

**HAIPHONG PRIVATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

GRADUATION PAPER

**A STUDY ON POLYSEMY OF ANTONYMOUS
WORDS IN ENGLISH: SOME RELATED PROBLEMS
FACING LEARNERS OF ENGLISH AND SUGGESTED
SOLUTIONS**

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BỘ GIÁO DỤC VÀ ĐÀO TẠO
TRƯỜNG ĐẠI HỌC DÂN LẬP HẢI PHÒNG

NHIỆM VỤ ĐỀ TÀI TỐT NGHIỆP

Sinh viên:M.

Sè:.....

Líp:Ngũnh:.....

Tên đồ tui:

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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)

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

3. Các tài liệu tham khảo

CÁN BỘ H- ỚNG DẪN ĐỀ TÀI TỐT NGHIỆP

Ng-êi h-íng dÉn thø nhÊt:

Hã vµ t^an:

Hãc hµm, hãc vP:

C[¬] quan c«ng t, c:

Néi dung h-íng dÉn

Ng-êi h-íng dÉn thø hai:

Hã vµ t^an:

Hãc hµm, hãc vP:

C[¬] quan c«ng t, c:

Néi dung h-íng dÉn:

Ờ tui tèt nghiÖp ®-íc giao nguy th,ng n`m 2009

Y^au cÇu ph¶i hõm thụnh xong tr-íc nguy th,ng n`m 2009

§· nhËn nhiÖm vô §TTN

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2. §, nh gi, chÊt l-îng cõa Đ.T.T.N (So vói néi dung y^au cÇu ®· Ờ ra trong nhiÖm vô §. T. T. N tr^an c, c mÆt lý luËn, thùc tiËn, tÝnh to, n giá trị sử dụng, chất lượng các bản vẽ)

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PART I

INTRODUCTION

1. Rationale

With more than 6 million speakers in every part of the world, English now has taken its place as the most important international language. Therefore, the goal of learning and using this language is not just the knowledge of grammatical rules but also the knowledge of lexicology, especially, antonyms of polysemy words which will pave a way for learners reach to the goal of successful communication.

Simply, answer to the question of why antonyms of polysemantic word should be studied is because it has received considerably more attention in recent times than many other linguistics phenomena. Many examples of antonyms of polysemantic word become deeply ingrained in our mental lexicon from infancy. Opposites are quickly learnt and rarely forgotten.

Furthermore, antonyms of polysemantic words which are popularly in our life make confusing with the learners.

2. Aims of the study:

- This study gives the overview of antonym and polysemy in English.
- The meanings of polysemantic words are explained more carefully in this study.
- The study analyses antonyms in the typical cases.
- A lot of exercises are given in order that the learner practise and enrich their vocabulary.

3. Scope of the study

This study looks into the antonym polysemantic word and gives how to choose an antonym of a polysemantic word. Besides, it provides the reader the general view on English antonyms such as: definition, characteristic features and classification with illustrated examples.

In the main part, this study gives antonyms of a polysemantic word in order to use words exactly and appropriately.

Polysemy is used commonly in English, however, the study pays attention to analyse the typical cases in order that the theory is made clear.

4. Methods of the study

To carry out this research, qualitative methods are mainly implemented. I search for relevant knowledge from different books, dictionaries and web pages. Based on the knowledge, collected, and studied, I systemized into a logical theoretical background of antonyms and polysemy in English and give typical polysemantic word groups and explain their antonyms in different situations.

With the difficulties I myself can not solve, I discussed with my teachers and friends and asked for their advice and instructions.

5. Design of the study

In order to help readers understand easily, this study is divided into three parts:

PART I - INTRODUCTION : gives the background of the study. It comprises five components:

1. Rationale of the study
2. Aims of the study
3. Scope of the study
4. Methods of the study

5. Design of the study

PART II - DEVELOPMENT: includes three chapters:

Chapter I: **Theoretical background:** Provides the background to the study. It consists of antonyms and polysemy.

Chapter II: **The antonyms of polysemantic words in English.**

Chapter III: **Implication:** gives some related problems, suggested solutions and provides some exercises for practice.

PART III: CONCLUSION: summarises the content of the whole study and suggests and ideas for further study.

PART II: DEVELOPMENT

CHAPTER I: THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

1. ANTONYMS IN ENGLISH

1.1. Definitions

In the book named “Basic English lexicology” (2005), Hoang Tat Truong gave the definition of antonyms: “*Antonyms are two (or rarely more) words belonging to the same part of speech, identical in style and nearly identical in distribution, associated and used together so that their denotative meanings render contracdictory*”.

For example:

Day – night

Hot – cold

Tie – untie

*“My only **love** sprung from my only **hate**
too **early** seen **unknow** and **known** too **late**”*

(Hoang Tat Truong, 2005:84)

In the example, there are three pairs of antonyms: *love vs hate early vs late* and *known and unknow*. *Love vs hate* and *known vs unknown* indicate actions, so they are verbs, and a pair of antonym: *early vs late* are adjectives because they indicate the time. *Love* is opposite of *hate*, in terms of the contractory affection, so *love* = not *hate*. Similarly, On the basis of contrary time, *late* is opposite of *early* and *unknown* is antonym of *known*, according to the different awareness.

Futhermore, two sentences that differ in polarity like these are mutually contradictory. If one is true, the other must be false. Two sentences have the same subject and have predicates, which are antonym also mutually contractory.

For example:

*The television in **on** now*

*The television is **off** now.*

*Jack is a **good** boy*

*Jack's a **bad** boy.*

*Bob **loves** football*

*Bob **hates** football*

(Hanh, 2006:90)

Lexemes like on and off, good and bad, love and hate are pairs of antonyms. They indicate the words of the same part of speech, which have contrasting or opposite meanings.

Besides, there is another simple defininion of antonym claiming that: “*antonyms are word pair that are opposite in meaning such as hot and cold, up and down, etc. word may have different antonyms, depending on the meaning. Both **long** and **tall** are antonyms of **short***”

(www.en.wikipedia.org).

For example:

*She **took** a plate and **gave** me a clean one.*

(Michael, 2000: 551)

In the example, there is a pair of antonym: *take* and *give*. In the sentence, *take* means *receive*... In terms of the contrary relation, *take* and *give* are antonyms.

Furthermore, *take* is the polysemantic word; it has many meanings in which have many antonyms. For example, *take* has three antonyms: *give*, *put* and *bring*. How to find antonyms of polysemantic word is carefully studied in the chapter II.

The definition of Hoang Tat Truong, we can see that the words seem opposite meaning but they don't have associations together, so, they are not antonyms. For example, in the sentence: *she is beautiful but lazy; He is rich but he is unhappy...*, *beautiful – lazy*, *rich – unhappy* seem opposite words but they are not antonyms because they have no associations together. *Late* and *early* in the example (1) are antonym because of their association.

Oppositeness is perhaps not such a pervasive meaning in the vocabulary of English as synonym, but it has an important role in structuring the vocabulary of English. Many antonyms are explained by the means of the negative particle “not”. Almost every word can have one or more antonyms. Like synonyms, antonyms occupy an important place in the use of idioms.

For example:

Backwards and forwards

From first to last

In black and white.

Not only words, but set expressions as well, can be grouped into antonymic pairs, for example: *by accident* >< *on purpose*.

Conclusion, **Antonym** is a word to another word which holds a general or specific opposing meaning, idea or concept and word may have different antonyms.

1.2. Classification of antonyms

We can base on the meaning, the derivation and the part of speech to classify antonyms.

1.2.1. Based on the meaning

Antonyms cover a number of different types of oppositeness of meaning. Four types are commonly identified by John Lyons (1992:284) are **gradable antonyms, contradictory or complementary antonyms, relational or converse antonyms and directional antonyms.**

1.2.1.1. Graded antonyms

Graded antonyms are understood as antonyms which operate on a continuum, such often occur in binomial phrases with and: (blow) *hot* and *cold*, (search) *high* and *low*.

(Tom Mc Arthur, “Antonym”, The Oxford.

Companion to the English language, Oxford University Press, 1992)

For example:

Short – long

Rich – poor

These pairs are called gradable antonyms because they do not represent an either or relation but rather a more / less relation. The more/less relation is evident in a number of ways. One way is that those terms allow comparison, so, they can take both comparative (*happier*) and superlative (*happiest*), for example:

*My arm is **longer** than yours*

*I love a good book **more than** a good meal.*

(Hoa, 2002:31)

On the other hand, because the adjectives are not mutually exclusive, they can be qualified by adverbial of degree e.g. *quite happy, extremely happy, fairly happy*, ect.

Furthermore, their meanings are relative to each other. One meaning is determined in reference to the meaning of the other. Since contraries are gradable, the semantic contrast in a contrary pair is relative. There are often intermediate terms between the two opposites. Thus, *we have not just rich and poor*, but there are such gradations as *rich, well-to-do, well-off, moderately, wealthy, comfortably off, hard up, poor*.

Especially, the negation of one does not mean the assertion of the other “*he is not rich*” does not mean “*he is poor*”.

According to Hoang Tat Truong, “in dealing with antonymic oppositions it may be helpful to treat antonyms in terms of “marked” and “unmarked” members. The unmarked member can be more widely used and very often can include the referents of the marked member but not vice versa. This proves that their meanings have some components in common”. So, this kind of antonyms can be analysed in terms of markedness.

For example:

How tall is he? (no implication, to ask his height and the asker don't know that he is tall or short)

How short is he? (implication that he is short)

Similarly, *beautiful* is an antonym of *ugly* in terms of the contrary appearance. They are gradable antonyms because we might say *she is quite beautiful, she is rather ugly*, or *she is more beautiful than her younger sister*. Addition to, there are intermediate terms between beautiful and ugly: *Beautiful: pretty: good-looking: plain: ugly*. Moreover, we might say that:

How beautiful is she? (no implication, to ask her appearance and the asker don't know that she is beautiful or ugly.

How ugly is she? (implication that she is ugly)...

Likely, these adjectives are gradable antonyms

Beautiful – ugly

Easy – difficult

Wide – narrow

Increase – decrease

Love – hate

Fast – slow

To sum up, **gradable antonyms** are antonyms which take both comparative and superlative, can be qualified by adverbial of degree, have intermediate terms between the two opposites and can be analyzed in terms of markedness.

1.2.1.2. Complementary antonyms

Tom Mc Arthur gave the definition of complementary antonyms:
Complementary antonyms are antonyms which express an either or relationship, e.g. dead or alive, male or female.

(Tom Mc Arthur, “Antonym”, The Oxford.

Companion to the English language, Oxford University Press, 1992)

For example:

Shut – open

Win – lose

Permit – forbid

These pairs of antonyms are in relation of oppositeness: if we *shut* the window, then it is not *open*; if we *lose* a game, then we do not *win* it, If we *permit* someone behavior, then it is not *forbidden*.

Similarly, these pairs of antonyms are complementary antonyms (*Asleep* is an antonym of *awake* in terms of the contrary state, if we asleep =we don't awake. *Dead* in an antonym of *alive* in terms of the contrary existence, if someone is dead = someone in not alive...)

Asleep – awake

Dead – alive

On – off

Shut – open

Permit – forbid

True – false

In short, **complementary antonyms** are the antonyms involving two items that presuppose that the assertion of one is the negation of the other.

1.2.1.3. Conversive antonyms

According to Tom Mc Arthur, “*The conversive antonym in which one describes a relationship between two objects and the other describes the same relationship when the two objects are reversed*”.

(Tom Mc Arthur, “Antonym”, The Oxford.

Companion to the English language, Oxford University Press, 1992)

For example:

Buy – sell

Husband – wife

Above – below

For each other pair of antonyms, one expresses the converse meaning of the other. In the case of sentence with buy and sell, for example, the same transaction is expressed from different (converse) perspectives:

*Ted **bought** the car from Henry*

*Henry **sold** the car to Ted*

(Hanh, 2006:89)

In the example, *bought* is an antonym of *sold* in terms of the contractory relation in market.

Similarly with nouns as *husband* and *wife*, a sentence may express the relationship in one of two converse ways.

For example:

*Vicky is Karl's **wife***

*Karl is Vicky's **husband**.*

(Hanh, 2006:89)

In the example, *wife* is an antonym of *husband* on the basis of the contrary relationship in family.

Similarly, the pairs of adjectives are relational antonyms (*Teacher* is an antonym of *student* in terms of the contrary relationship in school. *Left* is an antonym of *right* in terms of the contractory direction...)

Teacher – student

Left – right

Speak – listen

Above – below

Before – after

Give – receive

In nutshell, **relational antonyms** are the antonyms which are opposite or contrasting in the order of participants and their roles.

1.2.1.4. Directional antonyms

Directional antonyms are understood as: directional antonyms are the antonyms which are opposite in the directions.

For example:

Arrive – depart

With the pair of antonyms ‘*arrive- depart*’, a sentence may mention to different and converse way to each:

*The 8-hour-train has **departed** the station and will have **arrived** at Ha Noi by 10.30.*

(Hung, 2006:98)

In the sentence, *arrive* is an antonym of *depart* in terms of the contractory direction.

Similarly, these adjectives are directional antonyms (*up* is antonym of *down*, *arrive* is an antonym of *depart*, *into* is an antonym of *out* in term of the contractory direction):

Up – down

Arrive – depart

Into – out

To sum up, **directional antonyms** are antonyms which indicate the contractory direction.

1.2.2. Based on the derivation.

Hung (2006:99) classified antonyms into two main types: **Root word antonyms** and **derivational antonyms**.

1.2.2.1 Root_ word antonyms:

In the first place, it is necessary to understand “root word antonyms are words completely different in sound- forms. They are of different roots”.

For example:

- *Old* *Young*

*She is **old** but her friend is **young**.*

- *Give* *Take*

*Mary **gives** 25\$ for the boy and she **takes** his hat.*

(Hoang Tat Truong, 1993: 77)

In the example, the pairs of antonyms: *Old – young, give – take* are different in sound-forms and different roots.

To sum up, **root word antonyms** are antonyms which are different in sound-forms and different roods.

1.2.2.2. Derivational antonyms

According to Hoang Tat Truong, *derivational antonyms are words formed by derivation (words of the same roots).*

(Hoang Tat Truong, 1993:77)

For example:

The plane **appeared** in the sky, then suddenly **disappeared** behind a cloud.

(New vocabulary in use – Stuart Redman & Ellen Show)

In the sentence *appear* and *disappear* are antonyms in which *appear* is added *dis* prefix in order to create its antonym. So, they are called derivational antonyms.

Similarly, these adjectives are derivational antonyms:

Like – dislike

Appear – disappear

Useful – useless

Logical – illogical

To sum up, **Derivational antonyms** are words formed by adding negative prefixes or suffixes.

1.2.3. Based on the part of speech

Based on the part of speech, antonyms were divided into four types: **antonymous nouns**, **antonymous verbs**, **antonymous adjectives**, and, **antonymous verbs**.

1.2.3.1. Antonymous nouns:

Antonymous nouns are antonyms which are typically found among nouns.

For example:

*“It was the age of **wisdom**, it was the age of **foolishness**, it was the epoch of **belief**, it was the epoch of **incredulity**, it was the season of **light**, it was the season of **darkness**, it was the spring of **hope**, it was the winter of **despair**, we had **everything** before us, we had **nothing** before us...”*

(Charles & Miller, 1989:247)

The bolded words are the antonyms; they are nouns in the part of speech. Thus, they are called antonymous nouns.

Similarly, these nouns are antonymous nouns (wisdom is an antonym of foolishness in terms of the contractory characteristic, light is an antonym of darkness in terms of the contractory brightness...)

Wisdom – foolishness

Light – darkness

Hope – despair

Everything – nothing

1.2.3.2. Antonymous verbs

Antonymous verbs are antonyms which are typical found among verbs.

For example:

*I had to **pack** my suitcase very quickly, so when I **unpacked** at the hotel, most of my clothes looked terrible. (1)*

(New vocabulary in use – Stuart Redman & Ellen Show)

*She **took** my plate and **gave** me a clean one. (2)*

(Michael, 2000: 551)

Pack and *unpack*, *take* and *give* are the pairs of antonyms in terms of the contractory relation in the two examples. Moreover, they denote the actions so they are verbs of the sentence, and we call them antonymous verbs.

Similarly, these pairs of antonyms are antonymous verbs (*bring* and *take*, *live* and *die*, *open* and *close*, *weep* and *laugh* are antonyms on the basis of relation...)

To bring – to take

To live – to die

To open – to close

To weep – to laugh

1.2.3.3. Antonymous adjectives

Antonymous adjectives are antonyms which are typically found among adjectives.

For example:

Old – young

Best – worst

“*It was the **best** of time; it was the **worst** of time...*” (1)

(Dickens)

*She is **old** but her friend is **young**.* (2)

(Truong, 1993: 77)

In the example (1), (2) *best* and *worst*, *old* and *young* are antonyms. Their functions in the sentences are adjectives. Therefore, we call them antonymous adjectives.

Similarly, these pairs of antonyms are antonymous adjective (*long* is an antonym of *short* in terms of the contractory length, **wide** is an antonym of *narrow* in terms of the contractory width ...)

Long – short

Wide – narrow

Rough – smooth

Deep – shallow

Fast – slow

1.2.3.4. Antonymous adverbs

Antonymous adverbs are antonyms which are typically found among adverbs.

We consider the following examples:

*Does he work **fast** or **slow**?*

(Streamline English: lesson 38)

*But today English are playing very **well** and Scotland are playing **badly**?*

(Streamline English: lesson 38)

The bolded words in the two examples are antonyms (*fast* is an *antonym* of *slow* in terms of speed, *badly* is an antonym of *well* in terms of manner) and their function in the sentences is adverb, therefore, we call them antonymous adverb.

Likewise, these adverbs are antonymous adverbs (*Outside and inside* are adverbs and they are antonyms in terms of the contractory direction, *carefully* and *carelessly* are adverbs and they are antonyms in terms of the contrary manner...)

For example:

Outside – inside

Carefully – carelessly

Ever – never

Merrily – sadly

Loudly – softly

To sum up, according to the part of speech, there are four types of antonyms: antonymous adjectives, antonymous verbs, antonymous nouns, and antonymous adverbs.

2. POLYSEMY IN ENGLISH

2.1. Definitions

There are several definitions about polysemy.

Firstly, Crystal gave the definition of polysemy as: The word polysemy is of Greek origin (GK polys, much + sema, meaning). It has been defined as "...A term used in semantic analysis to refer to the lexical item which has a range of different meanings.

(Crystal 1980: 274)"

According to the definition of Crystal, a polysemy is a word which has a lot of different meanings, however, *bank* in *river bank* and *bank of English* is not polysemy although it has two different meanings. In some cases *bank* are **homonymous**: they share no meaning whatsoever; they function as two totally unrelated words.

Thus, Hoare gave the other definition of polysemantic word *Polysemantic words refer to the words, which have several related senses.*

For example:

*The house is at the **foot** of the mountains.*

*One of his shoes felt too tight for his **foot**.*

(Using English. com)

Foot here refers the bottom part of the mountains in the first sentence and the bottom part of the leg in the second.

Similarly, *mouth* is a polysemantic word because it has related senses

For example:

Mouth: of the river

Mouth: of an animal

The English word *mouth* refers first to the opening of the vocal cavity, but next to this refers to the point where a river joins the sea.

Note:

One – meaning words (so called monosemic word) are very rare. They are very often scientific terms, e.g., oxygen, moon walk, and, earthrise.

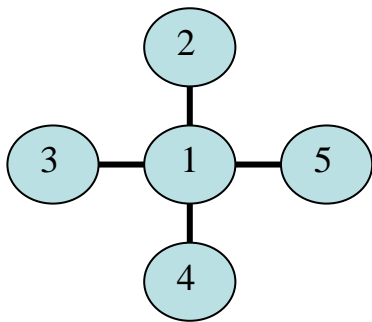
Conclusion, **Polysemy** is the ambiguity of an individual word or phrase that can be used (in different contexts) to express two or more different meanings which is related.

2.2. Types of polysemy

Polysemy has two types: **radial polysemy** and **chain polysemy**.

2.2.1. Radial polysemy:

Radial polysemy is defined that “*all the transferred meanings are formed on the basis of one literal / direct meaning*”.



For example:

Get is radial polysemy

The verb *to get* can mean *take*

I'll get the drinks.

The verb *to get* can mean *become*

She got scared.

The verb *to get* can mean *have*

I've got three dollars.

The verb *to get* can mean *understand*

I get it.

www.absoluteastronomy.com/topic/polysemy-31k

Similarly, *table* is radial polysemy

1. *a thin flat piece of stone/ metal/with four legs.*
2. *part of a machine tool on which work is operated*
3. *a level area, a plateau*
4. *the people seated at the table*
5. *the food on the table*

2.2.2. Chain polysemy

Chain polysemy are understood that: *The second meaning is formed the basis of the first, the third meaning on the basis of the second and soon.*

Sense 1 → sense 2 → sense 3 → ...

For example:

*He won't be able to lift such a **heavy** suitcase. He's only nine years old. (1)*

*He's been a **heavy** smoker and drinker all his adult life. (2)*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

Heavy is a polysemantic word because it has the following senses

In the context (1), the first meaning of *heavy* is weigh.

Moving the context (2), because, *heavy* belongs to chain polysemy in which the second meaning is formed then basis of the first. A heavy smoker is a person who smokes more than the usual smoker and has difficulty in quitting it. Thus, the second meaning of *heavy* refers to be of more than a usual.

Similarly, *Head* is a chain polysemy.

For example:

Head: *part of the body – a human being – a leader/ chief.*

For example:

*The ball hit her on the **head**.*

In the sentence, the sense of *head* is *the part of the body*.

*There are forty **heads** in the meeting.*

In the sentence, the sense of *head* is *human being*.

*He is the **head** of my department.*

In the sentence, the sense of *head* is *the leader*.

Conclusion, there are two types of polysemy: radial polysemy and chain polysemy.

Chapter II: Antonyms of polysemantic words

The theory to study which consists of antonyms and polysemy, are provided in the chapter I. Thus, antonyms of polysemantic words are study in this chapter. In the chapter II, antonyms of adjectives, antonyms of verbs, antonyms of nouns, and antonyms of adverbs are studied carefully.

1. Antonyms of polysemantic nouns

In the part, we study the cases of polysemantic nouns. According to Hoang Tat Truong (1993, 76) “abstract nouns have antonym but concrete noun have no antonym”. And he said that conversive doesn’t belong to antonym. However, in this study, antonym consists of 4 type (gradable antonyms, complementary antonyms, directional antonym and conversive antonym) in which conversive antonym are opposite or contrasting in the order of participant and their roles. Therefore, concrete noun has antonym in this study. To improve this, we analyst the cases of abstract noun *loss* and concrete noun *master*.

1.1. Antonyms of *loss*

Loss is a polysemantic word; therefore, it has more than one sense. And each of sense has an antonym, which is studied in the two following examples.

Considering the following example, we can find the first sense and antonym of *loss*.

For example:

The loss of this contract would be very serious. (3.2.1)

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

In the example (3.2.1), *loss* is the action or an instance of failing to keep something or somebody. Basing on the contractory action about receive the contract or not, *win* is an antonym of *loss*.

Moving the next sentence, we find the other sense or antonym of *loss*.

For example:

*The company operated at a **loss** last years.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

Loss which is in the example (3.2.2) is the amount by which the cost of a business exceeds its revenue. Thank to the contrary number of money which the company earn; *profit* is the antonym of *loss*.

To sum up, we might the pairs of antonyms: *loss – win*, *loss – profit*.

1.2. Antonyms of *master*

Master is a polysemantic noun because of its related senses and it has antonyms, which is showed in the following example.

In the first example, we might find the first sense and antonym.

For example:

*The slaves feared their **master**.* (3.1.1)

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *master* in this context is a man who has others working for him of under him. Because of the contractory relation in working (master– slave system), *master* is an antonym of *slave*.

In the next example, the sense of master is not the same as in the example (3.1.1), and it has the other antonym, e.g., *a master crafts man or builder*. *Master* is a worker skilled in a particular trade and able to teach others. Basing on the contrary ability, amateur is the antonym of master in this case.

Especially, in the final sentence the sense of master transfers in the other sense and its antonym is not *slave* or *amateur*. When using master in *the master tape* or *copied from master*, master is an original version from which copies can be made. Because of the contractory original; *copy* is antonym of *master* in this case.

To sum up, we might use the pairs of antonym: *master – slave*; *master – amateur*; *master – copy*.

2. Antonyms of polysemantic verbs

Beside, polysemantic verbs have an important role in polysemy. There are many verbs which are polysemantic verbs. Therefore, we continue to studying about polysemantic verbs in this part. In the study, we analyse the cases of *maintain*, *melt* and *take*.

2.1. Antonyms of *maintain*

Maintain is a polysemantic word, because, it has related senses and one of sense has an antonym, which is analysed in the following examples.

In the first example:

*The improvement in his health is being **maintained**.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *maintain* in this context is *to cause something to continue: to keep something in existence at the same level, standard, etc.* easily to find the

antonym of maintain which is *quit*, because of the contractory state of the improvement.

However, in the next example, antonym of maintain is *spoil*.

For example:

*The house is large and difficult to **maintain**.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *maintain* in this example is *to keep something in good condition or working order by checking or repairing it regularly*. Thank to the opposite of the state of the house; we find the antonym of *maintain* which is *spoil*.

Yet, the antonym of maintain in the third example is not *quit* or *spoil*.

For example:

He has always maintained that he was not guilty of the crime.

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of antonym *maintain* in this context is *to insist that something is the case*. Due to the attitude is different; *neglect* is antonym of *maintain*.

To sum up, we might use the pairs of antonyms according to the context: *maintain – quit*, *maintain – spoil*, *maintain – neglect*.

2.2. Antonyms of *melt*.

Melt has related senses because it is a polysemantic word; it has antonyms according to its sense, which is explained in the following examples.

In the first example, we can find the first sense and antonym.

For example:

*The ice **melted** in the sun.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *melt* in this sentence is *to become or make something liquid through heating*. Basing on the contractory state of the ice; the antonym of *melt* is *freeze*.

Moving the next example, *melt* has the other sense and its antonym is not *freeze*.

For example:

*A sweet **melts** in the in the mouth.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *melt* in this context is *to become soft to dissolve*. As the opposite of state of sweet; *harden* is antonym of *melt* in this example.

In the final example, there were the other sense and antonym of *melt*.

For example:

*The sun has **melted** the snow way.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *smelt* in this context is *to disappear or make something disappear by smelting of dissolving*. *Appear* is the antonym of *melt* in this example, because of the contractory existence of the snow.

To sum up, we might use the pairs of antonyms: *melt – freeze*, *melt –harden*, *melt – appear*.

2.3. Antonyms of *take*

Take is a polysemantic word, it has many senses which are radial polysemy, and it has antonyms. To prove this, we consider the following examples.

For example:

*She **took** my plate and **gave** me a clean one.*

(Michael, 2000: 55)

The sense of *take* in the example (2.1) is *to be received something from somebody or get of some thing with the hands*. Basing on the contractory relationship, *take* is antonym of *give*.

However, *take* in the next sentence has the other antonym.

For example:

*He will **take** you to the party and **bring** you home on time.*

(Michael, 2000: 55)

The sense of *take* in the example (2.1) is *to carry somebody or something or accompany somebody from one place to another but it doesn't mean the move towards the listener or the speaker*. Basing on the opposite about relation; the antonym of *take* is *bring*.

The next example show the other antonym of *take*

For example:

*I **took** a ring out of his pocket and **put** on her finger.*

(Michael, 2000: 55)

The sense of *take* in this context is *to extract something out of the place*. *Put* is antonym of *take* in the sentence, because of the contractory on relation.

To sum up, we might use the pairs of antonyms: *take – give, take – bring, take – put.*

3. Antonyms of polysemantic adjectives

Polysemantic adjectives occupy the largest number in antonyms, so, they play an important role in the study, which is the reason why we study on antonyms of polysemantic words in this part.

3.1 Antonyms of *dull*

Dull is polysemantic word so it has related senses and antonyms, which is showed in these following examples.

In the first example:

*The conference was deadly **dull**.
Along life's **dullest**, dreariest walk.*

(Keble)

The sense of *dull* which is in the example is *to be lack of interest or excitement, boring*. Antonym of *dull* is *interesting*, in terms of the contractory characteristic.

The next sentence gives the other antonym of *dull*.

For example:

*She is not bred so **dull** but she can learn.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *dull* is *slow of understanding; wanting readiness of apprehension*. *Intelligent* is the antonym of *dull* in this context, which base on the contractory ability.

However, antonym of *dull* with the other sense in the following sentence is not *interesting or intelligent*. *Dull* describes the noun colour, *the colour is dull = the colour is not bright or clear to the eye*. When the (colour like red or yellow, fire, lamp, mirror) is dull, which means that A is *not vivid; obscure; dim*. In this case, *bright* is antonym of *dull* because of the contractory degree of color.

Dull in the next sentence has the other sense and antonym.

*Think me not
So **dull** a devil to forget the loss
Of such a matchless wife.*

(Beau. & Fl)

Dull describes the feeling of *a devil*.

The devil is dull = the evil is unfeeling; insensible, he don't know what is love; what is smile; what is happy; what is sad... which is human's feelings. When a person doesn't know how to happy, sad, smile, cry... a person is unfeeling, dull. Its antonym is *lively*, in terms of the contractory emotion.

The following example, antonym of *dull* is *sharp*.

*The scythe is **dull**.*

(Herbert)

The scythe is dull = the scythe is not keen in edge or point; lacking sharpness.

Basing on the contractory point, we can find its antonym which is *sharp*.

The next example, we can find the other antonym of dull. If some one says that: *today, the weather is dull*. We find the meaning of *dull* in dictionary. In this case, *dull* means *cloudy, not clear*. *The weather is dull = the weather is not clear*. In terms of the contractory appear of the cloud, antonym of *dull* is *clear*.

In summary, we may use the pairs of antonyms: *dull – interesting, dull intelligent, dull – bright, dull – lively, dull – sharp, dull – clear*.

3.2. Antonyms of *dry*

Dry is a polysemantic word, because it has many related sense, especially, it has more than one antonym, which is analysed carefully in the following these examples.

For example:

*Once the paint is **dry**, apply a coat of the red ochre emulsion paint.*

(Collins Co build English Dictionary
for Advanced Learners 4th edition published in 2003)

The sense of *dry* is not *wet, damp, or sticky; without moisture*. Therefore, if something is *dry*, there is no water or moisture on it or in it. The property of *dry* and *wet* is opposite; thus, *dry* is antonym of *wet* in this case, in terms of the contractory property,

On the other hand, antonym of *dry* is not *wet* in the next example.

For example:

*Exceptionally **dry** weather over the past year had cut agricultural production.*

(Collins Co builds English Dictionary
for Advanced Learners 4th edition published in 2003)

The sense of *dry* in the sentence is *little rain*, so, if the weather or a period of time is *dry*, there is no rain or there is much less rain than average. *Wet* is antonym of *dry* in this case because of the contractory quantity.

Yet, *dry* in *sherry or wine* does not have a sweet taste e.g. a *crisp dry white wine*; a *dry sherry* (English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin). According to the contractory quality, *sweet* is its antonym in this case.

Moreover, when using *a hot, dry climate* where the sun is shining all the time, antonym of *dry* in this case is *wet* because of the contractory on property.

Nevertheless, if you say that *your skin or hair is dry* (English- English Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin), you mean that it is *less oily than*, or *not as soft as normal*, in this case antonym of *dry* is *greasy* due to the property of hair or skin is opposite.

To sum up, we can use one *the paint is wet; wet weather; a crisp sweet white wine; a sweet sherry; wet climate*; or, *your skin or hair is greasy*.

3.3. Antonyms of *hard*

We consider the senses and the antonyms of *hard* in the following example.

For example:

*It was a **hard** exam and the final question was really **hard** – it was a **hard** nut to crack!* (1.4.1)

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *hard* in the sentence (1.4.1) is *not easy; difficult to do*. In term of the contractory degree, *easy* is the antonym of *hard* in a hard exam and the question was really hard. However, *hard* in a hard nut to crack has no converse form, because, the expression a hard nut to crack, which means that it was difficult to do this.

Considering the second example, we can find the other sense and antonym of *hard*.

For example:

*It's been a long **hard** day and I've been working very hard.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *hard* in this case is *characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion; especially physical effort*. In terms of the contractory degree of effort, the antonym of *hard* in the sentence (1.4.2) is *easy*.

However, *hard* in the following sentence has the different antonym.

For example:

*They had a **hard** life and worked through **hard** times. We had no **hard** evidence that they had used **hard** drugs.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *hard* in *a hard life* and *hard times* is *full of difficult; not easy, happy of comfortable*. Beacause of the difference between degree, the antonym oh *hard* in this case is *easy*. The sense of *hard* in *hard drugs* is being distilled rather than fermented; having a high alcoholic content. Because the quality of drug is opposite; *soft* is antonym of *hard*.

To sum up we might say an easy exam, easy questions, an easy day, an easy life, easy times, soft drugs, circumstantial evidence. The expression: a hard nut to crack, which means that it was difficult to do this, has no converse form.

3.4. Antonyms of *heavy*

Heavy is a polysemantic word, we analysis its senses.

For example:

*He won't be able to lift such a **heavy** suitcase. He's only nine years old.* (1.1.1)

(Learning English/ BBC World Service)

The sense of *heavy* in the sentence (1.1.1) is *weigh a lot*, basing on the contractory on weigh, *light* is antonym of *heavy*.

Especially, *light* is also a polysemantic word, therefore, some senses of *light* is opposite some senses of *heavy*.

For example:

*He's been a **heavy** smoker and drinker all his adult life.* (1.1.2)

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The senses of heavy in the sentence (1.2) are *to be of more than a usual*, according to the opposite of the time of using cigarette or wine much or little, *light* in antonym of *heavy*,

Similarly, we can find the sense and antonym of *heavy*

For example:

*It was a very **heavy** meal – far too much meat and not enough vegetables or salads.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *heavy* which in the sentence is *difficult to digest*, basing on the digestion is difficult or easy, we can find antonym of *heavy* is *light*.

However, the antonym of *heavy* which is in the sentence is not *light*

For example:

*She had a very **heavy** cold and her breathing was heavy to breathe.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *heavy* which is in the sentence is *serious*, antonym of *heavy* is *slight*, because, the contractory on the seriousness or no seriousness of the cold.

Nevertheless, the antonym of *heavy* which is in the sentence is not *slight*.

For example:

*I've had a really **heavy** week – I've got a really **heavy** timetable this term.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *heavy* which is in the sentence is *full of activities* or *busy*. According to opposite of the number of activities, antonym of *heavy* is *light*.

We consider the last example:

For example:

*The First World War yielded much **heavier** casualties than had ever been known before.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *heavy* is *full of serious*. According to the contractory of degree of seriousness of casualty, we find the antonym of *heavy* in *light*.

To sum up, thinking about antonyms of *heavy*, although we would talk about light suitcases, light meals, light weeks, light timetables and light casualties, we wouldn't quite so often say a light smoker or a light drinker. I think you would rarely hear someone say a light cold. Instead it would be a slight cold, although you might say that someone's breathing was very light. (The antonyms of a word are another word which means the opposite.)

3.5. Antonyms of *severe*

Severe is a polysemantic word; because of its senses and it has antonyms.

For example:

The severe weather/severe winter meant that hundreds of schools had to be closed.

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

In the sentence, the sense of *severe* is *very bad; intense*. *Mild* is antonym of *severe*, because of the opposite about the property of the weather or the winter.

Moving to the next example, we find that the sense of *severe* is not identical in the sentence; moreover, its antonym is not *mild*.

For example:

The heavy rain caused severe damage to crops and, later on, a severe shortage of food.

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

In the sentence, the sense of *severe* in *severe damage* is very bad and the sense of *severe* in *severe shortage* is serious, in terms of the contrary on extent, antonym of *severe* in this case is *slight*.

In the final sentence, with the difference of the sense, *severe* has another antonym.

For example:

*The magistrate imposed **severe** penalties – they were severely punished.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *severe* which is in the sentence is *unsparing and uncompromising*. Due to the property is different; the antonym of *severe* in this case is *lenient*.

In conclusion, we would talk about *mild weather* and *mild winters*, *slight damage* and *slight shortages*, *lenient penalties*.

3.6. Antonyms of *short*

Short is a polysemantic word, so, it has senses and antonyms.

For example:

*Although my parents are tall, I am **short**.*

*The coat is rather **short** in the sleeves.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

Short is used to refer to a person's height. Basing on the contrary height of person, we find *tall* is antonym of *short*.

However, when we refer the height of things e.g. *short fence*, *short wall* we have antonyms *short* and *high* basing on the contractory on the height of things.

Moreover, antonym of *short* in the next context is not *tall* or *high*.

*How **long** is the River Nile?*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *long* in this context is *measuring a great or specified amount from end to end*. Basing on the contractory measure; antonym of *short* is *long*.

However, antonym of *short* with the other sense is not *long, tall, or, high*.

For example:

*All his observations were **short** and to the point.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *short* in this context is *to express in few words*. *Wordy* is antonym of *short* because of the contractory quantity.

To find antonyms of *short*, consider its sense in the context.

For example:

*She was rather **short** with him, when he asked for help.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

In the sentence, we can find the sense of *short* is to be short with which is *curt; abrupt*. Therefore, *She was rather short with him = She was rather rude; impolite with him*. Basing on the contractory characteristic of person, *civil* and *short* have the opposite meaning, we call them antonym.

To sum up, we might use the pairs of antonyms: *short – long, short –tall; short – high; short – civil; short – wordy*.

3.7. Antonyms of *strong*

Strong is a polysemantic word and has antonyms.

For example:

*Martina Hingis has always exerted a **strong** influence on the way I play tennis.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *strong* which is in the sentence is *having a great effect*. According to the opposite degree of effect, we find antonym of *strong* is *weak*.

In the same way, we can find the sense and antonym of *heavy* in the sentence *Although I have **strong** views on this, I had the **strong** support of everybody in the room.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *strong* in *strong views* which is in the sentence is *to be resist influence*, basing on the opposite of intensity, antonym of *strong* is *weak*.

The sense of *strong* in *strong support* is to exert great influence, according to the contractory of intensity; we can find the antonym of *strong* is *weak*.

In the following sentence, there are two *strong* which have the different meanings, so they have the different antonyms.

For example:

*He has a **strong** case and there is a **strong** chance that his appeal will be successful.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *strong* in *strong case* is *potent*, basing on the opposite of intensity, antonym of *strong* in this case is *weak*. However, the antonym of *strong* (in *strong chance*) which means to be solid isn't *weak*, because, according to the contractory degree to find antonym of *strong* in this case is *slight*.

We consider the example to find the sense and antonym of *strong*

For example:

*She speaks English quite well but with a **strong** French accent.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *strong* which is in the sentence is *influential a lot*; find the antonym of *strong* is *slight*, which bases on the difference degree.

We consider the last example:

*I am **strong** in the social sciences and psychology is perhaps my **strongest** subject.*

(BBC World Service/ Learning English.com)

The sense of *strong* which is in the sentence is *effective; skilful; or able*.

Considering the contrary on ability, we can find the antonym of *strong* is *weak*.

To sum up, there are antonyms of **strong** in these contexts, although we would talk about a weak influence, a weak case, being weak in social sciences and my weakest subject, we would have to say a slight chance, and a slight accent. For the converse of **strong** views and strong support, we would probably say: I don't have very **strong** views on this and I had some support. (The converse of a statement or fact is the opposite of it.)

4. Antonyms of polysemantic adverbs

Although adverbs which are polysemantic adverb and antonyms are few, they are analyzed in this study. The cases of *right* are showed in the two following examples.

In the first example, the first sense and antonym of *right* are found.

For example:

*He looked neither **right** nor left.*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *right* in this context is *to the right side*. In terms of the contractory direction, the antonym of *right* is *left*.

Moving the next example, *right* has the other sense and antonym.

For example:

*Have I guessed **right** or wrong?*

(English-English-Vietnamese Dictionary- nxb Van Hoa Thong Tin)

The sense of *right* in this context is *correctly*. *Wrong* is the antonym of *right* because of the contrary property.

To sum up, we might use the pairs of antonyms: *right – left*, *right – wrong*.

CHAPTER III: IMPLICATION

1. Some related problems

When Vietnamese learners use antonym, they usually make the common mistakes.

The first mistake is that the learners often learn by heart antonyms. Therefore, when they use antonyms, sometimes they do not take the context into consideration. One polysemantic word can have more than one antonym, for *take* can be opposite in meaning with *put*, *bring* and *give*. And in each situation and context the learners choose suitable words.

Take >< give

She give to the boy \$12 and take his hat.

Take >< put

Mary takes a ball then put it in right place

Take >< bring

He will take you to the party and bring you home on time

(Michael, 2000: 551)

According to Hung (2006: 99), the most common mistake made by Vietnamese learner when using antonyms is "contrast it to its missing antonym". It means that the learners use antonym in a wrong way, e.g. *short* is opposite in meaning with *long* or *tall* although they have the same meaning in some situation:

That was one more reason she didn't look forward to Cathy's visit short or long.

Not:

That was one more reason she didn't look forward to Cathy's visit short or tall.

According to Hoang Tat Truong “Semantic polarity presupposes the presence of some common semantic components in the denotation meaning. Thus, while *ashamed* means ‘feeling unhappy or troubled because one has done something wrong or foolish’, its antonym *proud* also deals with feeling but the feeling of happiness and assurance which also has its ground in moral values.

2. Some suggested solutions

With these mistakes, the learners should take consideration to as well situation of the sentences to use antonyms in a right way.

For description adjective antonym is by no means one of the most important and rich in content relations. Semantic markedness of opposition members is to be defined through the marked one. Their definition in Princeton WN are reversed: *true* – ‘consistent with fact or reality; not *false* ‘not in accordance with the fact or reality or actuality’. In case of definition based on the antonym relation special attention should be paid to cycles, when antonyms are defined through each other.

The semantic structure of adjectives is considered being dependent on and specified by the noun they modify. So, in some case, we pay attention to nouns to find the meaning of adjectives and their antonyms.

Moreover, antonym is in euphemism. Hoang Tat Truong said that: “Many antonyms are explained by means of the negative particle: *clean –not dirty, shallow – not deep....syntactic negation by means of the particle not is weaker than the lexical antonym*”

For example:

I am sorry to inform you that we are not at all satisfied with your sister (1). We are very much dissatisfied with her. (2) (Ch. Dickens)

Although negation is intensified by at all, the level of intensification in the sentence (1) is not equal in the sentence (2). Thus, the sentence (2) with a word with a negative prefix is added to compensate for the insufficiency of syntactic negation in the sentence (1). So, when using negation, the opposite of meaning is weaker than using the lexical antonymy. “Euphemisms are expressions used to avoid unpleasant or offensive feelings. In order to not hurt or shock the listeners or readers with the unexpected information, euphemisms will be a good choice. It can be explained that explained that euphemisms help us transfer these information in a direct or gentle way”.

Therefore, not only synonym but also antonym (the negation) is used in euphemism.

According to Hoang Tat Truong, “though more often we are inclined to take into consideration only the opposite ends of the scale and by saying that something is not bad we even, using litotes, say it is good”.

For example: The poem is not good doesn't mean the poem is bad.

Furthermore, the difference in negation it is optional with antonym proper, by saying that the poem is not good, the speaker does not always mean that it is positively bad.

Similarly, between *beautiful* and *ugly* have intermediary elements: *beautiful*: *pretty*: *good – looking*: *plain*: *ugly*. If don't want to say the fact that someone is ugly, you can use the negation to listener imagine the intermediary elements between *beautiful* and *ugly*:

So, when we said: someone is not beautiful, instead of thinking that someone is ugly, the listener imagine some one is plain; someone is good – looking ; or, someone is pretty.

Basing on the intermediary elements between rich and poor: Poor: hard up: comfortably off: wealthy: moderately: well-to-do: rich. When using euphemism to avoid saying someone is poor, using the negation in this case, someone is not rich.

Therefore, the listener images *someone who is hard up, comfortably off, wealthy, moderately or well-to-do.*

To sum up, besides using synonym in euphemism, we can use the negation, thus, your style becomes richer and richer.

3. Student can apply the theory to do the exercises

Student will able to lean parts of speech and identify them using context clues and master vocabulary list words and their meanings through a series of exercises using antonyms. Student will read words in context to connect words and meanings use vocabulary words in context and put them into action. Students will also have opportunity to review and extend their meaning and check their mastery.

3.1. Exercises

Exercise 1

Read these sentences and answer these questions.

1. The room was not decorated; rather it appeared to be very **plain**.

- a. What might **plain** mean?
- b. Which word is antonym of **plain**?

A. lavish

B. basic

C. novice

D. simple

2. We had a **partial** view of the stage, so we changed seats.

- a. Does **partial** have a smaller word in it?

b. Which word is an antonym for **partial**?

- A. half
- B. unfair
- C. limited
- D. complete

Exercise 2

Using the underlined antonym clues, choose the best definition for the word in bold print. Your instructor will tell you whether to write your answers in your book.

1. In contrast to her normally hopeful nature, Annie grew more **pessimistic** about her career choice after each test in Organic Chemistry I.

Pessimistic means

- a. characterized by a hopeful outlook
- b. cheerful in daily work.
- c. annoying
- d. characterized by a negative outlook.

2. Obviously very different, the first brother was outgoing and **loquacious**, but the second was shy and silent.

Loquacious means

- a. wise
- b. shy
- c. angry
- d. talkative

3. He presented the image of a **prudent** man; however, Keith was really a reckless and careless person who rarely thought about what would be sensible.

Prudent means

- a. careful
- b. careless
- c. reckless
- d. foolish

4. Arnold was **arrogant** when it came to his ideas; on the other hand, his colleague was humble, seeking suggestions from others and giving credit to his coworkers.

Arrogant means

- a. humble
- b. fair.
- c. conceited.
- d. shy.

5. Sung was fascinated with the lectures and worked hard on his homework, unlike his classmate Ami, who seemed **indifferent** to everything, rarely participated in group discussions, and showed little interest in the readings.

Indifferent means

- a. taking chances.
- b. unresponsive and uninterested
- c. working equally but differently
- d. happening at the same time

6. The novels of Walter Mosely, Stephen King, James Patterson, and David Baldacci frequently contrast **sinister** characters who must be apprehended and good, moral characters who ultimately win.

Sinister means

- a. an unmarried woman
- b. working alone
- c. seeking forgiveness
- d. evil

7. Riggs was a **novice** at home construction, but he studied and practiced with several experts, so he was confident that his final product would be an excellent one.

Novice means

- a. a show-off.
- b. an expert.
- c. a construction worker
- d. . a beginner

8. When Alicia parked her car in the morning, she was unconcerned about her surroundings, yet at night, she became **wary** as she proceeded to the dark, isolated lot.

Wary means

- a. tired
- b. cautious
- c. thin and awkward
- d. careless

9. Angela was a **compliant** daughter, not like her brother Ben, who stubbornly challenged his parents at every opportunity.

Compliant means

- a. stubborn.
- b. obedient.
- c. challenging.
- d. talented.

10. Henry is always **amiable**, unlike his work colleagues, who are unfriendly and quarrel frequently.

Amiable means

- a. friendly and good-natured.
- b. socially uncomfortable in new surroundings.
- c. unfriendly and difficult to work with.
- d. afraid.

Exercise 3.

There is one word underlined in each sentence. Choose the word that is an anonym of that word (in the context of the sentence). If necessary, use a dictionary or thesaurus.

1. Our investigation will reveal the truth!
- a. conceal
 - b. expose
 - c. inspect
 - d. announce

2. There are many ways to build a house.
- a. some
 - b. few
 - c. numerous
 - d. bad
3. That car is too expensive for our budget.
- a. inexpensive
 - b. costly
 - c. priced
 - d. small
4. The teacher read us a very entertaining book.
- a. fictional
 - b. factual
 - c. silly
 - d. boring
5. Sunglasses will only hinder your ability to see at night.
- a. accept
 - b. describe
 - c. equal
 - d. help
6. That barbell is light enough for a two year old to lift!
- a. dark
 - b. serious
 - c. harsh
 - d. heavy

7. The new governor will free the innocent prisoner.

- a. costly
- b. imprison
- c. imprisoned
- d. release

8. My parents are hoping that I'll do the right thing.

- a. left
- b. prohibition
- c. proper
- d. wrong

3.2. Key to exercise

Exercise 1

- 1.
 - a. simple
 - b. D
- 2.
 - a. yes, it does
 - b. D

Exercise 2

- 1. d
- 2. d
- 3. a
- 4. c
- 5. b

6. d

7. d

8. b

9. b

10. a

Exercise 3

1. a

2. b

3. a

4. d

5. d

6. d

7. b

8. d

PART III: CONCLUSION

It is common knowledge that lexicology plays an important role in teaching and learning English. The higher the Students' proficiency is, there more competent in lexicology is required, especially, antonyms of polysemantic word. That is the reason why I study on antonyms with the presentation of three main parts: the first part is the definitions and classifications of antonym and polysemy, the second part is the main part of this thesis is the development which consists of ..., and the last part of this thesis is conclusion.

However, this is my first step in language research, and because of short time as well as limited knowledge, mistakes and errors are unavoidable. I hope that this graduation paper will help the learners to have more knowledge of antonym and polysemy. "Antonyms of polysemantic word" is an interesting theme; therefore, a further study should study on many other case studies of other words such as "Discriminating adjective senses with modified nouns"

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