direct and the latter indirect. In simile, we have to use formal elements of comparison. Similes are easy to spot.

E.g.:

She is a fox.→ Metaphor

She is like a fox.→ Simile

Kennedy & Dana G. offer a good list of ways to make a simile.

E.g.:

My love is like a red, red rose.

My love resembles a rose.

My love is redder than a rose.

She came out smelling like a rose!

<div align="right">(Kennedy & Dana G.: 767)</div>

Therefore a metaphor may be extended into a simile and a simile may be condensed into a metaphor.

Metaphor is a hidden comparison and simile is an "open" comparison.

2.2 Metonymy

2.2.1 Definition and characteristic features

Metonymy is the transference of name based on the association of contiguity.

<div align="right">(Hoang Tat Truong: 83)</div>

The name of one thing is changed for that of another to which it is related.

E.g.:

The kettle is boiling.

I can drink another glass.

There goes my knee. (pain in the knee)

Metonymy is extremely widely used in everyday conversation. As dealt with in the previous chapter it is also a means of creating new words.

E.g.:

The Crown is amused. ("The Crown" is the Queen).

The White House is furious. ("The White House" is the President).

2.2.2 The cases of metonymy

- Names of containers are used instead of the things contained:

E.g.:

He drank twenty glasses.

<div align="right">(Hoang Tat Truong: 83)</div>

- Names of parts of the body are used as symbols:

E.g.:

She has a good ear for music.

Two heads are better than one.

(Hoang Tat Truong: 83)

- Proper names are used as common names:

E.g.:

The boy eating a sandwich is wearing an expensive cardigan.

(Hoang Tat Truong: 83)

There is a great number of such words from names: volt, watt, china, sardine, champagne, penicillin, etc.

People are always likely to find simple and convenient ways to express themselves:

E.g.:

Two Dunhills, please!

Have you read Dickens?

(Hoang Tat Truong: 84)

- Names of materials are used instead of the things made of them:

E.g.:

I've bought a new iron.

(Hoang Tat Truong: 84)

- Concrete things are used instead of abstract things:

E.g.:

The White House decided to spend more money on mic exploration.

(Hoang Tat Truong: 84)

- A separate part is used instead of a whole thing and vice versa:

E.g.:

I used to live without a root over my head.

His bike needs repairing.

(Hoang Tat Truong: 84)

2.3 An overall view on words from names

"Words from names" or "metaphor and metonymy based words" can be regarded as a new point of view in word formation. This is as a matter of fact, fairly productive and it also studied by semantics. The number of words deriving from proper names obviously indicates the creativity of language word coinage.

For convenience's sake, we suggest the term "name motivation". For instance, an unusually big thing may be described as "jumbo". Jumbo was a huge elephant brought to the United States, so we have "jumbo jet plane", "jumbo cassette – recorder", etc.

Similarities there are: *sandwich, robot, cardigan, diesel, mackintosh*, etc.

Some words are originated from people's names. Generally, these people served the world in some special way and then gained immortality through the word named after them. Since these name words often have unique spellings, they can present problems for spellers.

E.g.:

Word	Names
braille	Louis Braille
Fahrenheit	Gabriel Fahrenheit
watt	James Watt
pasteurize	Louis Pasteur
diesel	Rudolf Diesel
ampere	Andre Ampere
guy	Guy Fawkes
herculean	Hercules
nicotine	Jean Nicot
quixotic	Don Quixote
saxophone	Antoine Sax
sandwich	Earl of Sandwich

spoonerism	Reverend William Spooner
silhouette	Etienne de Silhouette
macadam	John McAdam
martinet	Jean Martinet
maverick	Samuel Maverick
Celsius	Anders Celsius
Boycott	Captain Charles Boycott
Chauvinism	Nicolas Chauvin
volt	Count Alessandro Volta
ohm	George Simon Ohm
zeppelin	Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin
dahlia	Anders Dahl

(www.academic.cuesta.edu/acasupp/as/824.htm)

1.3.1 Words from names based on metonymy

The name of one thing is changed for that of another to which it is related and used for reference.

E.g.:

I don't like your Mercedes.

Mercedes is a brand of car, so the above sentence means I don't like your car, it is based on metonymy.

E.g.:

Have you read Dickens?

Dickens is a famous writer, so in the example above, Dickens refers to some novels wrote by Dickens.

1.3.2 Words from names based on metaphor

The proper names are used to refer to the other things.

E.g.:

He is an Othello.

Othello is a character in Shakespeare's play. He has a beautiful wife and loves her very much but he has a bad point, that is: he was very jealous and killed his wife. This character left impression on audience, now when people say that he is an Othello, it means he is a jealous man.

E.g.:

She is a Venus in Asia.

Venus is a famous character in Greek and Roman mythology. She is the most beautiful on Olympus Mountain and she is talent. When people say that she is Venus, it means she is not only beautiful but also talent.

E.g.:

He is a Grande in my class.

Grande is a mean character in L'Avare a pearl in French literature written by Moliere. Therefore, his name is synonymous with stingy men.

E.g.:

She is a Mona Lisa in my heart.

Mona Lisa is the name of the well – known picture by Leonardo de Vinci. She is famous for her secret smile. The name Mona Lisa is associated with beauty and secretion.

E.g.:

He thinks he is an Einstein.

Albert Einstein is a talent physicist. His name is associated with the property of brilliance. The name Einstein has been used metaphorically to imply the characteristic of brilliance.

E.g.:

He is a Ronaldo in my team.

Ronaldo is an excellent football – player and his name is famous over the world. Hence, his name is often used metaphorically to express a talent person who can be able to play football well.

E.g.:

That you were Romeo you were throwing pebbles.
And my daddy said stay away from Juliet.

(10)

The names Romeo & Juliet are often used metaphorically in music, literature to imply eternal love.

CHAPTER THREE: AN ANALYSIS ON WORDS FROM NAMES IN NGUYEN NHAT ANH' S STORIES

3.1 Words from names in Nguyen Nhat Anh's stories basing on metaphor and simile

As mentioned in chapter one, most English words from names are based on metaphor and metonymy. However, as already stated, due to the limited time given, my research only discusses **English words from names based on metaphor, some other names based on simile**, parallel compared with Vietnamese ones and vice versa. In this study I only focus on names of people.

In English, names of people are often used metaphorically based on the similar expressions. They are names of famous people and names of characters in literature.

3.1.1 Names of famous people

3.1.1.1 English Names

In English, names of famous people are used metaphorically based on their salient properties to indicate the similar characteristics or behaviors of people in common. The names of famous people in different fields: **Marie Curie, Rimbaud, David Copperfield, Maradonna, Michael Owen, Mohames Ali, Mike Tyson, Jackie Chan and Voltaire** are mentioned in Nguyen Nhat Anh's stories. In long story "Bi mat cua Toc Tien", the character "Tho" is praised: "*Thỏ là một **Marie Cuire** trong môn Lý*"

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)

As all we know that **Marie Skłodowska Curie** was a physicist and chemist of Polish upbringing and subsequent French citizenship. She was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity and the first person honored with two Nobel Prizes in physics and chemistry. Therefore, the name Marie Curie is

associated with the property of brilliance. The above sentence can be understood that the girl is very good at Physics. Anh writer used this name to emphasize her talent.

In "Nhung co em gai", Nguyen Nhat Anh appreciated his character:

*Mày là nhà thơ. Mày là thiên tài, là **Rimbaud** của Việt Nam.*

(www.vnthuquan.net/nhungcoemgai)

Jean Nicolas Arthur Rimbaud was a famous French poet. As part of the decadent movement, he influenced modern literature, music and art. He produced his best known works while still in his late teens - Victor Hugo described him at the time as "**an infant Shakespeare**" and gave up creative writing altogether before he reached 21. He remained a prolific letter-writer all his life. Rimbaud was known to have been a Libertine and a restless soul, traveling extensively on three continents before his death from cancer less than a month after his 37th birthday. By using metaphorically, the writer implied that his character could become a famous poet as Rimbaud. In another story, the writer mentioned the name of well – known person: David Copperfield.

*Nhưng vì xưa nay vốn tin tưởng vào "sáng kiến" của nó nên khi hỏi hoài thấy nó vẫn ra vẻ ta đây là **David Copperfield** bí mật đầy mình, bọn chúng cũng chẳng buồn dò hỏi cho ra lẽ.*

(Kính vạn hoa 12: 157)

As we know that David Copperfield is a world-famous American illusionist, described by Forbes in 2006 as the most commercially successful magician in history. Most of his media appearances have been through television specials and guest spots on television program. His illusions have included making the Statue of Liberty disappear, flying, levitating over Grand

Canyon, and walking through the Great Wall of China. It cannot deny that David Copperfield is an excellent illusionist and he is famous over the world. Therefore, the name David Copperfield is synonymous with secret, imaginary and fantastic. The character was described as an illusionist who is famous over the world.

In both long stories and short stories, Nguyen Nhat Anh used many names of football players such as Ronaldo, Pelé, Beckham, Maradona, Michael Owen, etc. However, I only mention two of them; those are Maradona and Michael Owen.

*Ừ, chẳng kém gì **Maradona** thật!*

(Kính vạn hoa 6: 131)

*Nó đá bóng hay lắm! Còn trên tài cả **Owen** nữa!*

(Kính vạn hoa 30: 78)

Maradona and ***Michael Owen*** are very well known for his ability in playing football. Hence, Nguyen Nhat Anh used metaphorical method to describe his characters in those series.

As we know, Nguyen Nhat Anh often uses the names of famous people to refer to his characters in various fields such as sport, entertainment, science, etc. Nevertheless, the names in sport are used so frequently.

*Thi đấu chưa hết hiệp thứ nhất, Biền đã bị "nốc ao". Miệng lưỡi con nhỏ đó có sức tàn phá không thua gì một cú đấm móc của **Mohames Ali**.*

(Những chàng trai xấu tính)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1134&cat=16)

*Quý ròm được mệnh danh là David Copperfield của trường Tự Do, bọn Tâm hô đòi thi tài ảo thuật với nó có khác nào đòi thi đấm bốc với **Mike Tyson**.*

(Kính vạn hoa 18: 71)

Michael Gerard "Mike" Tyson is a retired American boxer. Tyson was the undisputed heavyweight champion and remains the youngest ever, to win the WBC, WBA and IBF world heavyweight titles.

Muhammad Ali is also a retired American boxer and three-time World Heavyweight Champion, who is widely considered one of the greatest heavyweight championship boxers of all time. Nicknamed "The Greatest", Ali was involved in several historic boxing matches. Ali is well known for his unorthodox fighting style, which he described as "*float like a butterfly, sting like a bee*". In Nguyen Nhat Anh' stories, their names are associated with invincible strength.

*Nó mộng trở thành diễn viên võ thuật thượng thặng cỡ **Jackie Chan**.*

(Kính vạn hoa 23: 57)

Jackie Chan is a Hong Kong actor, action choreographer, filmmaker, comedian, producer, martial artist, screenwriter, entrepreneur, singer and stunt performer. Thus, the boy in the story dreams to become a famous martial artist like Jackie Chan.

Besides, the writer also used the prominent person in literature such as Voltaire.

*Hẳn nhiên, tôi khác ông **Voltaire**. Ông nói, còn tôi thì làm.*

(Hoa hồng xứ khác 1: 15)

Voltaire was a French Enlightenment writer and philosopher famous for his wit and for his advocacy of civil liberties, including freedom of religion and free trade. In the above conversation, it can be understood: the boy not only composes poems but also gives them to his girlfriend; contrast to Voltaire, he only could compose poems such Anh's usage of prominent name in literature generates a humorous tone in his story.

3.1.1.2 Vietnamese Names

  Nguyen Nhat Anh also expressed his characters by Vietnamese names such as ***Hoàng Phi Hồng, Đinh Bộ Lĩnh, Lý Bạch, Nguyễn Bính***, etc.

  *Anh ném cứ y như trong phim! Còn độc chiêu hơn cả **Hoàng Phi Hồng**.*

<div align="right">(Kính vạn hoa 2: 143)</div>

  The name Hoang Phi Hong is used metaphorically to indicate the greatest martial artist, because those who read "Hoang Phi Hong" have known that Hoang Phi Hong is a martial artist and his name is famous over the world.

  When a main character in "Hoa hong xu khac" claimed that: "*Tôi có thể tưởng tượng mình là **Nguyễn Bính**."*

  Nguyen Binh is a famous romantic poet in Vietnam. The readers can infere that the boy in the story wants to be a famous poet and his idol is Nguyen Binh. He does hope to compose poetry to give his girlfriend; nevertheless, he can not.

  With another name: "*Tôi sẽ làm **Đinh Bộ Lĩnh**, suốt ngày cõi trâu và nghêu ngao hát"*.(Hoa hồng xứ khác 1: 78)

  Đinh Bộ Lĩnh was the emperor and founder of the Dinh Dynasty, the second Vietnamese dynasty. Growing up in a local village, Đinh Bộ Lĩnh became a local military leader. Faced once more with the threat of a powerful China, Đinh Bộ Lĩnh tried to find ways to reunify the country. When he was a child, he used to ride a buffalo and fight with his friends. The boy in the sentence is imaging to become Dinh Bo Linh who could spend all time amusing and did not worry about everything when he was a child.

  Besides, Anh also used Chinese name to describe his character: "*Mày đúng là **Lý Bạch** của Việt Nam!"(www.vnthuquan.net/nhungcoemgai)*

Lý Bạch is a Chinese poet. Li Bach is often regarded, along with Do Phu as one of the two greatest poets in China's literary history. Li Bach is best known for the extravagant imagination as well as for his great love for liquor. In this example, the writer wanted to imply that the boy is compared to a Vietnamese famous poet like Ly Bach - the Chinese famous poet.

From the analyzing names used in Anh's stories, we can see clearly that these names of many famous people in common have been used to refer to the individuals based on their salient characteristics. Nguyen Nhat Anh used not only English names but also Vietnamese names to imply the individual with various characteristics in his stories. It will help readers to understand his characters profoundly, which creates lively and imaginary stories.

3.1.2 Names of characters in literature
3.1.2.1 In Vietnamese literature

Names of characters in literature are used metaphorically because each character has his particular traits that help to identify him with the other. The expressions are based on the similarities in the characteristics, actions, occupations and lifestyle. Similarly, in Vietnamese, many names of characters in literature such as Vietnamese names are used in the stories of Nguyen Nhat Anh frequently such as Tấm, Trương Chi, Tô Thị , Thạch Sanh:

*Con định làm cô **Tấm** trong nhà ta chăng?*

(www.vnthuquan.net/ngoitruongmoikhi)

Tam Cam is a Vietnamese tale which not only children but also adults love. The story told that Tam had good characteristics as gentle, hard – working. In fact, she was a good – natured girl; otherwise, Cam was a villain in the story. She was ugly, lazy and wicked. Tam and Cam are two the contrast characters that stand for the good and the bad one. The names Tam, Cam are used metaphorically, popular among common people to imply the

good and the bad characteristics. The girl in the story wants to be a good child and only the name Tam can cover all the good characteristics of a girl in old society. Her mother calls her Tam because she thinks her daughter can help her to do housework.

*Tôi cứ bắt chước **Trương Chi**, hèn gì hồn tôi chết đuối.*

Truong Chi is a fisherman in a Vietnamese tale. It has been told that Truong Chi had a good voice and he sang very well but he was not good – looking. He was lovesick with My Nuong – a daughter of a mandarin. My Nuong lived near the river where Truong Chi often went fishing and sang romantic songs. She loved his voice and hoped to see him. However, My Nuong was disappointed with Truong Chi's appearances and she did not love him. Truong Chi, because of despair, he killed himself. Nguyen Nhat Anh mentioned the name Truong Chi because he wants to describe his character's emotion the same as Truong Chi. The boy fell in love with a beautiful girl; however, he was not handsome, she did not like him. The name Truong Chi is used metaphorically in folk literature and in Nguyen Nhat Anh' stories to imply an unhappy – ended love story.

In the story "Mat biec", the main character images: "*Trong giấc mơ đẹp đẽ và buồn rầu đó, tôi chính là chàng **Thạch Sanh** dũng cảm, còn nàng công chúa hoạn nạn không ai khác là Hà Lan.*"

The name **Thach Sanh** implies a good – natured man, especially a remarkable strength and braveness. Thach Sanh, in Vietnamese tale, saved and got married the princess who was caught by an eagle goblin. The name Thach Sanh refers to the strength and braveness. The writer expressed the character's dream of being Thach Sanh, being brave enough to save his girlfriend from danger.

To Thi, Quan Am Thi Kinh, Luu Binh – Duong Le, Luc Van Tien, the other names, taken from Vietnamese folk literature effectively support the writer's intention in portraying the characters.

*Tôi đứng, đứng hoài và đinh ninh mình sẽ hóa thành nàng **Tô Thị** thứ hai.*
(Những chàng trai xấu tính)
(*www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1134&cat=16*)
*Hoàng Hòa giơ hai tay lên trời: Thật là oan hơn oan **Thị Kính**!*
(Bồ câu không đưa thư 2: 64)

To Thi is a faithful wife and she symbolizes for Vietnamese women. When her husband went soldiering, she and her son waited him from day to day on a mountain, and then she became a statue. Nowadays, the statue waiting for her husband's return named To Thi still stands on the Vong Phu Mountain. The girl in this extract thinks that she like To Thi because she has to wait her boyfriend many times.

Quan Am Thi Kinh is passed by tradition from generation to generation in tradition music, plays and poems. Thi Kinh was a faithful wife but she was suspected to kill her husband and she was expelled from home by her mother - in - law. She disguised herself as a nun. However, she was not refrain suspicion from everyone. Thi Mau was a flirtatious girl and she was a pregnant with her boyfriend and then she accused of Thi Kinh. In the end of the story, Thi Kinh died because of exhaustion. Nowadays, the name Thi Kinh is used to refer to the injustice. In this situation, the character Hoang Hoa shouts out his injustice, the injustice of Thi Kinh.

A story was told from generation to generation among the common people. The story is about friendship between two people named **Luu Binh and Duong Le**. The writer also used the names to mention his characters:

*"Qua sự kiện vừa rồi, tôi và Biền đã trở lại là những người bạn vô cùng tốt. Tốt đến mức **Lưu Bình Dương Lễ** sống lại cũng phải xám mặt vì ghen tị."*

<div align="right">

(Những chàng trai xấu tính)

</div>

Luu Binh – Duong Le made friend when they were children. When they grew up Duong Le passed his examinations with his real ability and became a mandarin; furthermore, he had a beautiful and talent wife. That was Chau Long. When Luu Binh knew that his friend Duong Le became a rich and a successful person, he found Duong Le for help. Nevertheless, Duong Le neither helped nor considered Luu Binh as a beggar. Indeed, Duong Le was not ungrateful person. After Luu Binh went away he let his wife Chau Long follow to help him. With her help and encouragements, Luu Binh gained success and then he also became a successful person. At that time the truth was revealed and they came back to be good friends. In the daily life the names Luu Binh, Duong Le are associated with the friendship and marital fidelity. In this story, two characters' friendship is closer than friendship of Luu Binh – Duong Le. They become good friends after overcoming difficulties.

<div align="center">

*Tôi chẳng thiết làm **Lục Vân Tiên** nữa.*
</div>

<div align="right">

</div>

Lục Vân Tiên is a male character in an epic poem. The boy in Nguyen Nhat Anh's story is also a brave guy but the girl he loves does not like him. Therefore, he does not want to behave courageously like Luc Van Tien any more.

Nguyen Nhat Anh also exploits names taken from Truyen Kieu masterpiece. A lot of names used popularly in daily conversation and sayings such as Kieu, So Khanh, Hoan Thu, Tu Hai are used metaphorically in Anh's stories:

*"Anh là đồ **Sở Khanh**!"*

So Khanh is known as a swindler. In the tale of Kieu he took advantage Kieu's belief to harm her. Today, his name is associated with unfaithful and deceived characteristics. The man in the story "Mat biec" always cheats innocent girls, so he is described as So Khanh, a lady – killer. Besides, the name Hoan Thu is metaphorized a jealous woman.

*Anh chàng "nổi máu **Hoạn Thư**" lên rồi.*

(Bồ câu không đưa thư)

The writer expresses ironically his male character's personality because the name Hoan Thu is often referred to women's jealousy.

3.1.2.2 In Chinese literature

The Chinese names not only are used very popularly in Nguyen Nhat Anh' stories but also a lot of characters became realistically and usefully in daily conversations; moreover, they are used in famous Vietnamese novels. Some of names such as Gia Cat Luong, Luu Bi, Quan Van Truong, Truong Phi, Tao Thao are exploited in his stories.

*Mày đừng có chơi trò vòng vo **Tam Quốc** nữa.*

(Bồ câu không đưa thư 2:5)

*"**Tam quoc dien nghia**"* written by La Quan Trung in the 14th century, is a Chinese historical novel based upon events in the turbulent years near the end of the Han Dynasty and the Three Kingdoms era of China, starting in 169 and ending with the reunification of the land in 280. The main character in "Bo cau khong dua thu" named Cuc Huong warns her friend indirectly not to play the tricks.

For the name "Khong Minh" in: "*Mày quả là **Khổng Minh** tái thế!*"

<div align="right">(Buổi chiều Window)</div>

<div align="right">(*www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=985&cat=16*)</div>

The girl was compared as intelligent as an excellent person named Khong Minh. When Vietnamese people refer the expression of "Khong Minh's rebirth", it means an extraordinary talent.

Tao Thao is also a symbolic character in the novel "Tam quoc dien nghia"; he was a great general but he always suspects everything. To his name, it means the suspicion.

<div align="center">*Mày chỉ đa nghi **Tào Tháo** thôi*!</div>

<div align="right">(Kính vạn hoa 12: 117)</div>

Chung Vô Diệm, Tam Tạng , Kinh Kha are used metaphorically to express the thoughts of Nguyen Nhat Anh's characters.

<div align="center">*Sao nhỏ Hồng biết tao gọi nó là **Chung Vô Diệm**.*</div>

<div align="right">(Hoa hồng xứ khác 3: 23)</div>

Chung Vo Diem was a queen of Tuyen Vuong Đien Tich Cuong in Te dynasty. She was a famous woman and one of five ugly women in Chinese history. However, she was an intelligent woman and excellent politician. The girl named Hong in the conversation is described as an ugly girl.

<div align="center">*Cứ tiếp tục là **Tam Tạng** tôi chỉ tổ làm khổ mình.*</div>

<div align="right">(*www.vnthuquan.net/hoahongxukhac*)</div>

The name ***Tam Tang*** reminds readers a famous Chinese Buddhist monk, scholar, traveler, and translator that brought up the interaction between China and India in the early Tang period. Tam Tang was also a typical character in Tay Du Ky written by Ngo Thua An. He was a kind – hearted person. With him, everyone was good – natured. Therefore, the name Tam

Tang is used metaphorically to indicate the gentleness. The boy in the extract actually does not become Tam Tang because he is not a monk. If he behaved gently, he would make trouble to himself.

*Tụi mày cứ "ngồi mát ăn bát vàng" ở đây, để tao làm **Kinh Kha** qua sông Dịch!*

(Bồ câu không đưa thư 2: 55)

Kinh Kha was a guest residing in the estates of Dan, crown prince of Yan and renowned for his failed assassination of Tan Thuy Hoang, King of Tan, who later became China's first emperor. Kinh Kha was an assassin who killed Tan Thuy Hoang but he was killed by Tan King's army. The girl who claims to be "Kinh Kha" dares to the danger by herself.

The so – called A.Q. philosophies of character Ngu recall the name of the main character in the novel "A.Q. chinh truyen" written by Lo Tan, a Chinese symbolic writer. *"Vừa chúc mừng tôi, Ngữ vừa triết lý theo kiểu **A.Q**."* (*www.vnthuquan.net/hoahongxukhac*)

The novel is one of masterpiece in Chinese literature treasure. Lo Tan built a vivid picture with Chinese countryside background. A.Q. and other farmers lived in feudal society and had to suffer hardship from feudalism. He had abnormal philosophies and people thought that he was a mad man. Thus, the name A.Q. is used metaphorically to allude to the person who pleases himself as a way to overcome the hardship.

3.1.2.3 In Western literature

Interestingly, names of characters in Western literature are used metaphorically because they are used constantly in conversation and daily life of Vietnamese people.

*Sau khi bỏ học được một tháng, nó đã gặp một tên **Don Juan**.*

(Bí mật của Tóc Tiên)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)

Don Juan is a legendary, fictional libertine whose story has been told many times by many authors. Don Juan is used synonymously for "womanizer", especially in Spanish slang, and the term *Don Juanism* is sometimes used as a synonym for satyriasis. Don Juan is a rogue and a libertine who takes great pleasure in seducing women and (in most versions) enjoys fighting their champions. In this situation after breaking off her study, the girl has a boyfriend who is considered Don Juan, an irresponsible guy in his love.

In "Bi mat cua Toc Tien", Anh used the famous name Don Quixote:
*"Bây giờ mà có phải chiến đấu với một trăm cái cối xay gió, chàng hiệp sĩ **Don Quixote** trong anh cũng sẵn sàng nhào đến để bảo vệ cô bé thơ ngây đang ngồi trước mặt."*

Nguyen Nhat Anh used the name Don Quixote to imply his character is an illusive boy. ***The Ingenious Hidalgo Don Quixote of La Mancha*** is a novel written by Spanish author Miguel de Cervantes and Don Quixote is a main character. Cervantes created a fictional origin for the story by inventing a Moorish chronicler for Don Quixote named Cide Hamete Benengeli. Character-naming in Don Quixote makes ample figural use of contradiction, inversion, and irony. The character of Don Quixote became so well-known in its time that the word quixotic was quickly adopted by many languages. In this story, Anh's character, the boy, is thinking about protecting his innocent girlfriend by many ways although he images to fight against wind - mills. The literary style of Anh tends to be humorous in portraying his characters.

We have ever known many romantic couples in literature such as: Quasimodo – Esmeralda (The Hunchback of Notre Dame), Heathcliff – Catherine Earnshaw (Wuthering heights), Scarlett O'Hara – Rhett Butler (Gone with the Wind), Romeo – Juliet, etc. The writer used those names to describe his characters: " *Bồ tưởng mình định tự tử chứ gì, còn lâu, đêm nay* **Juliet** *Phù Du sẽ đi cùng* **Romeo** *Thợ Săn suốt đêm."*

<div align="right">(Bí mật của Tóc Tiên)</div>

<div align="right">(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)</div>

Romeo and Juliet is a tragedy written early in the career of playwright William Shakespeare about two young "star-cross's lovers" whose deaths ultimately unite their feuding families. Today, the title characters are regarded as archetypal young lovers. The couple in the story believes their love the eternal love of Romeo and Juliet.

"Cái thằng chỉ được nước máu lạnh với bạn bè chứ luôn bủn rủn chân tay trước đám con gái, nó làm sao có tác phong của **Lucky Luke** *được."*

<div align="right">(Bí mật của Tóc Tiên)</div>

<div align="right">(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)</div>

Luke, a wandering cowboy capable of drawing a gun faster than his shadow, fights crime and injustice, most often in the form of the bumbling Dalton brothers, Joe, William, Jack and Averell. As mentioned above, we can see that Lucky Luke is brave, dauntless and determined. The writer used the name ironically to express his charater, the boy, is not as brave as Lucky Luke.

<div align="center">*Anh là* **Maigret** *hay* **Sherlock Holmes**.</div>

<div align="right">(Nữ sinh)</div>

<div align="right">(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)</div>

*Quý ròm úp úp mở mở, ra vẻ ta đây là thám tử **Sherlock Holmes** thứ thiệt.*

(Kính vạn hoa 22: 109)

Jules Maigret is a fictional police detective, actually a commissioner of the French Sûreté, created by writer Georges Simenon. He is considered the greatest detective in France.

Sherlock Holmes is a fictional character of the late 19th and early 20th centuries that first appeared in publication in 1887. He was the creation of Scottish author and physician Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Holmes is famous for his intellectual prowess and renowned for his enormous scope of observation, his astute logical reasoning and his forensic science skills to solve difficult cases.

These are famous detectives. They discovered and found the truth of many criminal cases that could be the most difficult cases. Their names are considered the great detectives all over the world. In the first example, the writer would like to compare between two detectives and hoped that his character became a great detective such as Maigret or Sherlock Holmes. In the second example, the writer described his character as the greatest detective – Sherlock Holmes. We continue to discuss another name of detective.

Arsène Lupin is also a fictional character who appears in a book series of detective fiction or crime fiction novels written by French writer Maurice Leblanc. Maurice Leblanc created his character: A gentleman thief Arsène Lupin who, in Francophone countries, has enjoyed popularity as long-lasting and considerable as Sherlock Holmes in the English-speaking world. Arsene Lupin is intelligent, sensible and gentle but he is a sly chap. Nguyen Nhat Anh exploits the name Arsène Lupin in "Nu sinh" to describe his character as a wise guy: "*Anh là **Arsène Lupin**.*" (Nữ sinh)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)

*Ý tôi muốn nói tên cô là **Maika** thì có vẻ thích hợp hơn.*

(Buổi chiều Window)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=985&cat=16)

"*She came out of the blue sky*" written by Vaclav Pavel Borovicka, a Czech writer and screenwriter and is also a Slovak language sci-fi TV series for children created in year 1978. The series became very popular in Czechoslovakia and several other countries. An extraterrestrial alien lands on Earth near the Slovak town. The alien, who looks like a little girl, her name is **Maika**. While she has extensive knowledge of encyclopedic facts about the human world, she does not really understand people's emotions and behavior and gets only slowly acquainted with them through the help of her new friends. Maika in turn uses her abilities to fly or to effortlessly replicate things as a source of entertainment and adventures for her friends. Therefore, the name Maika is used metaphorically to imply both extraordinary capabilities and senseless person.

Maika, Pinocchio and Robison Crusoe are characters for children. In "Kinh van hoa 32", the writer used the name Pinocchio to describe his character: "*Đúng vào lúc nó có nguy cơ biến thành thằng người gỗ **Pinocchino** thì tiếng trống vào học thình lình vang lên.*" (Kính vạn hoa 32: 118)

Pinocchio is a fictional character that first appeared in 1883, in *The Adventures of Pinocchio* by Carlo Collodi, and has since appeared in many adaptations of that story and others. The story is about a wooden marionette named Pinocchio. He spends his whole childhood wanting to become a real boy, but is misguided by troublesome schoolboys and two con artists. Through Pinocchio's adventures, he understands how he was defiant and naive. At the end of the story his compassion and gratefulness overcame his misguided decisions. Because Pinocchio is made from wood; therefore, he is

not easy to act and do something. We can understand the writer's implication in this sentence is the comparison between his character and Pinocchio, the boy in the episode also can not control his action.

*Tự nhiên nó không còn thấy giống **Robinson** bơ vơ ngoài hoang đảo nữa.*

(Kính vạn hoa 14: 24)

Robinson Crusoe is a novel by Daniel Defoe. It is sometimes considered to be the first novel in English. The book is a fictional autobiography of the title character - a castaway who spends 28 years on a remote tropical island, encountering Native Americans, captives, and mutineers before being rescued. In this situation, the boy fells alone when his friends do not like him and hate him. However, some of friends do not, they still make friend with him. Thus, he thinks he is happier than Robison who lived alone on the island.

Besides using the famous names in literature, Nguyen Nhat Anh also used classic reference in the Greek and Roman mythology such as ***Apollo, Spartacus, and Caesar***:

Đang bực mình nhưng nghe giọng lưỡi của Cúc Hương, anh cũng phải phì cười:
    - Không đồng ý. Chỉ trẻ thôi . Nhưng không đẹp trai .
    Cúc Hương chép miệng:
-   *Đẹp thật mà. Đẹp y chang thần **Appolo** trong thần thoại Hy Lạp.*

(Nữ sinh)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)

In Greek and Roman mythology, ***Apollo*** is one of the most important and diverse of the Olympian deities. The ideal of the korus (a beardless

youth), Apollo has been variously recognized as a god of light and the sun; truth and prophecy; archery; medicine, healing and plague; music, poetry, arts, and more. Apollo is also known in Greek-influenced Etruscan mythology. As the leader of the Muses and director of their choir, Apollo functioned as the patron god of music and poetry. An ideal portrait has been used metaphorically to support the man's appearance. On the other hand, the writer intended to praise his character's beauty.

*Cúc Hương nháy nhó với Thục, mặt mày rạng rỡ hệt **Caesar** vừa hạ xong thành La Mã.*

<div align="right">(Bồ câu không đưa thư 2: 56)</div>

Gaius Julius Caesar was a Roman military and political leader. He played a critical role in the transformation of the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire. Caesar's conquest extended the Roman world to the North Sea and in 55 BC he also conducted the first Roman invasion of Britain. It can recognize that Caesar was the greatest hero in that period. No one can deny Caesar's achievements. And one of the greatest achievements of Caesars was to defeat Rome. Hence, the name Caesar has been used to express the girl's feeling of triumb.

Spartacus was the most notable leader of the slaves in the Third Servile War, a major slave uprising against the Roman Republic. Little is known about Spartacus beyond the events of the war, and surviving historical accounts are sometimes contradictory and may not always be reliable. Spartacus' struggle, often seen as oppressed people fighting for their freedom against a slave-owning aristocracy, has found new meaning for modern writers since the 19th century. The rebellion of Spartacus has proven inspirational to many modern literary and political writers, making Spartacus a folk hero among cultures both ancient and modern. Thus, Spartacus was a

brave slave and then he became a gladiator. The write used Spartacus's braveness to imply his character:

*"Nhưng lần này, tôi đi bằng những bước chân đàng hoàng, vững chãi và trang bị trong lồng ngực trái tim quả cảm của **Spartacus**."*

(Cô gái đến từ hôm qua)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=986&cat=16)

The boy in this situation is referred to be as brave and powerful as Spartacus.

Nguyen Nhat Anh put the name mentioned in the Bible into his story to describe his character's personality vividly:

*"Đồ phản bạn! Đồ **Judas**!"*

(Phòng trọ ba người)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=989&cat=16)

In the Greek New Testament, **Judas** is the Greek form of the common name Judah. Judas is mentioned in the synoptic gospels. According to the account given in the Gospel of John, Judas betrayed Jesus and others apostle; therefore, the name Judas means the betrayal. The boy in the situation betrayed his friend, so the writer used the name Judas to allude to him.

3.1.3 Names basing on the simile

Besides the names used metaphorically to draw the images of characters, Nguyen Nhat Anh expressed their thoughts, their feelings by applying some names based on simile. They are the names of famous people and names of symbolic characters in literature.

A feeling of happiness and marvel of the boy is expressed clearly when Nguyen Nhat Anh takes the name "**Alice**" in "Alice in wonderland" to compare:

*"Tôi không dám tin hôm nay là ngày đẹp nhất trong đời tôi. Bàng hoàng như **Alice** lạc xứ thần tiên, tôi "trôi" về phía trước như người mộng du."*

In another story "Ban co nam cho ngoi" the name Colombo is considered a simile for the important finding: *"Nên khám phá ra khẩu súng của chị đối với nó cũng quan trọng như **Christopher Colombo** khám phá ra châu Mỹ."*

The finding of a gun of Anh's character is implied as important as the famous discovery of America of Christopher Colombus.

The names ***Quasimodo*** and ***Archimedes*** remind the readers of other vivid comparisons. The love between ***Romeo*** and ***Juliet*** was mentioned above; in this part we discuss another couple's love.

*"Biển sẽ quẳng lên vai tôi cho tôi đời đời vác nặng. Như gã **Quasimodo** vác chiếc lưng gù đuổi theo nàng **Esmeralda** trong mối tình tuyệt vọng."*

Quasimodo is the namesake of the novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* by Victor Hugo. Quasimodo was born with physical deformities, which Hugo described as a huge wart that covered his left eye and a severely hunched back. Quasimodo was feared and hated by the townspeople. Looked upon by the general populace of Paris as a monster, he later fell in love with the beautiful Gypsy girl Esmeralda and rescued her when she was entangled in an attempted murder. However, Quasimodo was never loved by Esmeralda,

the main theme of the book being the cruelty of social injustice; although she recognized his kindness toward her, she is nonetheless terrified of him. The boy in the extract is compared to Quasimodo with a love in despair.

*"Tiểu Long reo lên như nhà bác học **Archimedes** bất ngờ khám phá ra sức đẩy của nước."*

(Kính vạn hoa 28: 182)

It is known that ***Archimedes*** was a Greek mathematician, physicist, engineer, inventor, and astronomer with his famous crying "Eureka" when discovery a truth. When the name Archimedes is mentioned, the readers can understand the character Tieu Long in the story with his excitement is as sudden as Archimedes' discovery.

The name ***Kieu***, ***Tu Hai*** taken from Nguyen Du's masterpiece are exploited as a simile for the emotion of Anh's characters.

*"Tôi sợ tôi giống như nàng **Kiều**."*

(*www.vnthuquan.net/matbiec*)

*"Tôi lập tức nín bặt và đứng chết trân, hệt như **Từ Hải** lúc sa cơ."*

(Cô gái đến từ hôm qua)

(*www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=986&cat=16*)

The girl in the story is afraid of leading a life similar to Kieu's; being beautiful, talent but having an unfortunate destiny.

Basing on simile, we can understand clearly the aim of the writer in describing the boy's situation. He is put in the similar situation like the hero "Tu Hai" in "Tale of Kieu" with an unexpected failure.

Apart from employing the names taken from "Tam quoc dien nghia" metaphorically, the writer employs those names basing on simile.

*"Do đó tụi này mới đi cầu cứu anh làm quân sư. Giống như **Lưu Bị** ngày trước cầu **Gia Cát Lượng** vậy."*

(Nữ sinh)

(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)

The girls in the situation are getting difficulties and want their friend help them. The name Luu Bi and Gia Cat Luong are used to compare the girls' patience in asking for help.

3.2 Words from names in Nguyen Nhat Anh's stories and their equivalents in Vietnamese or English

Both Vietnamese names and English names imply for the characteristics. In the chapter two, I have analyzed the names which appeared in the stories of Nguyen Nhat Anh metaphorically and similarly. From such investigation of name basing on two rhetorical devices those with their equivalents in Vietnamese or English are drawn to refer to characteristics.

The name Thach Sanh refers to the strength and braveness: "*Trong giấc mơ đẹp đẽ và buồn rầu đó, tôi chính là chàng **Thạch Sanh** dũng cảm, còn nàng công chúa hoạn nạn không ai khác là Hà Lan.*"

(www.vnthuquan.net/matbiec)

As we know, the symbol of strength in Western literature is ***Hercules*** who appears frequently in both poems and novels. Hence, both the name Thach Sanh in Vietnamese literature and the name Hercules in Greek mythology express for the strength.

Tam is a good charater in Vietnamese tale: "*Con định làm cô **Tấm** trong nhà ta chăng?*" (*www.vnthuquan.net/ngoitruongmoikhi*) and her characteristics are equivalent to ***Cinderella's*** – a kind-hearted girl in Andersen's tale. Therefore, we can use the name Cinderella synonymously with the name Tam.

The name So Khanh in the story: "*Anh là đồ **Sở Khanh**!*"

<div align="right">(Nữ sinh)</div>

<div align="right">*(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)*</div>

As you know, has the similar meaning with Don Juan – a lady-killer. Their names are associated with unfaithful and deceived characteristics:

*"Sau khi bỏ học được một tháng, nó đã gặp một tên **Don Juan**."*

<div align="right">(Bí mật của Tóc Tiên)</div>

<div align="right">*(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=1569&cat=16)*</div>

Anh used those names flexibly to create his characters and readers did not feel boring when they read his stories.

*Anh chàng "nổi máu **Hoạn Thư**" lên rồi.*

<div align="right">(Bồ câu không đưa thư)</div>

<div align="right">*(www.forums.vinagames.org)*</div>

As mentioned in chapter two, the name **Hoan Thu** symbolized for women's jealousy and its equivalence is **Othello** – a jealous man. Therefore, when we want to point out someone who is jealous, we can use the names Hoan Thu or Othello.

Judas in the situation: "*Đồ phản bạn! Đồ **Judas**!*" (Phòng trọ ba người)

<div align="right">*(www.music.vietfun.com/trview.php?ID=989&cat=16)*</div>

means betrayal. In Vietnamese literature, we have ever known a betrayer who betrays his friend. That is **Bui Kiem** a villain character in "Luc Van Tien". Their names are synonymous with the betrayal.

In the process of learning English, it is necessary for the learners to study the origins of words that are interesting. Moreover, words or concepts in a language are closely related and can be influenced by the users' culture and psychology.

Therefore we can seek the origins of words from the symbols in literature or the outstanding figures in our life.

Part III: CONCLUSION

It is common knowledge that lexicology plays an important role in teaching and learning English. The higher the students' proficiency is, the more competent in lexicology is required, especially, words from names.

That is the reason why I choose words from names to study. Studying words from names is supposed to be a small help for those who want to have a comprehensive understanding about English and Vietnamese names. The development is the main part of the study. It consists of three chapters in which the general knowledge about word, word meaning, metaphor or metonymy is introduced in chapter one: "Theoretical background". This chapter helps readers have a first look about some issues related to semantics theory. Chapter two: "An investigation on words from names in English" points out the essential content which gives an insight into English names basing on metaphor, metonymy and simile. Chapter three is "An analysis on words from names in Nguyen Nhat Anh's stories", which gives readers the investigation on English and Vietnamese names basing on two rhetorical devices and provides us with a comprehensive understanding about meaning of those names.

This paper has represented my effort for months. However, there will be inevitable weaknesses of the study due to limited knowledge of this field. I would welcome any comments and recommendation from teachers and readers who are interested in this field to make my study better.

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